

BARRIERE ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER 2023



UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, November 1st: PJ DAY!

Friday, November 3rd: Picture retakes and PAC Meeting

Tuesday, November 7th: First day of food program!

Wednesday, November 8th: PAC Cookie Dough Pickup between
2:30-3:15 and 5:30-6:30 in front of school

Friday, November 10th: Remembrance Day Assembly at
10:45 a.m. in the gym

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It has been a fantastic start to the school year! It is hard to believe we are already set to move into November! Make sure to set your clocks back on November 5th as it is already Daylight Saving time again!

In great news, we will be offering our Hot Lunch Program again this year starting on November 7th. I am very excited to announce that it will be offered for less money and for an additional day, making it a total of 3 times per week this year (Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays weekly) for only \$2.00 per meal! We are able to do this because of a grant I was able to secure from our district's food fund. Please make sure you have your forms into the school ASAP if you want your child to be part of the program. We will not be taking any registrations after next Wednesday, November 1st! The first round of our food program will run from November 7th to December 21st. That is 21 meals for only \$42.00! I have attached the IMPORTANT form in this email and physical forms are also being sent home today with your child. Again, please follow the instructions closely on the form and pay online NO LATER than next Wednesday, November 1st! Please send physical forms back to the school after paying online.

In fun news, we are doing our first school spirit day on Wednesday, November 1st. It will be PJ Day!

Please note that the cookie dough from our PAC fundraiser will be available for pickup in front of the school between 2:30 - 3:15 and 5:30 - 6:30 on November 8th.

Please note that we have picture retakes on Friday, November 3rd.

Finally, we will have our annual Remembrance Day assembly in our gym at 10:45 a.m. on Friday, November 10th and no school on the stat, which is on the 13th.

As always, I try and have an open door policy. Please contact the school if you'd like to set up a meeting with me.

Have a great November everyone!

Kindest regards,

Mike Brogan - Principal of Barriere Elementary School

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.

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.

Please remember :

If your child is taking a different bus to a friend or caretaker after school, please make sure you send a written note for the bus driver! Bus drivers will not allow kids on the bus without a note!

Student and Family Affordability Fund

The District is pleased to announce that the unused funds from the Provincial Student and Family Affordability Fund received last year is available for the 2023-2024 school year. The use of these funds will be prioritized to help students and families with the increased cost of living by providing financial assistance for the cost of school supplies, course fees, academy fees and enhancement fees, if needed. Please indicate your consent to use these funds by selecting the checkbox in SchoolCash when paying online or by indicating your consent on the paper-based supplies and fees form.

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.

Cell phones are NOT permitted on school grounds unless parents have special permission from the principal.

If you have important messages that cannot wait until the end of the day, please contact the school and the message will be delivered to your child.

Bell Schedule 2023/24

Warning Bell: 8:30 am

Start of Day: 8:35 am

Recess: 9:55 am - 10:10 am

Start of Lunch Break: 12:10 pm

12:30 pm *Primaries and Intermediates go out to play*

End of Lunch Break: 1:10 pm

End of Day: 2:46 pm

Bus bell: 2:54 pm

Playground

Gr K-3 - Orange playground - M, W and F

Gr. 4- 6 - Blue Playground - M, W and F,
reverse on Tuesdays and Thursdays

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.

IMPORTANT !

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



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 8:30 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 events, newsletters, PAC information, Breakfast/Lunch information

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