



BLACKBURN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

2222 S. Blackburn, Prince George, B.C. V2N 6C1

Phone (250) 963-7060 Fax (250) 963-7381

February 12, 2020

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Students at Blackburn Elementary are engaged in a lot of activity this month. We had an "Inspire Trades" presentation for Gr. 6/7 students this past Friday where students learned about careers in the Trades. Other grades took part in the Portable Planetarium. Today, we have the Hip Hop Hoop Dance Performance presented at our school. In addition, many of our Gr. 6/7's are busy filling the gym at lunch time with Basketball practices and games after school, and our Leadership class is getting all the Teddy Grams prepared for delivery to classrooms later this week.

Students started their new groups for Teacher Inquiry Time. Offerings during Teacher Inquiry Time on Wednesday afternoons include: Music, Culture Club, Yoga, Leadership (Intermediates Only), Speech Arts, Arts and Crafts, Snowshoe, and Maker/Games. Students are assigned to groups based on requests made on individual surveys completed at the beginning of the school year.

Our Grade 4 & 7 students will be completing the Student Learning Survey over the next few weeks. This is a province-wide survey that provides feedback to us on how we are doing as a school from a number of different perspectives. Information will go out in the next newsletter providing parents an opportunity to provide input as well.

It has been a jam packed few weeks despite the winter weather. Just a reminder to parents that communication from support staff – Mrs. Hyam, Mrs. Siemens as well as myself is slower than usual due to unusually high shortages of TTOC's. We have been spending our time ensuring your child(ren) receive the educational programming they require. Please be patient with us as we endeavor to do our best.

Yours truly,

Sarah Petrisor

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Feb 12 – Hip Hop Hoop Dance Performance
- Feb 17 – Family Day – School Closed
- Feb 24 – Primary CSL Writing Day
- Feb 26 – Pink Shirt Day
- Feb 26 – Mar 1 – PAC Online Auction
- Feb 27 – BC Hydro visits Divs. 7-12
- March 5 – Div. 11 & 12 to Otway Skiing
- March 9 – PAC Meeting @ 6:30 pm
- March 10 – CSL Sent Home
- March 16 – 27 – Spring Break
- April 10 – Good Friday (School Closed)
- April 13 – Easter Monday (School Closed)
- April 20-23 – Earth Week, school clean-up
- April 21 – Red Cedar Battle of the Books
- April 23 – Bohemia Dance Production
- April 24 – Non-Instructional Day (no school students)



LITERACY ACTIVITY FOR PRESCHOOLERS

We are happy to announce that our Literacy Program will be returning tomorrow!

Do you have children ages 0-5 not yet in school? Join us on **Thursdays** in the library at 9:15 am for an opportunity to hear a story, sign out books and participate in early learning literacy activities. This is new at Blackburn this year and Mrs. Sontag would love to see toddlers and preschoolers in the library!



STUDENT OF THE MONTH

The following students were recognized at our February assembly for being good PACK members:

- Mrs. Bourque – Paisley Schick, Trevin Stratton
- Mrs. Kugler – Bryden Wilson, Jordynn Prokopenko
- Ms. Truant – Hadley McMillan, Austyn Zielinski
- Mrs. Polhuis – Carson Everitt, Brooke Selzer
- Mrs. Martin – Lexi Brook, Aiden Wanke
- Mrs. Hellam – Kohen Baldus, Tyler Kranrod
- Ms. Stauffer – Emily Sigouin, Easton Skomedal
- Mrs. Cooke – Taylor Twizell
- Ms. Woodworth – Kashe Moulton, Dee Joseph, Dilynne Crittin
- Ms. Brown – Shianne Schwartz, Allyson Flint
- Mrs. Reinheimer – Landon McMath, Andrew Brietkopf
- Ms. Fedyk – Ava Zenzen, Colby Beauregard, Kayla Sexsmith

PRIMARY CSL WRITING DAY

Monday, February 24th there will be no school for primary students, Divisions 1 - 6 and Grade 3 students in Div 7, while teachers prepare communicating student learning reports. **Please note: Grade 4's in Ms. Stauffer's class (Div. 7) DO attend school on this day.**

BLACKBURN SPIRIT WEAR

Fridays are School Spirit day at Blackburn. Students are encouraged to wear red or black clothing.

PAC NEWS

PAC is currently accepting donations for their upcoming Online Auction running from February 26 – March 1. Thanks in advance for your donations!

OTHER PAC FUNDRAISERS

If you go to **Boston Pizza** you can help raise money for the Blackburn PAC. Just get your receipt stamped when you leave and bring the stamped receipt to the office. When the PAC takes the receipts in the school receives 5% of the total. Wow. – 5% just for eating out – we like it.



Save On Foods-Earn profit for the school while grocery shopping. 4% of each gift certificate you buy then use the card to purchase your groceries. Cards are available from the customer service desk where they will note the purchase in the non-profit binder under our school name.

ONLINE KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

2020 –2021 Kindergarten Registration is now open- Children whose fifth birthday falls on or before December 31, 2020 are eligible to enter Kindergarten in September 2020.

Registration should be completed through the online form at <https://www.sd57.bc.ca/Parents/StudentReg/KindReg>. This site will link to all forms required for registration. Please deliver completed forms to our school with your child's birth certificate.

ONLINE STUDENT TRANSFERS

This application provides a way for parents to request registration for their student at a school other than their catchment school for the next school year. The online student transfer application process is now open until **3:00 pm March 5, 2020**. The application link will be provided online shortly: <https://www.sd57.bc.ca/Parents/StudentReg/Pages/default.aspx#/=>



PINK SHIRT DAY

Pink Shirt day is February 26th a day to focus on anti-bullying. This year the school will not be doing a bulk order of pink shirts. However, shirts are available at various retail stores around town as well as online.

NUT ALLERGY ALERT REMINDER



Blackburn school must be nut aware as the nut issues in our school is a life threatening issue. Please:

- Send your child with nut free products for lunch and snacks.
- Encourage your child to wash their hands before and after they eat.
- Remind your child not to share their food with others.

REPORTING ABSENCES

Please notify us if your child is going to be absent for any reason. Blackburn has a Safe Start program and you will be called if your child is away without explanation. Please call the school at 250-963-7060 and leave a message on the school answering machine or by sending a note with a sibling.

SUPERVISION

Students are **not supervised** on the playground before 7:55 a.m. or after 2:25 p.m. Students should not be dropped off before this time. Students should leave the school grounds after dismissal. Any bus students staying after 2:25 must have a note of permission from their parent, with the understanding that there is no supervision for their child after 2:25.

SCHOOL VISITS

When visiting the school or dropping off items for your child, **please use the office entrance and check in at the office** when you arrive. If you are picking up your child at the end of the school day please wait outside the classroom door so that the teacher can organize the students for dismissal. Students are easily distracted and find it difficult to follow directions when parents are looking in on the class.

LOCKING SCHOOL DOORS

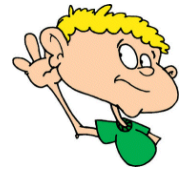
School doors will be locked when school is in session. The door by the office (by the flagpole) will be the only door unlocked between 8:19 – 9:50 a.m. 10:05 – 11:45 a.m. and 12:25 – 2:11 p.m. The doors will be unlocked before school, during recess, during lunch and after school for student access. The doors have safety crash bars on the inside and can be opened from the inside even when locked.

BLACKBURN WOLF PACK EXPECTATIONS

I will show Safety and Respect in the: CLASSROOM

By:

- *Inside voice.*
- *Active listening.*
- *Kind words.*
- *Best effort.*
- *Prepared.*
- *Inside shoes.*
- *Hands and feet to self.*
- *Chairs in.*
- *4 on the floor.*
- *Help others.*



Winter Weather Reminders and News for Bus Families

As we all settle back into school routines after the break, it's a good time to remind everyone about our winter weather policies. Schools will continue to stay open during winter weather events, but on occasion bus service may have to be cancelled for the day if roads are considered too dangerous to travel due to snow or icy conditions. Announcements regarding bus delays or cancellations are made via local radio stations on the affected day. You can subscribe to **My School Bus Monitor** at www.diversifiedbus.ca to receive notification of delays on your route. Thank you for ensuring children are dressed for the weather and for reminding them not to play on roadside snow piles. We ask that students are at their stops 5 minutes before the scheduled arrival time, but they are not expected to wait more than 15 minutes beyond the regular pick up time. Safety is always our first priority.

Over the next number of months, Diversified will be installing video recording equipment on the bus fleet. This technology will serve as another tool to support the safety and well-being of everyone on board our buses. Bus drivers are especially thankful for students who ride safely by sitting in their seats, by keeping the volume of conversations at a low setting, and by showing respect for others as well as the bus and its equipment. In turn, we are thankful for our drivers who have the important responsibility in our district of safely transporting nearly 4000 students each day!