NEWSLETTER: September 2021

Ecole Willow Point Elementary 250 Larwood Rd. Campbell River, willowpoint@sd72.bc.ca 250-923-4311





Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you once again for being understanding and respecting our safety protocols. Our classes are settling down and we are in the process of assessing our students to get a sense of where they are, to plan instruction to target our students' needs.

In addition to the many ways teachers are getting to know their students learning profiles this September, in the coming weeks, Kindergarten to Grade 5 students at EWP will participate in a French-language formative screening assessment called IDAPEL (Indicateurs dynamiques d'habiletés précoces en lecture) as well as an English-language screener called DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Beginning Early Literacy Skills). The information gathered from these tools will be invaluable in our instructional planning and identifying students who may need additional supports with their literacy skills.

Both screeners include a series of six measures individually administered in less than one minute, each assessing a child's early literacy skills. Specifically, phonemic awareness, the alphabetic principle, fluency reading a text and text comprehension. The IDAPEL measures continue to be evaluated for their utility and feasibility. As a District, we have agreed to participate in a study in partnership with Dynamic Measurement Group (DMG).

Both the DIBELS and IDAPEL measures will be used to assess children's reading performance and provide a framework from which reading growth can be measured. Your child will be assessed three times during the school year, once in the fall, once in the winter and again in the spring. At each checkpoint, teachers will use the information gained to plan their instruction to target areas of need and extend areas of strength.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to sharing our findings with you at the fall student-led conferences!

Happy September,

Rachel Black & Louise Guèvremont

MEDICAL

If your child has any medical concerns, or is on daily medication, please ensure that all information is updated with the office as soon as possible. If you wish to keep medication at the school for your child, a "Request for Administration of Medication" form MUST be completed. **This information must be updated on a yearly basis.** If anything changes during the school year please let us know.

Many children have allergies, however, only a few are life threatening. If you are the parent of a child with life-threatening allergies, we need your cooperation in providing the office with current medical information and assistance in developing a plan to protect your child's health. Does your child have a life threatening allergy? If so (and you haven't already contacted us), please phone the office to discuss the situation.

The following classrooms are food allergy-aware and we ask that you do not bring the noted items, or any food containing these items, into the classroom.

Classroom Food Item(s)

Mme Alice Div 07 Peanuts/Shellfish

Mme Mireille Div 09 All Nuts



Mme Strebel Peanuts, Sesame, Lentils

We appreciate your cooperation! Merci!

Attendance

Please make every effort to ensure that your child(ren) arrives to school on time - school starts for all grades at 8:30 am. If students arrive after their class has been escorted in, they should come in through the main entrance to the office, to sign-in before going to class. Parents should stay outside unless absolutely necessary, then follow the protocol and sign in at the front entry.

Also, if you know that you will be late, absent, or leaving early, please phone the school at 250-923-4311 to let us know.

Absences may also be emailed <u>before 8:30</u> each day to: willowpoint@sd72.bc.ca . Please state "Attendance + date" in the subject line and the reason for absence.

Office hours are 7:45 am to 3:15 pm, but our answering machine will take calls 24 hours a day! Either way, by phone or email, please ensure that you state the student's first and last name. Also, speak slowly and clearly as phone messages are transcribed.

School District 72 Campbell River

REVISED 2021/2022 CALENDAR

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Thursday, Sept. 30th NO SCHOOL Truth & Reconciliation Day

The BC government has announced that September 30th will be a new annual statutory holiday for all provincial public sector employees, including public school districts, to honour truth and reconciliation.

The Campbell River School Districts and all its schools will be closed on September 30th to observe this day in reflection. The 2021-2022 school calendar has been updated to include this new holiday.

School Telephones

Our office phone is for emergencies only and should not be used by students to phone after school to make play arrangements.

Please ensure your child is certain about all after school arrangements before leaving each day so that needless, worrisome situations do not arise.

Thank you.

Pick Up & Drop Off/Parking

Please park only in designated areas when picking up and dropping off students. Do not block the crosswalks or park where red lines are, or block busses. Thank you



Class Community Walks

Parents/guardians are welcome to join on class walks within the community, as long as the following protocols are observed:

- Contact your child's teacher to confirm participation;
- Maintain social distancing from all students and staff
- Wear masks at all times
- Meet outside the classroom (no school entry); and
- Have an up-to-date Criminal Record Check on file with the school office (CRCs are good for 3 years—contact the office if you require a form or need to check the expiry date of a CRC previously provided).

Signed permission forms are required for students to participate in community walks off the school

Bus Students

Immediately after dismissal, bus students are to proceed to the bus pick up area and place their backpacks in the appropriate line-up. Students often run and play after school while waiting for the bus, and the backpack will indicate that there is someone intending to get on the bus after school. Please review this procedure with your bus student.

Please write your child's name on his/her sweatshirt/jackets/hats to assist us in returning items to students throughout the year.

Bell Schedule

8:25 am Students gather at designated spot.

10:00 - 10:40 Staggered Recess

11:30 & 12:30 pm Staggered-Lunch

2:15 pm School Dismissal

Student Information Verification

We will be sending home a personal Student Information Verification Form with each student. Please:

- Carefully review all information on the form;
- Make any required changes in <u>blue or red pen</u>;
- Write clearly so that information may be translated and input correctly;
- If there are no changes, write "NO CHANGES";
- Sign and date the bottom of page 2 of the Form; and
- Return the form to your child's teacher as soon as possible. Thank you!

Paperwork Sent Home with Students

With school start-up each year comes a lot of paperwork to confirm and update our records. The following forms will be sent home shortly with your child:

- Student Verification Sheet with Contacts attached;
- District Information Systems Acceptable Use Agreement;
- Emergency Release Form; and
- Student FIPPA / Personal Information Consent Form 2021 - 2022

We appreciate the time it takes to review and update these forms and thank you for returning them promptly to your child's teacher.



Very happy birthday wishes to the following students having a birthday in September . Thank you to Shelley

Jepps who creates our amazing

Birthday Board.

Presley, Sebastian, Kailey, Brenna, Charlotte, Fox, Owen, Joelle, Amelia Corbin, Olivia, James, Owen, Hazel, Kash, Addisyn, Ireland, Alexander Isla, Lumynn, Sterling, Jack, Roy, Thorston.



September 2021

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26	27 PAC Meeting 6:00 pm	28	29	30 No School Truth & Reconciliation Day	Oct 5th Picture Day!	