

March 2021

MARCH / APRIL CALENDAR

March 3rd.....	PAC Meeting 6pm
March 4 th	Last After School Theatre
March 8 ^h	Last After School Tennis
March 14 th	Daylight Savings Time Begins
March 15th-19th.....	Spring Break
April 2 nd	Good Friday Holiday
April 5 th	Easter Monday Holiday
April 7th.....	PAC Meeting 6 pm
April 7th.....	Day of Secwentwecw
April 14 th	Early Dismissal at 11:20 am



Day of Sucwentwecw this year is on **Tuesday, April 7th**. The theme for this year's district-wide day is: "**Learning together in memory, history, and story using Aboriginal perspectives.**" We are planning several school wide events, and teachers will be connecting classroom lessons to this theme. We look forward to this special day when we honour the culture and history of Aboriginal People.

SAFE ARRIVAL



Thinking of the safety of our child/ren that we remind everyone of our District Safe Arrival system for reporting student lates or absences. You can access this system by phone (1-844-350-2647), internet (go.schoolmessenger.ca), or smartphone free app - iOS and Android versions. Search for the app at the Apple App store, or the Google Play store – or from the links at go.schoolmessenger.ca We encourage all parents to use this system in place of messages to teachers or calls to the office, and to report all student absences **prior to 8:30 am**. At or about 8:45 am each morning SchoolMessenger will call all parents of unexcused students. Please complete that call by providing a reason for your child's absence.

LOST and FOUND

Please remind your student to check the MANY lost and found items hanging up outside the gym the week of March 8th to 12th. If not claimed, items will be donated to a charity on Friday March 12th prior to Spring Break.



EARLY DISMISSAL IN APRIL and JUNE!

Schools in our District have been allotted additional times this year for EARLY CLOSURES.

The first early school closure will take place at 11:20 am on Wednesday April 14th, and will provide teachers an opportunity to meet with parents during our Reporting Point of Progress the week of April 12th to April 16th. On the last day of school - Tuesday June 29th - schools will be dismissed at 11:30 am – one half hour earlier than usual.



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2021 STUDENT LEARNING SURVEY

On Monday March 1st all parents and guardians of Grade four students here at our school will be sent home a Student Learning Survey Letter. Each letter will have information that will allow users to share their thoughts and opinions, and this can be done on your own with *the survey being open until APRIL 3, 2021*. *The survey* will provide our school with some important information moving forward; parent input is always welcome and valued as we work towards making BEST a more progressive, collaborative, and inclusive place of learning. Thanks in advance as always for your continued support.

FOOD IN SCHOOL

We are looking forward to the day when children can celebrate birthdays in the "traditional" sense – at school and home – eating cake, blowing out candles, and playing games with their family and friends.

For now, at school we can:

- Encourage students to bring health snacks and lunches to school for themselves only;
- Continue with our Fruit, Vegetable, and Milk program (Fresh fruit and/or Veggies for all students every five weeks or so);
- Our PAC can provide individually packaged food items as part of fundraising efforts and following FoodSafe protocols;
- Continue with our BEST hot lunch program;
- Provide learning tasks at school that include food, as long as the student(s) cooking/making the food consume the food (e.g. A class could make pizzas);
- Continue to provide donated food items (Starfish Backpack program) to families in need.



- Building a “Tree of Kindness” in our hallways, with “Kindness Leaves” created by our students;
- A “Kindness Challenge” that included acts such as saying thank you, smiling, and complimenting;
- Students and staff set goals for Acts of Kindness in their classroom;
- Students made Pink Shirts with messages of kindness to be displayed around the school;
- We acknowledged Acts of Kindness on the morning announcements all week, and played Friendship/Kindness music over the PA on Wednesday morning;
- Classes watched a Kindness slideshow made up by our PBIS committee.

All in all, an awesome day at BEST!

We can not at this time:

- Have students or parents bring food items from home to share with others;
- Share the food students have in lunch kits with others.

PBIS UPDATE

February is a month to acknowledge and celebrate kindness, and the students and staff at Bert Edwards Science and Technology School certainly did this. Some of our Intermediate students helped to create some videos reminding students about expected playground behaviours. We have a great group of student leaders at B.E.S.T. In connection with Valentine’s Day and Pink Shirt Day, we have seen many acts of kindness on our playgrounds, in our classrooms, and in our halls. We know that the students of Bert Edwards will continue to spread the message of kindness long past this day and month.

PINK SHIRT DAY 2021

On Wednesday February 24th, we celebrated Pink Shirt Day here at our school, focusing on our efforts to treat all school members with kindness, respect, and courtesy. It was great to see a sea of pink at our school on Pink Shirt Day. Our events included:

- Encouraging everyone to wear a Pink Shirt in support of kind, caring behavior;

