

October 2021



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

\$360.15 and those monies have been forwarded to the Terry Fox Foundation as they work to find a cure for cancer!

Great effort BEST students, staff, and families!!

SCHOOL SUPPLY FEES



Reminder: school supply fees were due and payable September 29th. 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 4th.....	After School Programs Begin
Oct 5th.....	School Individual Photos
Oct 6th.....	PAC Meeting 6pm
Oct 11th.....	Thanksgiving Holiday
Oct 12th.....	Build it Bin opens!
Oct 15th.....	Fire drill
Oct 18th.....	Reporting Point of Progress Week – Parent/Teacher interviews
Oct 18th.....	River's Week
Oct 19th.....	Photo Retakes & Class Photos
Oct 20th.....	Early Closure
Oct 22 nd	District Non-Instructional Day
Oct 26th.....	Come Read with Me – Grade 1
Oct 27th.....	School photo orders due
Oct 29 th	Halloween Costumes at School
Oct 31st.....	Happy Halloween!

SCHOOL PHOTOS and ORDERS



Individual photo day is TUESDAY OCT 5th! Those students wishing to have retakes or who were absent on photo day, will have their photo taken on TUESDAY October 19th.

If you wish to have a retake done for your child, please return the proof envelope with your student on October 19th. Students will hand this envelope directly to the photographer on retake day. This is also **class photo day!** Please order your photos by OCT 27th 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, and schools are not responsible for lost or stolen cell phones. Please encourage your child to leave their devices at home. Cell phones are used during school hours with the permission of an adult.



EARLY CLOSURE/PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS

This year BEST is once again taking part in the **NEW REPORTING PILOT**. Accordingly, we will share 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 Point 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. If your teacher is reporting in person/via Zoom, we will be having parent/teachers interviews on Wednesday October 20th from 12:45 pm until 6:45 pm. Of note,

Wednesday October 20th will be an **EARLY DISMISSAL DAY**, and our **FIRST** Point of Progress for this year. Students will be going home on this day at 12:41 pm. Please expect your teacher to contact you in the next week or so. They will be letting you know what your child's Point of Progress will look like this October.

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. ZOOM sessions will occur with a Kamloops Literacy Outreach Coordinator and One to One Children's Literacy Program Trainer on **TUESDAY** October 26th at 9am and 6pm.

CRWM is a wildly popular two hour session for parents that teaches a variety of strategies that parents can use to support their child(ren) with home reading and assist with building a home-school connection. Parents will learn new reading strategies and receive a bag full of materials including a new book, sight word cards, word games, foam dice, a bookmark, and more!

REPORTING PILOT

BEST is participating in the fourth year of the Ministry of Education's Reporting Pilot during the 2021-2022 school year. 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 again have the opportunity to communicate student learning with parents (both time and frequency), using the 4 point proficiency scale. We are also able to provide relevant feedback (student, teacher and parent) to the School District and Ministry of Education. All of our teachers have moved 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**.



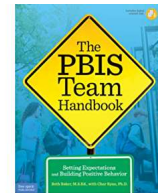
HALLOWEEN

We will be continuing with our Bert Edwards tradition of morning costumes this year and will be celebrating Halloween on Friday October 29th. Students are invited to dress up in their costumes on the 29th; 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 for **NEW STUDENTS** will be a PBIS Parent Handbook. Please use this as a reference to enhance dialogue with your child about expectations at school. Teachers will be introducing and teaching students more about this in all throughout the school year.



RIVER'S WEEK

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. During the week of Monday October 18th, we'll be celebrating River's Week here at BEST. With the current health restrictions in place, classes will be participating in some awesome activities here at the school and some will go down near the Thompson River. Next year, we are really hoping to be back at the river as a whole school, 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 if 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.



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. This is blanket coverage and is not restricted or limited to school activities.

If you are interested, please check out additional information at: <https://ia.ca/individuals>

LOCKERS/CUBBIES - CLOTHING

This year all of our classes are able to access their lockers and cubbies to hang up their packs, winter jackets, etc. Classes that have outside doors will still be entering at this point, and teachers will let you know if entrance locations will change. We have worked hard to design a plan to keep our students safe during transition times in the hallways – moving slowly, classes at different times - and keeping a safe distance from others. Our Bert Edwards Lost and Found bin is almost always full, so please encourage your child to look here if they have misplaced a clothing item.



STAFF PARKING LOT

The staff parking lot is restricted to staff vehicle entry/exit only during student arrival/departure times (8:15–8:45 and 2:15–2:50). We ask that you please respect this safety risk for students by **picking-up/dropping-off** away from the parking lot and walking **AROUND** the lot with your children.



BEST DRESS CODE

Students are expected to dress in an appropriate manner for school. Although we recognize that clothing is an expression of individuality, clothing should fit students without showing underwear or revealing too much, and must not obscure the student's face. Also inappropriate for school:

- Clothing that promotes the use of tobacco, illegal drugs, alcohol or illegal activity;
- The wearing of clothing, insignias, symbols or adornments that denigrate or promote hatred of a person or persons, including, but not limited to, clothing that denigrates or promotes hate based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, or age;
- Clothing which contains profanity, pornography or obscene images.
- Student clothing must conform to health or safety requirements, including requirements arising from participation in specialized programs and events.