

Van Bien Elementary

311 Wilson Cres. Prince George, BC V2L 4P8

www.vanb.sd57.bcca T: (250)563-1062

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Happy 2017 New Year! Hope you enjoyed the two-week school break and had a chance to get outside for fun family winter activities.

Students and staff will be busy focusing on learning and achievement goals. Please connect with your child's teacher regarding frequent and ongoing progress updates, including ways to support at home.

All parents are invited to attend a SD 57 Communicating Student Learning information session in the Van Bien Training & Development Center on Tuesday, January 24th at 7pm. This is an excellent opportunity for you to become informed about changes to Provincial reporting on Student Learning.

Some extra-curricular activities will begin. Grade 6/7 Basketball will run January-March. Parent volunteers may be needed for traveling to away games. Please ensure you have a current criminal record check done and volunteer driver forms on file at the office. Session 2 of Hockey and Boxing will start. Weekly scheduled programs will continue to run at lunch and after school. Reminder for students to wear their Van Bien spirit-wear on Mondays and/or Fridays.

Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) Gr. 4 & 7 parent information letters will sent home this month. Students will have an opportunity to practice the online field test to get used to the format. Students are able to use tools such as calculators dictionary, thesaurus. As well, all students may be given additional time as needed. If you have questions or concerns upon receiving the mailed home information please contact the office. The FSA 4 & 7 will take place in February.

Sincerely,

Mrs. D. Kaban, Principal

Bell Schedule Reminder

8:32 Warning Bell
8:35 Classes Begin
10:15 – 10:30 Recess
12:10 – 12:50 Lunch
2:36 Dismissal

Supervision Hours

Before School: 8:15-8:30
After School: 2:36-2:51

* **Wednesday early dismissal day @ 1:29**



Calendar of Events

- Jan. 19** PAC Hot Lunch
30 Non-Instructional day
Jan. 31 Kindergarten
Registration Day @ 9am!
Feb. 1 Winter festival
Feb. 8 – Mar. 3 Student Transfer
Process
Feb. 12 PG Iceman Event
Feb. 13 Family Day
Feb. 14 School Spirit Day
Feb. 16 PAC Hot Lunch
Feb. 24 Primary Report Card
Writing Day (no school for K to
Gr. 3 students)
Mar.3 Family Fun Night
Mar. 13 – 24 Spring Break
Apr. 14 Good Friday
Apr. 17 Easter Monday
Apr. 28 Non-Instructional Day
(students **do not** attend)
May 22 Victoria Day



On-Line Kindergarten Pre-Registration for September 2017

On-line pre-registration is required for Kindergarten in all School District No. 57 elementary schools. On-line registration will take place beginning at 9:00 a.m. on JAN. 31, 2017 at www.sd57.bc.ca Children whose fifth birthday falls on or before December 31, 2017 are eligible to enter Kindergarten in September 2017.

Upon submission of the online registration, you will receive an e-mail confirmation along with a link to additional forms requiring completion. Bring completed forms, along with a copy of the Birth Certificate and proof of address, to the school by February 10th, 2017.

Staff at the school will be available to assist you as required.

More information is available at www.sd57.bc.ca

Student Transfer Process for September 2017- 2018 – Notice to Parents of Students in SD No. 57

A student transfer to another school in the district may be requested as outlined below.

- All transfer applications must be made using the electronic form available at www.sd57.bc.ca Application details are available on the website and are also available at the general office of any district school.
- An application may be made from any computer with Internet access. Applications may also be made in person at the general office of any district school.
- A time and date is automatically assigned to each application received. Applications will be considered in order of receipt. Note that an application made in person does not take effect until the school enters it in the online system.
- **The online application form process will record applications in the order received between 9:00 am on February 8th and will end at 3:00 pm on March 3rd.**
- Once a transfer is granted, the student must not return to the catchment area school for at least one school year.
- Parents wishing the return of their child to the previous school must make application under this policy.
- Parents are responsible for transportation to and from the school they are applying to.
- All transfers will be effective September 2014.
- Additional information concerning the transfer process is available at www.sd57.bc.ca or at the general office of any district school.

Welcome to Van Bien

Please welcome Mrs. Kathy May, our new Secretary and Ms. Clasper, who is replacing Mrs. Turner. Mrs. Turner is going on her maternity leave in January and we wish her all the best.

School Newsletters

Mrs. Briggs has started e-mailing Newsletters to parents. If you would like the Newsletter e-mailed to you please double check with Mrs. Briggs that she has your correct e-mail address. If interested, please e-mail Mrs. Briggs @ mbriggs@sd57.bc.ca with the Subject Line "Add to Newsletter" and she will get your e-mail address added. We are going to slowly be getting away from sending out paper copies unless absolutely necessary. Our newsletter is also posted on our Van Bien Website <https://www.sd57.bc.ca/school/vanb/Pages/default.aspx>.

Lost & Found

Our lost & found is growing with winter coats, snow pants, mittens, and other clothing. Please come take a look and claim any belongings. Unclaimed items will be donated.

Community School Coordinator News...

Van Bien Fundraising Support

Please consider donating your recycling to the "Van Bien Elementary" account at the PG Recycling & Return-it Centre. They will issue you a receipt that you can return to the school office.
(PG Recycling & Return-it Centre, 2614 Petersen Rd).

Kid Proof Babysitters Training Course: January 5 & 6, 2017

Forms have been sent home. If your child is interested in this training, please have the forms back ASAP as there are limited spaces available.

Ice Man Multisport Community Event: February 12, 2017.

Permission forms have gone out to Gr 6 and Gr 7 students to begin Ice Man Training (Running). Van Bien has two staff teams. The events are as follows: 8 km Ski; 10 km Run; 5 Km Run; 5 km Skate; 800 metre swim.

Winter Coats

Knights of Columbus are generously providing winter jackets again this year for students in need of one. Please contact Ms. Therrien for further information

Aboriginal Education Workers News...

Aboriginal Pals – Parents as Literacy Supporters with child/ren Ages 3-5

Tuesdays 1:30-2:30 in the library.

Call or speak to Mrs. Girard or Mrs. Howard-Gibbon for more information.

Soup & Bannock

Soup and Bannock days are alternating Mondays. Bannock days will be January 9th & 23rd. Soup days will be January 16th. They will be sold for .50 each. There is no bannock or soup in December. These dates are subject to change. Please check the Van Bien PAC page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/595516550530559> & website regularly.

PAC News...

PAC Meetings – The second Wednesday of every month starting at 6:30 pm until approx. 7:30. Child minding is provided.

PAC Social - Hosted in the library the first Wednesday of the month from 6:30-7:30m. This is an opportunity to connect with other parents and the PAC executive.

A very big thank you to all the families for supporting PAC fundraisers!

Community Events...

Ice Rink

If you would like to volunteer to help with the care and maintenance of the ice rink this winter, please contact the office or Tamara Flundra.