



Spruceland Traditional Elementary

3508 Rainbow Drive, Prince George, B.C.

www.stes.sd57.bc.ca 250-563-4208

Principal: Sid Jawanda  Vice-Principal: Dan Petrisor 

October 9, 2019

September is over and October has definitely brought the fall colors and temperatures to our community.

We embarked on several structural changes at the school this year designed to create calm, safe and positive learning environments here at Spruceland.

Our teacher-led small group activity break in the morning has replaced the school-wide recess and so far the impact on behaviour has been very positive. The data so far has shown a dramatic drop in student discipline as compared to last year.

The biggest structural change at the school is our adoption of a School Wide system of Positive Behaviour Interventions and Supports (PBIS). We have adopted the SHARKS as our new school mascot/logo and have built behaviour expectation charts around expected SHARK behaviour. We are Safe, Hardworking, Accountable, Respectful, and Kind. The behaviour expectation charts can be found on our website. We will teach the expected behaviours and reward students who show these behaviours with "Chomps". Students will collect Chomps on behalf of their house team (Mako, Hammerhead, Thresher and Tiger Sharks) and build towards group rewards. PBIS also works to help us build school spirit. We are having regular assemblies with a focus on behaviours, growth mindset and school spirit/culture.

All of these changes, in addition to our early dismissal model on Wednesdays to allow for teacher collaboration/learning have led to a wonderful start to the school year. I am looking forward to all that is still in store for us this year and to seeing all of the families at upcoming events such as the Halloween Fun Night!

Sid Jawanda - Principal



Upcoming Events for Oct. 2019

Oct. 10th – Individual Photos

Oct. 10th – Rainbow Classic Run

Oct. 14th – Thanksgiving Holiday

Oct. 19th – Bottle Drive
10am – 3pm, **bottles can be dropped off any time between now and then at Nechako Bottle Depot, quote #752 for Spruceland Leadership**

Oct. 24th – Halloween Fun Night 6pm-8pm.

Oct. 25th – Non-Instructional Day.



A reminder that this year we went to an early dismissal model on Wednesdays. This will be every Wednesday until June 17th, 2020. Students will be dismissed at 1:25pm.

If your child will be dropped off before 8:25am, please make arrangements with our principal or vice principal.

If you are unable to pick your child up at the new early Wednesday dismissal time of 1:37pm, please contact the office to discuss options. Please ask for the Vice Principal Mr. Petrisor.

Lunch schedules for that day will be adjusted accordingly.

Spruceland Bell Schedule for Sept. 2019 - June 2020

	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Fridays:	Wednesdays:
Programs/Supervision Start:	8:25am	8:25am
Warning Bell:	8:40am	8:40am
Instruction Begins:	8:45am	8:45am
Lunch Begins:	12:20pm	11:50am
Dismissal to Outside:	12:35pm	12:05pm
Warning Bell:	1:00pm	12:30pm
Instruction Begins:	1:05pm	12:35pm
Instruction Ends:	2:37pm	1:25pm
Supervision Ends:	2:52pm	1:37pm

Classes will take a 15 minute break during the morning session.

To ensure student safety, **all visitors** coming to the school between 8:45am-2:25pm **MUST**:

- 1.) Sign in at the office and sign out when you leave.
- 2.) Wear a school lanyard as a guest or volunteer. This system will improve our lists of people in the school during a lockdown or evacuation. (School special events are an exception.)
- 3.) It is very important that our hallways remain quiet during class time and use of inappropriate language is strictly prohibited.
- 4.) All parents wanting to be volunteers need to apply for a Police Record Check every 3 years. Applications can be picked up at our office, you must then fill out and drop off to the RCMP. We are happy to support all applications.
- 5.) **All lunches for students are to be brought to the office and we will call your child down to pick up.**

Any parent wanting to volunteer in the school need to apply for a Police Record Check every 3 years. We are happy to support all applications.

The Spruceland Parent Advisory Committee is always looking for new volunteers to join their team. Spruceland PAC historically is a phenomenal support to our school and students and we are very privileged to have them.



Strong Start is a free drop in for ages 0-5 from 8:45 – 11:45am., Mon. to Fri. There is no Strong Start the first Monday of each month nor on Non-Instructional Days.

School Fees:

Each student from Grades 1 to 3 are required to purchase a Student Planner. This planner is used to develop responsibility for homework and a useful tool for both parents and teachers as a communication tool between home and school. The cost is \$10.00. As well, there is a \$10.00 cultural fee for all students that enables us to schedule special events/performers that enrich daily curriculum. **Both fees are payable to the classroom teacher.**



Student Verification Forms:

Student verification forms were sent home a couple of weeks ago, if you have not returned it to the school, please do so as soon as possible. It is important that we have accurate information for your child and any emergency contacts that may be needed.

Virtues:

At our Traditional School, we teach a virtue each month. Our focus for October is “empathy”. Empathy is the ability to understand and share another’s feelings.

Spruceland is an allergy aware school:

- Be considerate of classroom allergies when sending lunches and snacks to school.
- Use a paper towel so the food does not touch the desk or table.
- Wash hands thoroughly after eating.

Allergy Aware School





If your child is going to be late or absent or later for any reason, please contact the office at 250-563-4208.

Please also note and discuss with your child(ren) that using the office phone is for emergencies and not to arrange after school plans.



Use of wheeled devices are prohibited on school grounds. This would include Heely shoes (runners with wheels attached), Razor Scooters, skateboards and bicycles. Once a student arrives at school on their bicycle, they should walk the bike to the bike stand and lock it up.



School Newsletters:

School newsletters are sent out in digital form. They are emailed out the last Friday of each month giving you the info for the following month's news and activities. They are also posted to our website <https://www.sd57.bc.ca/school/stes> and the PAC Facebook page. There will be printed copies available for those families that cannot access a digital copy. Please ensure the office has your current email address.

Thank you for supporting our Terry Fox Run again this year. We raised \$129.00

Grade 4's and 7's will now be writing the Foundation Skills Assessments in October. A pamphlet will be sent home to parents of Grade 4 and 7 students.



Every Friday is Pizza Day!

Tickets for pizza are sold every Friday morning from 8:00-9:00am at the concession/kitchen window. The cost is \$2.00 per slice. We have 3 options: Pepperoni, Cheese or Ham and Pineapple. Chocolate milk is \$1.50 or apple juice can be purchased for \$1.00.

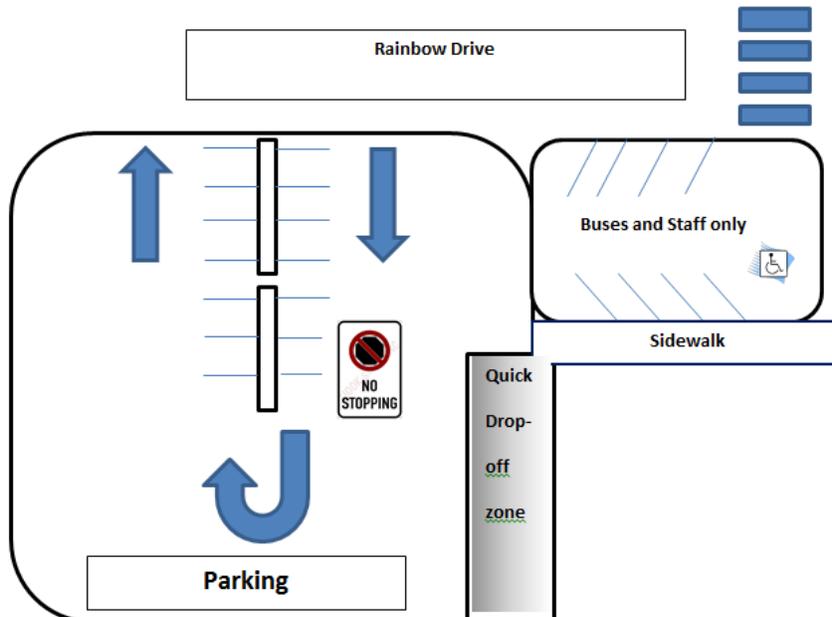
Pizza Days in October are: Oct. 4th, Oct. 11th and Oct. 18th. Friday, October 25th is a Non-Instructional Day.

Traffic Safety

Safety in our parking lot is paramount. Thank you to all families who are making our parking lot a safe place. Here are a few reminders to help us keep everyone safe when arriving and leaving school. **Please focus on your driving rather than watching your child walk into the school, this is unfortunately an ongoing concern.** Thanks!

- One way entrance and exit.
- Quick drop off at the curb only. Please do not park in the drop off zone.
- Do not drop off your children in the 'no stopping' zone as it causes congestion and a back-up of vehicles.
- Walk quickly across the parking lot. Please do not let students cross on their own.

Thanks for all of your patience and commitment to ensure the safety of our students!



After-school pick up:

If you are picking up your child after school, we encourage you to wait outside near the main entrance foyer, or outside the boot room areas.

