

## October 2020



Reminder that our doors open at the 8:25 am bell for students to enter and begin their day.

### TERRY FOX RUN



Thank you to everyone who participated in our Terry Fox Activities and donated to the Terry Fox foundation! We raised approximately \$482.85 and those monies have been forwarded to the Terry Fox Foundation as they work to find a cure for cancer!

*Good job BEST students, staff, and families!!*

### SCHOOL SUPPLY FEES



Reminder: school supply fees were due and payable September 28th. If for any reason you are not able to pay at this time, please contact the office to arrange a payment plan.

### OCTOBER CALENDAR

Oct 2nd.....	PAC Hot Lunch
Oct 6th.....	School Individual Photos
Oct 7th.....	PAC Meeting 6pm
Oct 9th.....	Fire Drill
Oct 12th.....	Thanksgiving Holiday
Oct 13 <sup>th</sup> .....	River's Week
Oct 14th.....	Lockdown drill
Oct 15th.....	Photo Retakes & Class Photos
Oct 21 <sup>st</sup> .....	..Early Closure 12:30pm
.....	Parent/Teacher Contact 12:45 – 6:45pm
Oct 22nd.....	School photo orders due
Oct 23rd.....	District Non-Instructional Day
Oct 31st.....	Happy Halloween!

### SCHOOL PHOTOS and ORDERS



Individual photo day is TUESDAY OCT 6<sup>th</sup>! Those students wishing to have retakes or who were absent on photo day, will have their photo taken on THURSDAY October 15th. If you wish to have a retake done for your child, please return the proof envelope with your child on October 15th. Students will hand this envelope directly to the photographer on retake day. This is also **class photo day!** Please order your photos by to OCT 22<sup>nd</sup> for FREE SHIPPING to the school. Orders placed after this date are mailed home, and subject to a shipping fee.

### CELL PHONES

The School District has a policy (Policy 406.1) concerning the use of cell phones at school. Children bring cell phones to school at their own risk. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen cell phones. Please encourage your child to leave their devices at home.



### EARLY CLOSURE/PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS

This year BEST is taking part in the **NEW REPORTING PILOT**. Accordingly, we will be sharing with parents four POINTS OF STUDENT PROGRESS **and** a final summative report in June. Two of these communications to parents will be written – typically in January and June. The Points of Progress in October can take the form of a phone call, a class open house, a letter, a Zoom meeting, or a face to face conversation. We will be having parent/teachers interviews on Wednesday October 21<sup>st</sup> from 12:45 pm until 6:45 pm. Of note, Wednesday October 21st will be an **EARLY DISMISSAL DAY**, and our **FIRST** Point of Progress for this year. Students will be going home on this day at 12:30 pm. Please expect your

teacher to contact you in the next week or so, and for those that do not have this date available, please make arrangements with your child's teacher to schedule a mutually agreeable date and time.

## COME READ WITH ME



Literacy in Kamloops (Link) is excited to offer the Come Read With Me program for parents and caregivers of Grade one students in partnership with their teachers. Parents of Grade one students, in the next month please look for information coming home regarding COME READ WITH ME. Likely a ZOOM session will occur with a Kamloops Literacy Outreach Coordinator and One to One Children's Literacy Program Trainer on TUESDAY NOVEMBER 24<sup>th</sup>! This is wildly popular 2 hour session for parents that teaches a variety of strategies they can use to support their child(ren) with home reading and assists with building a home-school connection. Parents will learn many new reading strategies and a bag full of materials including a new book, sight word cards, word games, foam dice, a bookmark, and more.

## REPORTING PILOT

The redesigned provincial curriculum has provided us the opportunity to rethink how we assess, promote and communicate student learning. By participating in the Ministry of Education's Reporting Pilot, we will have the opportunity to trial the changes in how we communicate student learning with parents (both time and frequency), and using the 4 point proficiency scale. We will also be able to provide relevant feedback (student, teacher and parent) to the School District and Ministry of Education. Edwards Science and Technology School is participating in the third year of the Ministry of Education's Reporting Pilot during the 2020-2021 school year. All of our teachers will be moving from letter grades to the 4 point proficiency scale. For MUCH more information, please visit our BEST web home page, click on WHAT'S HAPPENING/NEWS, and then REPORTING POLICY.



## HALLOWEEN

We will be continuing with our Bert Edwards tradition of morning costumes this year and will be celebrating Halloween on Friday October 30<sup>th</sup>. Students are invited to dress up in their costumes on the 30<sup>th</sup>; they can bring costumes to school in packs and change first thing if they like. In this year of Corona virus we can not bring treats and goodies to share. Also, please try to have students wear age appropriate costumes with minimal or no accessories – we just do not have as much room! Also, no violent – guns, swords – or gore related makeup (blood, etc). Please look for additional information from our classroom teachers coming home prior to Halloween.



## PBIS - Positive Behavior Intervention and Support - Parent Handbook

Welcome to a new year of learning and a new year of PBIS. PBIS focuses on creating and sustaining school-wide, classroom, and individual systems of support that improve educational environments for all students. We believe that through the implementation of PBIS systems and strategies we will increase student academic performance, increase safety, decrease problem behaviour and establish a positive school climate. Parents' help with PBIS is very important and your support sends an important message to your child that we are working together as a team to help him/her be successful in school. Coming home in October will be a PBIS Parent Handbook. Please use this as a reference to enhance dialogue with your child about expectations at school. We are in the process of making changes to our behaviour MATRIX, as well as our office referral forms, these changes are included in the handbook. Teachers will be introducing and teaching students more about this in October.

## RIVER'S WEEK

The week of Monday October 12<sup>th</sup>, we'll be celebrating River's WEEK this year. As we need to distance, and can not go down to the river as a school, cohort groups will be participating in some awesome activities here at the school and some will go down near the Thompson River. World Rivers Day is a celebration of the world's waterways. It highlights the many values of rivers, strives to increase public awareness and encourages the improved stewardship of rivers around the world. We hope as a school at the river next year, returning to a day of learning with our community partners.

## SAFE ARRIVAL

There are now three categories in the Safe Arrivals app to choose from when notifying the school of your child's absence due to illness. You will be asked whether the absence is due to a respiratory illness, gastrointestinal illness or the broad category of general illness. Distinguishing between respiratory, gastrointestinal, or general category of illness will provide more accurate data to Interior Health regarding seasonal flus and colds affecting the community. Huge thanks for your continued support with helping us to keep our students healthy and safe.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us here at the school, and we will be happy to provide support to get you going.



## OPTIONAL SCHOOL ACCIDENT INSURANCE

For your convenience, we have provided a link for families to voluntarily purchase optional student accident insurance through the Family Accident Reimbursement Insurance program, underwritten by [Industrial Alliance and Financial Services Inc.](#) This is one option of several to choose from in the Province.

The accident policy that is issued is for "Family Coverage" and benefits an adult, spouse and any number of dependent children under eligibility

definitions stated per the attached coverage details and limits. This is blanket coverage and is not restricted or limited to school activities. This insurance is available for any and all family activities.

The cost of the coverage is \$39.95 monthly (for all family members). The product is annually renewed and can be purchased any time of the year for the monthly fee of \$39.95. If you are interested, please check out additional information at:

<https://ia.ca/individuals>

## LOCKERS and CUBBIES

Sometime in the next month or so, most of our classes are going to be able to access their lockers and cubbies to hang up their packs, winter jackets, etc. Classes that have outside doors will most likely still be entering at this point, and teachers will let you know if this is going to change. We are working hard to design a plan to keep our students safe at these transition times in the hallways – moving slowly, cohort groups at certain times - and keeping a safe distance from others. We are fortunate in that we have extra lockers and our cohorts are located in close proximity to one another. Please, keep just sending just the essentials to school: adequate food and clothing, as we really need all the space we have to keep students distancing as required.

