



BERT EDWARDS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2020



HOLIDAY MESSAGE

As we approach the holiday season, I would like to give heartfelt thanks to all of our school community partners for supporting our students and staff during this challenging first term. We truly appreciate and value knowing you are there behind the scenes taking time with your children to compliment our efforts here at school. At BEST, one gets the feeling - when you first walk in the door - that the school is open, friendly, warm, and inviting. This “feeling” begins with the nature and mannerisms of our students, staff, and families. We are very proud of not only the accomplishments of our students, but of the positive attitudes and fantastic efforts they demonstrate and put forth on a daily basis. With that said, we wish everyone the very best of the holiday season – enjoy your families and savour the time spent together at this wonderful time of the year. See you all in 2021!!!

WINTER CONCERT



Good News!
We remain determined to spread some holiday cheer this year with

a Christmas performance for our families! As with many endeavours during these unusual times, things will look a little different. At this point, we are looking at sending home a virtual concert. So, you can sit at home in front of a blazing fire with your feet up and a hot mug of cocoa and watch the performance with family on your TV or computer. Please look for additional information coming home soon!

WINTER FUNDRAISERS

PAC once again are planning a few "Fun"draisers in December:

- Please watch for notices coming home requesting donations for raffle baskets and return these to the school for Dec 3

- Please look for your Christmas basket coupons and instructions on DEC 4th
- The week of December 7th the PAC will be selling 50/50 tickets and the raffle for the Christmas baskets will be OPEN!
- Please return your CLASS CHRISTMAS BASKET TICKETS and 50/50 TICKETS to the school by WEDNESDAY DEC 16th!
- Cookie Dough should be here before the holiday break!
- Your office fundraising Purdy's chocolate order forms are also due back on December 16th, and we will send the bars home Dec 17th and 18th.



MEALS FORMS

Reminder to have January Meals forms signed and to the school office by noon on Wednesday **December 16th.**

DECEMBER /JANUARY CALENDAR

Dec 1 st	Purdy's Chocolate Orders out
Dec 2 nd	PAC Meeting 6pm
Dec 3 rd	Christmas Basket items back
Dec 7 th	District Non-Instructional Day
.....(no school for students)	
Dec 7 th to 16 th	Bidding for Baskets & 50/50 Tickets
Dec 11 th	Spirit Day: Unusual Sweater!
Dec 16 th	January Hot Lunch forms due
Dec 16 th	Purdy's/50-50/ Basket Orders due
Dec 18 th	PJ Day!
Dec 21 st – Jan 1 st	Winter vacation

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Jan 4 th	School opens
Jan 6 th	PAC Meeting 6 pm

LOST AND FOUND

Lost and found items have been – and will be again the last school week of December - put out on hangers in the main hallway. Please remind your student to take a moment and check for any “missing” possessions.



Items remaining on December 18th will be donated to a local charity.

PARKING REMINDER

Please be respectful of our bus and daycare loading signs around the perimeter of our school grounds. For the safety of our students, it is important that daycare buses and vans have access to the space permitted for their purposes. With students entering the school near the gym doors, and the road construction on York and Windsor Avenues, we are seeing more children walking through the staff parking lot before and after school. **Please note: Students in the parking lot – a spot that regularly has MOVING VEHICLES – is a significant safety concern.** Please remind your child to stay clear of this area.



Our parking lot is out of bounds for parent vehicles from 8:15 to 8:45 am and 2:15 – 2:45 pm. Please also be respectful of these signs as they are for the safety of our students.

NATURES FARE RECEIPTS

As part of the “Community Giving Program,” Natures Fare Market is offering to donate 3% of all total expenditures at their store BACK TO SCHOOLS! If you are a Natures Fare shopper, please send your receipts to school with your student, and we are really hoping they will add up to some significant cash donations to our school!



REPORTING PILOT

Report cards are normally sent home in late November every year. This year, with BEST participating in the new Reporting Pilot, our next “Point of Progress” for parents will be the week of December 7th 2020. This week, your teacher will be reaching out with information about your child. Depending on the teacher and class, this may be a short meeting, a student self-assessment, a video, or a phone call. Your next report will be coming home sometime the last week of January 2021; this will be a WRITTEN report. The next Point of Progress communication will be sometime the week of April 12th, and our final WRITTEN report will be coming home on June 29th.



PBIS UPDATE

We continue to see many examples of expected behaviours around our school. We see acts of kindness in our hallways and classrooms on a daily basis. Our bulletin boards are overflowing with BEST Buzzes. All families should now have a copy of our PBIS Parent Handbook. If for some reason you did not receive one, please let your child's teacher know as we do have extras. This is a reference for you about the expectations and procedures we have in place for ensuring a safe, respectful, and responsible learning environment for all. All staff have been so impressed with student behaviours and we are celebrating with school spirit days. On Friday, November 27th, the hallways and classrooms were filled with laughter and fun as students and staff celebrated crazy hair and hat day. Friday, December 11th is going to be ‘ugly’ / unique / crazy sweater day. Friday, December 18th will be our annual school pajama day. Show your school spirit while having some fun!



ANIMALS IN THE CLASSROOM

From time to time we have animals visiting our school - such as Benny the Bunny in Ms. Campbell's class. This year Ms. Boyle is planning to bring her dog Winnie to school once in a while. Winnie is a very small (10 pound) Cavalier King Charles Spaniel who will be training as a therapy dog when she is a bit older. You may have seen Winnie on some of the videos as she was reading to the students last spring. Studies have shown the numerous positive benefits of having animals visit schools. Safety and well-being of staff and students is of course a priority. Please contact Ms. Boyle if you would like more information, or if you have any questions or concerns.



SALVATION ARMY ADOPT-A-FAMILY

The Salvation Army is once again organizing its Adopt-A-Family program, which gives Kamloops residents a chance to help a financially struggling family during the holiday season. Supporters are expected to purchase gifts for children, as well as a \$60 gift card for Christmas dinner groceries. Donors interested in adopting a family can contact the Salvation Army by email at kelly.fifield@salvationarmy.ca or by phone at 250-554-1611 ext. 207. Families that would like to sign up for a hamper can do so online, with links available at kamloopssalvationarmy.ca and on the Salvation Army's Facebook page. Also, several events around our community will be donating proceeds to Adopt-A-Family, notably at the Sahali Centre Mall over the next few weekends.