

Van Bien Elementary

311 Wilson Cres. Prince George, BC V2L 4P8

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

Welcome back returning and new families, students and staff!

We hope this summer you enjoyed spending time together outdoors and engaging in fun activities. Many families are eager for school to be back in session and students engaged in learning.

Our dedicated staff work together to provide a positive, safe, orderly, caring and inclusive environment for all children to maximize their learning potential. As we begin the new school year, please remember that education doesn't just happen at school. It is a partnership between teachers, families, and students. We need your help to do our best for your child/ren! Good communication between home and school is important, so please be sure to talk with us regularly. Together we can help your child/ren learn and grow©

Thursday is the first full day of school for Gr.1-7; please refer to the bell schedule. Kindergarten students in School District 57 participate in a gradual entry; please refer to the assigned schedule provided by Mrs. Alton and Mrs. Turcotte.

An effort will be made to have most class placements ready for this **Monday**. The cut off for enrolment numbers is September 30th. Please note, classes could change if we have to reorganize due to declining or increased enrolment.

Our social responsibility theme for September is Safety. Over the next few days teachers will be reviewing school routines & expectations as well as teaching lessons and practicing safety at school.

Best wishes for a great school year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Debbie Kaban, Principal



Calendar of Events

- Sept 5** Non-Instructional Day
- Sept 6** First Day of School
8:45 am – 10:15 am
- Sept 27** Open House
- Sept 28** Terry Fox Run
- Sept 29** Non Instructional Day
- Oct 9** Thanksgiving
- Oct 17** Student Photos
- Oct 20** Non-Instructional Day
- Oct 24** Early Dismissal (1:38)
- Oct 26** Early Dismissal (1:38)
- Nov 13** Remembrance Day
- Nov 23** Jacky Essombe Cultural
- Nov 24** Non-Instructional Day
- Dec 1** Primary Assessment Day
- Dec 13** CSL Progress Update Home
- Dec 18** Start Winter Vacation
- Jan 2** Return to School
- Jan 29** Non-Instructional Day

2017-2018 VBE Important Dates Calendar

Sept 5 –	Non-Instructional Day		
Sept 6 –	First day of school 8:45 am – 10:15 am	Mar 2 -	Primary Assessment Day
Sept 27 -	Book Fair / Open House	Mar 14-	CSL Progress Update Home
Sept 28 -	Terry Fox Run	Mar 19-	Start of Spring Break
Sept 29-	Non-Instructional Day	Mar 30 -	End of Spring Break/Good Friday
Oct 9 -	Thanksgiving	April 2-	Easter Monday
Oct 17 -	Student Photos	Apr 20-	Non-Instructional Day
Oct 20 -	Non-Instructional Day	May 15-	Early Dismissal (1:38 pm)
Oct 24 -	Early dismissal (1:38 pm)	May 17 -	Early Dismissal (1:38 pm)
Oct 26 -	Early Dismissal (1:38 pm)	May 18 -	Milton Randdall Cultural Event
Nov 13 -	Remembrance Day Stat	May 21 -	Victoria Day
Nov. 23-	Jacky Essombe Cultural Event		
Nov 24 -	Non-Instructional Day	June 4 –	Non-Instructional Day
Dec 1 -	Primary Assessment Day	June 15-	Intermediate Assessment Day
Dec 13 -	CSL Progress Update Home	June 18-	Primary Assessment Day
Dec 18 -	Start Winter Vacation	June 20-	Sports Day
Jan 2 –	Return to school	June 28 -	Last day & Summative Reports
Jan 29 -	Non-Instructional Day	June 29-	Administrative Day
Feb 12-	Family Day		

Strengthening Families Program – Thursdays, Oct-Feb. (14 wks)

After School Academic Proficiency Program (ASAP) – Tues-Thursday after School

Intermediate Hockey Program: Tues. 9:45-10:45 Kin2, Oct.24, 2017 Starts.

Early Learning Programs: APALS: Spring Session RSL: Spring Session

Bell Schedule Reminder

8:30 Warning Bell
8:35 Classes Begin
10:15 – 10:30 Recess
12:10 – 12:50 Lunch
2:38 Dismissal

Every Wednesday early dismissal 1:30

Supervision Hours

Before School: 8:15-8:30

After School: 2:40-2:55



VAN BIEN STAFF 2017-2018



Principal
Vice-Principal
Secretary

Mrs. D. Kaban
Mrs. A. Zummack
Mrs. K. May

Classroom Teachers:

Mrs. D. Erickson, Ms. S. Polsom, Mrs. L. Wolfenden,
Mrs. A. Alton, Mrs. N. Brownridge, Mrs. H. Callaghan,
Ms. V. Elton, Mrs. M. Hawes, Ms. A. Smith, Ms. T. Teale &
Mrs. L. Turcotte

Resource (LA/Support/ELL):

Mrs. L. Lacharite, Mrs. B. Huzar, Mrs. L. Doucette Mr. C. Wintemute

Teacher Counsellor:

Mr. C. Wintemute

Prep Teachers:

Ms. V. Elton, Mrs. A. Zummack, Mrs. L. Doucette

Library Learning Commons Teacher: Mrs. L. Doucette

Community Schools Coordinator: Ms. N. Therrien

Aboriginal Education Worker:

Mrs. R. Girard, Mrs. B. Seymour Howard Gibbon

Education Assistants/Supervisors:

Mrs. A. Carr, Mrs. K. Eddy, Mrs. K. Potvin, Mrs. P. Rogers,
Ms. A. Russman, Mrs. K. Smith, Ms. A. Taylor, Mrs. N. Blanchard.

Youth Care Worker:

Mrs. A. Nohr

Custodians:

Mr. E. Johnson & Ms. K. Belzile



Annual Open House, Book Fair & Ice Cream Social...On Wednesday, September 27th,

students are invited to bring their parent(s)/guardian(s), Aunts, Uncles and/or Grandparent(s)

- BOOK FAIR...5:30 - 6:30 pm stop by the library to look at what's on sale at the Book Fair.
- Classroom Visits... 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm visit your child/ren's classroom and meet his/her teachers.
- ICE CREAM SOCIAL... 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm come to the gym to enjoy a "Gourmet Sundaes" with delicious toppings while visiting your friends and neighbours.

Terry Fox Run

The money raised in our annual Terry Fox Run helps people with all types of cancers, including breast, lung, brain, prostate and many more. This year's Terry Fox National School Run Day will take place on the afternoon of **Thursday, September 28th**. Teachers will be collecting donations on the week of September 25th. If you would like to contribute, please bring a small donation during this time. There is no minimum donation. This is a school wide event and is held outside, so please ensure your child is dressed for the weather.

Student Fees and Other General Information

Money will be collected starting September 18th. A fee memo with the breakdown of costs will go out next week. Please return the completed form in a Ziploc bag or envelope with the EXACT amount of money required. **Please note:** we only accept cash & do not give out change.

School Supplies for September 2017

You will find the Primary & Intermediate supply lists for the 2017-2018 school year on our school website <http://www.sd57.bc.ca/school/vanb/>. Teachers may request a few special items for classroom use & will notify their students of any additional items required.

Student Planners and Cultural Performances Fees \$10.00

Planners: All students in grades 1 - 7 will be required to have a planner. For consistency, we would like all children in the class to use the same planner. Planners assist students in all aspects of their study skills and homework practices, and are an important tool for improving communication with parents. The school will be selling planners for students to purchase.



Culture Performances: The cultural fee brings performances to our school. Families are welcome to attend. Our students really enjoy these events!

School T-Shirts

Show your school spirit by purchasing a Van Bien Blazers t-shirt for \$10. T-shirts will be ordered and come in a variety of sizes. VBE spirit wear t-shirts are worn Mondays, Fridays, special spirit days, and school team events.



Meals Program

The meals program is open to all students and will start next week. A monthly menu is sent home which must be returned with your signature, monetary contribution and choices for the various meals circled. On days your child chooses not to take part in the Meals Program, please provide a lunch for them. Meals Program meals are ordered on Wednesdays for the following week, so please only order meals your child will eat.

Well Rested, On Time & Healthy Meals:

Students who arrive at school on time, rested, well nourished, and ready to learn are most likely to maximize their learning at school. This seems obvious, and you may well be wondering why it is mentioned here. The simple reason is many children arrive at school late and/or tired. Some rushed out of the house without breakfast. Nutritionists tell us breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Please support your child's learning by making sure they have lots of sleep, and a well-balanced breakfast.



BC Healthy Schools: Send healthy food and beverages with your child/ren to school. Refillable water bottle are awesome. Reminder to **not send** your child to school with pop, energy drinks and/or other caffeinated beverages. Thanks!

PAC News – Fall Elections for Executive Positions – Mtg date and time to be determined soon.

ROARS: THE VAN BIEN VALUES



At Van Bien, we encourage students to practice “**ROARS**” behaviour in all situations.

- **Respect**
- **Ownership**
- **Achievement**
- **Responsibility**
- **Safety**

“**ROARS**” values are reinforced formally at weekly assemblies and informally throughout the week. Students demonstrating “**ROARS**” behaviour are recognized for their contributions to a positive school tone through the “Gotcha” recognition program, and by regular “special event” rewards.

Reminders

Planners (with handbook) – Coming Home!

The Handbook is located at the front of the planner. It includes a number of items we would like you to review with your child. Policies indicating the acceptable use of cell phones, cameras and our computer networks are important. You will also want **to review the Code of Conduct, Dress Code**, and the expectations for those students who eat lunch at school. Students who review these items with their parents will have the chance to enter a prize draw.

Safe-Start - Absenteeism

The safety of your child is our first concern. Mrs. May will call home for each child whose absence is unexplained. If your child will be late or absent from school, please telephone the school prior to 8:30 **(250-563-1062)** and leave a message.

Doing this will save **Mrs. May** a phone call. We have a 24 hour answering machine at this number.



Indoor Shoes

To help keep Van Bien an attractive place to work and learn, each child must have a pair of indoor shoes to change into when they enter the school. If you buy runners for your child's indoor shoes, please ensure they have non-marking soles.

NO Dogs on School Property

To maintain a clean and safe playground environment for students, dogs are not allowed on the school grounds at any time with or without a leash unless the office has authorized a special visit ie. show & tell, SPCA.



Cross Walks & Traffic Safety

In an effort to prevent an accident and to ensure safety, please review proper pedestrian road rules with your child/ren. ICBC has good resources on their website to help guide home discussions.

When crossing the street, pedestrians need to look left, right, left. Bikes need to be walked across crosswalks. Thank you for helping keep our students safe. If you notice vehicles speeding or driving dangerously please report the license plate number to the RCMP.

SD57 Policy Reminders:

Policy 6179 : Acceptable Use of Networks

5. STUDENTS

5.1 The purpose of student access to the System is to further the learning objectives of the educational program, including:

5.1.1 Providing training in the use of computer systems;

5.1.2 Providing access to a wide range of material with educational value to the student;

5.1.3 Facilitating communication with others around the school district and the world in furtherance of the student's education.

5.2 When accessing information on the Internet for use in school projects, students must not engage in plagiarism or other forms of cheating.

5.3 Failure by a student to comply with this policy and any rules and regulations that may be implemented by the Board from time to time may result in suspension or revocation of some or all access privileges and may also result in disciplinary action.

Approved: 1997.09.16

Revised: 2007.06.26

2016.04.26

COMMUNITY NEWS...

DISTRICT 57 Tapestry Singers would like to welcome new members to join them for their 11th Season!

JUNIOR Singers include Grade 4-7 students from the Prince George public school district and SENIOR Singers include Grade 7-12 students from the Prince George public school district. The mission of Tapestry Singers is to create a joyful and beautiful sound, to strive for choral excellence, and to foster a life long love of music and music making. For more information regarding their 2017-2108 season, check out their website: <http://tapestrysingersd57.weebly.com/> or contact their director: 250-964-8184 - cduerksen@sd57.bc.ca

Two Rivers Gallery Welcome back to another fun-filled school year! When your school day is over, join us at Two Rivers Gallery for an [after-school art class](#) or for [MakerClub](#). If your weekdays are too busy, there are also [Saturday classes](#) and [Sunday Open Studio](#). Tell your parents that we also have [classes for adults](#), and for [preschoolers](#) too! You can register online, by phone at 250-614-7800 or drop by the gallery to register in person. See you soon!