



<http://best.sd73.bc.ca>

SEPTEMBER 2020

Hello Bert Edwards families and welcome to a brand new school year full of EXCITING learning opportunities and new friendships! Our staff is super excited to be back spending time with the children and interacting with our families; it is going to be an OUTSTANDING year! A little different this year to start, but we are going to do our very best to make the year a great one. Personally, I am thrilled to be back as part of this awesome school staff – who have been here a good portion of August readying their classes for your children – and to meet all of you. Related to the new direction in education, our school goals this year continue to be:

- 1) Student improvement in the foundational skills of literacy and mathematics; and
- 2) Student improvement with the ability to resolve problems effectively and establish positive relationships with peers.

Our students will be working hard to improve their understanding and abilities in these areas. You will see, over the course of the year, evidence of your child's participation, learning and development in relation to these goals.

Mr. Frank Law, Principal

IMPORTANT Back to School Information!

Well, as you are abundantly aware, this is an usual beginning to the school year. Thanks so much to all of you who have been so patient and supportive, and spent time looking over the return to school document we sent home along with listening to our phone message. It was super awesome talking to many of you on the phone last week, and so glad to hear how all of you are exciting and confident to be returning to school. Some information worth repeating:

- Please remember to complete the AGREEMENT to COMPLETE DAILY HEALTH CHECK form, and get this back to your teacher ASAP!!! For now, you just need to complete the FORM once, and check your child EVERY DAY!

- In order to keep our students and staff safe, adults must make an appointment to enter the school, and must wear a mask inside the school until physical distancing can be assured.

- Please make sure your child is distancing from others outside their cohort before and after school. We really would appreciate students arriving at school as close to 8:25 as possible, and leaving the school grounds right at 2:30pm. If this way, we can maintain the integrity of our cohorts much more effectively. We know the school is a favorite community gathering spot, and sincerely hope we can get back to our normal routine soon!

BEST STAFF 2020-2021

Mrs. C. Farber.....	Kindergarten
Mrs. A. Bowden.....	Kindergarten
Ms. L. Duquette.....	Grade 1
Ms. S. Dickinson.....	Grade 1
Ms. K. Chernoff.....	Grade 2
Ms. T. Weber.....	Grade 2/3
Mrs. J. Ernst.....	Grade 3
Ms. G. Campbell.....	Grade 3/4
Mr. J. Hummel.....	Grade 4/5
Mrs. A. Unsworth & Ms. J.Boyle.....	Grade 5
Mrs. H. Villeneuve.....	Gr 5/6
Mr. M. Wood.....	Grade 6
Ms. T. Mangan.....	Resource Room
Mr. F. Law.....	Principal
Ms. J. Boyle.....	Vice-Principal
Ms. D. Ladouceur.....	Administrative assistant
Ms. G. Benz.....	LART
Mr. W. Deptuck.....	McQueen Lake Resource
Mrs L. Phillips.....	Prep
Ms K. Kipp.....	Librarian & Prep
Mrs. R. Bisong.....	Library Asst
Mrs. K. Bassett.....	CEA
Mrs.S. Edgell	CEA
Mrs. A. Haucke.....	CEA
Mrs. J. Murphy.....	CEA
Mrs. A. Nikula.....	District Resource Room CEA
Mrs. S. King.....	District Resource Room CEA
Mrs. J. Philip.....	District Resorce Room CEA
Mrs. M. Perrin.....	District Resource Room CEA
Ms. D. Malloy	AEW
Mrs. E. Simard.....	AM Custodian
Mrs. K. Khabra.....	PM Custodian

SCHOOL SCHEDULE

8:25 am.....	Doors open
8:32 am.....	Classes begin
9:50 – 10:05am.....	Recess
11:55 – 12:25pm.....	All students outside
12:30 - 12:50pm.....	Eating time
12:50pm.....	Classes resume
2:30 pm.....	Dismissal



SAFE ARRIVAL

SafeArrival is an absence management system that improves student safety and makes it easy for you to let us know about your child's absence. You are asked to report your child's absence in advance if possible using one of these convenient methods:

- SchoolMessenger app – from the Apple app store or Google Play Store
- Web and mobile web – go to goschoolmessenger.ca
- Interactive toll-free phone – 1-844-350-2647



Sept 9/10.....	School begins
Sept 16.....	PAC Meeting 6pm
Sept 18.....	Terry Fox Run 11:30am
Sept 25.....	Hot Lunch Forms Due
Sept 29.....	Hot Lunch begins
Sept 28.....	District Non-Instructional Day
Sept 30.....	Orange Shirt Day



Oct 7.....	PAC Meeting 6pm
Oct 12.....	Thanksgiving Day
Oct 21.....	Early closure 12:30 pm
.....	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Oct 23.....	District Non-Instructional Day
Oct 31.....	Happy Halloween!

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

With the safety of our children and staff in mind, we undertake the practice of both Fire and Lockdown Drills early in the school year. Dates to be determined. If you or your child feel any anxiety or concern with the drills, and we can help in any way, please contact us at the school. We will of course, be mindful of distancing during the drills, while making sure students are aware of safety procedures in the event of an emergency.

RECESS / LUNCH

- We encourage parents to send a nutritious snack with their children for recess.
- All students are expected to go outside at recess and lunch. Exceptions will be made during inclement weather.
- Students will not be able to leave the school grounds during recess and lunch break unless their parent or guardian has called the office.

PARKING / DROP OFF

Our student drop off area on York Avenue is meant for parents to pull in to the zone and drop students off. *It is not a short term parking area.*



Bus zones are NO PARKING at any time. Parking is available in many areas around the school and your help with road safety will assist us in providing a safe place for students to walk and ride to school.

Parents are reminded that the staff parking lot is off limits to parent vehicles from 8:15 – 8:45am and 2:15 – 2:45pm. Please respect this policy and help us to keep children SAFE at our school.

NEWSLETTERS ~ In an effort to save costs and paper, our monthly school newsletter will be available through our website at

<http://best.sd73.bc.ca>. Printed copies will also be posted at our front bulletin board outside the office..



Our Lunch Program begins on Tuesday, September 29th, 2020. A permission form / menu is attached with a due date of no later than noon Friday, September 25th. Lunch costs are \$4 per student / meal.

- ***Payment by cheque is the preferred method of payment for the Lunch Program.***
- Please do not combine these monies with other school monies.

IMPORTANT!!! - If you have a credit from last school year (For instance you paid for March and April and school went online), please call Mrs. Ladouceur at the office and make arrangements to credit your order.

TERRY FOX RUN

Our school Terry Fox Run/Walk is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 18th. We will be running this year in our established cohorts, at different times. As always, we will participate in a short warmup and then all of our students will be running around the school grounds this year; hopefully we'll be back out on the road next year! We will be spearheading our fundraising efforts with "A Toonie for Terry," but any donation for the Terry Fox Foundation would be greatly appreciated. We are looking to better our total of \$380.00 from last year! Together, we can help keep Terry's dream alive and win the battle against cancer! Thanks in advance for your support!

FORMS

The following forms are attached. Please peruse each form, sign and return to the school office at your earliest convenience.

- Outside Media Consent
- Personal Information Consent
- Technology Use form
- Walking Field Trip form (within 2km of school)
- Meals form – due Friday September 25th
- **Verification forms will come home this week. Please make any necessary changes and return, SIGNED, ASAP.**



NUT & PEANUT AWARE

We have students and staff with life-threatening nut allergies at BEST. The following safety guidelines are to be followed by all classes:



We ask parents of students at our school not to send peanuts, peanut butter sandwiches, peanut butter cookies, or any snacks that contain peanuts, peanut butter, or any other nut

products to school. There are snacks available that are marked "peanut free".

1. Please do not send cakes, cupcakes or cookies for class parties that contain nuts. Any special event food items must meet our Nut Aware criteria.
2. If your child ate peanut butter for breakfast, we would greatly appreciate you making sure that his/her hands and nails are washed with soap and water before leaving for school. Water alone does not suffice.
3. Students will be washing their hands before and after snack and lunchtime.
4. We have a no-share policy for snacks and lunches.

We trust that you understand how deeply important it is to respect and adhere to these guidelines. If you have any questions or concerns about food allergy related issues, please do not hesitate to contact the school.



Please submit all school related fees to the office, and ensure your child's name and teacher's name are included. Please keep these monies separate from Meals monies. Thank you.

FEE SCHEDULE

Kindergarten.....	\$45.00
**includes craft & cooking fees	
Gr 1, 2, 3 (Supplies & Agenda).....	\$39.00
** Mathletics fee (1/2 paid by PAC).....	\$6.00
TOTAL Gr 1, 2, 3.....	\$45.00
Gr 4, 5, 6 (Supplies & Agenda).....	\$54.00
** Mathletics fee (1/2 paid by PAC).....	\$6.00
TOTAL Gr 4, 5, 6.....	\$60.00
Yearbook (Optional).....	\$20.00

We offer a payment plan of **\$5.00 per month per student payable prior to the end of each month**. Please opt for this plan if funds are tight as it helps eliminate the cost of NSF cheques. Please advise the school office as soon as possible if you are considering this option. **School fees are due Friday, Sept 28th**. Please detach below and return this form with your child's school supply fees.

Student Name: _____

Teacher: _____ Grade: _____

Yearbook (optional) \$ _____ Supplies \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED :\$ _____

ONE TO ONE READING!

Our 1 to 1 program MAY still be happening this year. If so, we will be looking for volunteers! Do you have one and a half hours a week during the day to help a reluctant or shy reader? Please consider becoming a volunteer tutor and sharing the joy of reading with a child! Free tutor training is provided and required. If you would like more information about the program or would like to volunteer one and a half hours each week at BEST, please Ms. J. Boyle at our school.