



http://best.sd73.bc.ca

SEPTEMBER 2021

Hello Bert Edwards families and welcome to our 2021-2022 school year - full of engaging, exciting learning and opportunities to build new and lasting friendships! Our BEST staff is super excited to be back spending time with the children and interacting with our families; it is going to be an AWESOME year! A little different again 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 wonderful school staff – who once again 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 once again a different beginning to the school year. Thanks so much in advance to all of you who have been so patient and supportive, spend time looking over the return to school documents we are sending home, and listen carefully to our phone message. In talking to some families last week, we are so glad to hear how parents and children are excited and confident with our safety plans as they return to school. Some information worth repeating:

- Please remember to look at the AGREEMENT to COMPLETE DAILY HEALTH CHECK form. For now, you just need to go over the questions/symptoms with your child EVERY DAY before they come to school!
- Please do your best to read over the information sent home on the first day – verification forms, school fees – and return the forms/payment to the school as soon as possible. We really appreciate this, and helps us get off to a good start!
- In order to keep our students and staff safe, adults must make an appointment to enter the school. Please just call the office. All visitors must also complete a daily health check, wash hands upon entering, and wear a mask inside the school.

BEST STAFF 2021-2022

Mrs. C. Farber.....	Kindergarten
Mrs. A. Bowden.....	Kindergarten
Mrs. B. Denison.....	Grade 1
Ms. S. Dickinson.....	Grade 1
Ms. L. Duquette.....	Grade 2
Ms. T. Weber.....	Grade 2
Mrs. J. Ernst.....	Grade 3
Ms. G. Campbell.....	Grade 3/4
Mr. J. Hummel.....	Grade 4/5
Mrs. A. Unsworth & Mr. M. Brogan.....	Grade 4/5
Mrs. H. Villeneuve.....	Grade 5/6
Mr. M. Wood.....	Grade 6
Ms. T. Mangan.....	Resource Room
Mr. F. Law.....	Principal
Mr. M. Brogan.....	Vice-Principal
Ms. D. Ladouceur.....	Administrative assistant
Ms. G. Benz.....	LART
Mr. W. Deptuck.....	McQueen Lake Resource Teacher
Mrs L. Phillips.....	Fine Arts Prep
Ms K. Kipp.....	Librarian & Prep
Mrs. R. Bisong.....	Library Asst
TBA.....	CEA
Mrs.S. Egdell	CEA
Mrs. H. Uppenborn.....	CEA
Mrs. J. Murphy.....	CEA
Mrs. A. Nikula.....	District Resource Room CEA
Mrs. E. Hanzon.....	District Resource Room CEA
Mrs. D. Blank.....	District Resource Room CEA
TBA	AEW
Mrs. E. Simard.....	AM Custodian
Mrs. M. Rai.....	PM Custodian

SCHOOL SCHEDULE

8:25 am.....	Doors open
8:35 am.....	Classes begin
9:50 – 10:05am.....	Recess
11:55 – 12:30pm.....	All students outside
12:30 - 12:50pm.....	Eating time
12:50pm.....	Classes resume
2:41 pm.....	Dismissal



Please note: Due to our new two week Spring Break, dismissal for students is now scheduled for 2:41pm!

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 7.....	School begins
Sept 15.....	PAC Meeting 6pm
Sept 15.....	Hot Lunch Forms Due
Sept 20.....	Hot Lunch begins
Sept 24.....	Terry Fox Run 11:30am
Sept 27.....	District Non-Instructional Day
Sept 29.....	School Fees Due
Sept 30.....	Federal Holiday: National Truth & Reconciliation Day/Orange Shirt Day



Oct 5.....	Photo Day
Oct 6.....	PAC Meeting 6pm
Oct 11.....	Thanksgiving Day
Oct 19.....	Class Photos/Photo Retakes
Oct 20.....	Early closure 12:30 pm
.....	First Reporting Point of Progress
Oct 22.....	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 undertake these drills to make 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 – 3pm. 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 bulletin board outside the office.



Our Lunch Program begins on Tuesday, September 20th, 2021. A permission form / menu is attached with a due date of no later than noon Wednesday, September 15th. 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.

FEE PAYMENTS

Exciting news! Soon, families will be able to pay school fees online! Please have a look at the outline below, and we will let you know when we have more information!



COMING SOON

Coming Soon!
Pay School Fees Online

With SchoolCashOnline you'll be able to:

- ✓ Pay for your child's school fees online. Anytime, anywhere.
- ✓ Avoid the hassle of having cash on-hand to pay for school fees.
- ✓ Receive email notifications regarding school fees and events.
- ✓ Help us reduce the amount of cash in our schools.

 **Fast**

 **Safe**

 **Convenient**

School Cash Online is our school's preferred method of payment.



KEV GROUP
School Cash Simplified

safety guidelines are to be followed by all classes:

We ask parents of students at our school to consider not sending peanuts, peanut butter, or any other nut and egg products to school. There are snacks available that are marked "peanut free".

1. Please talk to your classroom teacher about sending cakes, cupcakes or cookies for class parties that contain nuts/eggs.
2. We have a no-share policy for snacks and lunches.

TERRY FOX RUN

Our school Terry Fox Run/Walk is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 24th. As always, we will participate in a short warm up and then our primary students will be running around the school grounds, while our intermediate students will be running as usual along the Rivers Trail to Westmount and back. 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 \$350.00 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
- Access to Internet-Based Resources
- Personal Information Consent
- Technology Use form
- Aboriginal Ancestry document (If applicable)
- Daily Health Checks
- Walking Field Trip form (within 2km of school)
- Meals form – due Wednesday September 15th
- **Verification forms will come home this week. Please make any necessary changes and return, SIGNED, ASAP.**

NUT/PEANUT and EGG AWARE

We have students with life-threatening nut and egg allergies at BEST. The following



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).....	\$44.00
** Mathletics fee (1/2 paid by PAC).....	\$6.00
TOTAL Gr 1, 2, 3.....	\$50.00
Gr 4, 5, 6 (Supplies & Agenda).....	\$59.00
** Mathletics fee (1/2 paid by PAC).....	\$6.00
TOTAL Gr 4, 5, 6.....	\$65.00
Yearbook (Optional).....	\$20.00

We offer a payment plan of **\$10.00 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 Thursday, Sept 29th.**

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.



RECORD CHECKS

Volunteering at schools with children is an awesome way to spend quality time with your child, while at the same time enriching the lives of our students. When we are able to have volunteers working with our students again, our provincial government has a new and improved process for requesting RECORD CHECKS with your BC SERVICES CARD. Please contact the office – if and when you are thinking of volunteering – for information regarding this process.

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Becoming a member of our BEST PAC could well be one of the most rewarding experiences of your life. Our PAC members work tirelessly – in partnership with our staff – to make Bert Edwards Science and Technology School a fantastic place to learn. We meet once a month, and typically members take on some responsibility around the school: Organizing Pizza Days, Bottle Drives, Christmas raffles, Science Fairs. All money raised during these events goes right back into the school to provide opportunities for our students. Please just contact Mr. Law at our office if you are interested!

