

BARRIERE ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

October 2022



Dear Parents/Guardians,

It has been a fast and furious start to the school year. The PAC BBQ was a big success, thanks to all the parents who helped out and attended. Please be aware of a couple important upcoming dates. We have parent-teacher interviews on the 13th of October so we will be shutting down school early that day to make way for the meeting, and photos on the 14th of October. We also have a fun performance on the 4th of October called Kunda Culture.

We look forward to another great month here at Barriere Elementary.

Mikel Brogan / Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS 2022/23

Thanksgiving Day - no school, Oct. 10

Book Fair - Oct 11-14

Vision Screening Grades 3 + 6 - Oct 11

Parent Teacher Interviews, Early Dismissal at 12:10 pm - Oct 13

School Picture Day: Oct 14

In-service Day, no school - Oct. 21

NEW Bell Schedule 2022/23

Warning Bell:	8:30am
Start of Day	8:35am
Recess:	10:05am – 10:20am
Start of Lunch Break-	12:10pm

12:10 pm Primaries AND Intermediates eat first

12:30 pm all students go outside

End of Lunch Break 1:10 pm

End of Day 2:46 pm

Bus bell 3:01 pm

NUT-FREE FOOD

At BES, we have several members of the staff, as well as students, who have severe allergies to nuts. These individuals carry EPI-PENS, but an allergic reaction can result in an emergency situation and hospitalization with life threatening consequences. At BES, it is important to make sure students are sent with nut-free lunch and snack options in all classes from K-6. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

SD73 MOBILE APP

SD73, our staff and our schools are committed to communicating with parents in as many ways as possible. We want you to know what is happening in regards to the education of your children.

Our mobile app is our latest tool. Once downloaded to your Apple or Android smartphone or tablet, the app will allow you to choose to receive news about your school straight to your device, and allow us the opportunity to reach out to you when we have important news to share.

Key functions our app includes:

- Receive notifications about alerts, incidents or critical events in your school
- Subscribe to receive updates from your school
- Subscribe to receive updates from the Board of Education regarding consultations, news and updates.
- Download invites for District events, including ProD days, concerts, sport events, etc. to your personal calendar

Download SD73 Mobile App (for free) through the [Apple](#) or [Android](#) stores.

PARKING LOT

Please avoid dropping off and picking up your children from the main staff parking lot. It is very busy in the morning and after school with students waiting for buses. Thank you for your help on this.



STUDENT SAFE ARRIVAL - ABSENT/LATE

If your child is going to be absent or late, you will need to contact the Safe Arrival line. The system logs the absences/lates for our attendance system.

Parents will need to report the student absences before 8:15 on the day, otherwise the system will call you to report that your child is absent. Parents will contact the system by:

- calling the toll free # 1-844-350-2647
- visit: <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/>
- Smart phone app (iOS and Android version; both available for free) - download from iTunes or Google Play

A **registration email** will be sent to parents in advance. These emails are not spam and will contain specific parent login information for the system, as well as, instructions on how to log in as a parent to report your child's absences.

Directions

Once connected to Safe Arrival

- Please choose the reason for your child's absence from school: sick, appointment, family vacation, etc.
- Wait for confirmation number to ensure your child's absence has been recorded.
- absences can be booked in advance and for consecutive days, if needed.

Barriere Elementary Website

Please visit our website regularly for useful information (ie. dates, important event, newsletters, PAC information, COVID 19 protocols, Breakfast/Lunch information

<https://barriere-elem.sd73.bc.ca/en/index.aspx>

AFTER SCHOOL PLANS & CELL PHONES

After school is a busy and hectic time in the office, so...Please ensure that your child knows his/her after school plans/schedule before leaving for school in the morning, including bus routes, after school programs and/or prearranged pick up.

Students may use cell phones to communicate with parents before or after school or at appropriate break times. Cell phones are not to be used in class and must be stored away securely, and at the students own risk. Please review with your child the appropriate times to use their cell phone, and remind them that they are not to video, take pictures or post images of other children/students. Please be mindful that you are not texting your child during class time as this is a distraction and disruption to their learning. If you have a message that can not wait until the end of the day, please contact the school and the message will be delivered to your child

MEDICAL ALERT PLANNING

Parents: Remember, it is your responsibility to let the school know if your child has a serious health condition or requires medication at school. Contact the school office if you would like more information or to pick up the required forms. If your child already has a form on file at school please review and update the plan as soon as possible. School District personnel are not permitted to administer medication to students unless specifically authorized to do so by a Doctor. Please ensure you obtain a form/s from us that authorize the school to administer a prescription or identify the steps to take in a medical emergency. All medications must be clearly identified and labelled with your child's name. School staff is also not permitted to administer non- prescription medication either.

BUS DRIVERS & ROUTES

BusNumberRouteDriver
A1732East Lake (29) Gary
6734McLure (33) Wendy
A4736Cahilty (27) Sharon
A4737Little Fort (31) Rolf
A8736ChuChua (30) Loraine
A3736BrennanCreek Kathy

CLOSED CAMPUS

Barriere Elementary is a closed campus, which is a fancy way of saying that students will not be permitted to leave school grounds at lunch, unless they are walking home (to a house) for lunch. In that case students will be required to provide written permission from the parent/guardian and check in at the office before leaving.

Students who live in town are welcome to ride the following buses:

Barriere Ridge Stop – Little Fort bus (AM ONLY) & East Barriere (PM ONLY)

Barriere Laundromat Stop – Chu Chua bus

Connor Road Stop – Squam Bay bus

Armour Mountain Stop – Squam Bay bus

If you have any problems or questions regarding bus routes, please call the Kamloops District Transportation Department @ 250-372-5853. As you can appreciate the school cannot be responsible for organizing and monitoring over 200 students and their bus schedules. It is vital that families arrange for and plan their child's daily transportation to and from the school. We appreciate your understanding with this issue.



BOOK FAIR IS COMING!

We will be running our annual book fair from October 11 - 14. Similar to past book fairs, students will have opportunities throughout the week to browse the book fair and purchase items.

The in-person book fair will be open to families on Thursday Oct. 13 all afternoon until 4 pm. This year there will still be the ability to purchase books online from a virtual book fair. There will be no shipping costs, but the items will be shipped to the school for pick-up.

The following link will take you to the virtual book fair. The link will be active for purchases from Oct. 11 - 26: <https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5179585>

New Titles to Watch For

- 1 **REMARKABLY RUBY**
- 2 **I SURVIVED: HURRICANE KATRINA (GN)**
- 3 **WHEN YOU ADOPT A PUGICORN**
- 4 **THE BAD GUYS: CHAPTER BOOK**



PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

WHAT IS PAC?

Your parent advisory council:

- Organizes PAC activities and events to help enhance the school experience
- Encourages parent involvement in the school with school-wide programs
- Advocate on behalf of parents and students
- Provides financial support for the goals of the PAC, as determined by its membership ie: library enhancement, new kiln project

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Scholastics are due Oct 7th

Cookie & Cheesecake Fundraiser due Oct 13th

BES PAC Meeting: Friday Oct 14th @ 0845 in the library room

Everyone is welcome, including your little ones!

WHERE DOES THE FUND-RAISED MONEY GO?

Money that is fund raised by the PAC through the school year helps support:

Safety enhancements One to One Reading Education Seminars

Teachers Incentives Field Trips Grade 6 year end trip

Track & Field Day Battle of the books Christmas Concert

Carnival School Enhancements Fun Day!

Don't forget we are here to represent you!

You can reach out to your BES PAC via email at barriereelementarypac@gmail.com with questions, concerns or