

<h1>Beattie Elementary</h1>	492 McGill Road Kamloops, B.C. (250) 374-0608	"Working together as a school community in an atmosphere of success and belonging, we have as our goal the development of each student's fullest potential as a lifelong learner in a changing world"
	Principal: Mr. Blair Lloyd www.beattie.sd73.bc.ca	

December 2016

Principal's Message

With the arrival of December, cold weather, and all of the festive happenings, it's time to renew a pledge to take care of yourself, your loved ones and your community. At Beattie, many heartwarming activities are taking place including the Christmas bizarre, Christmas concert practices, and many other events in each classroom. Staff are keeping students busy with a balanced academic focus as we also begin the new term now that report cards have gone home! I enjoyed reading the comments and hearing about how each of our students have progressed over the past three months of this school year. I must congratulate our fabulous students and staff for a job well done this first term!

I LOVE being your principal!

Wishing each and every one of you a joyous and safe holiday season!



Mr. B. Lloyd
Principal

FOUNDATION SKILLS ASSESSMENT

Our Grade 4 and 7 students will be taking part in the FSA's between the beginning of January and beginning of February. There are specific schedules for administering FSA's for each class. This is a Ministry initiative and we ask that our students be well rested and in a state of mind to try their best on the assessments. There are three parts to the assessment: **Numeracy, Writing and Reading.** The Student Learning Assessment Order (School Act Section 81 and 168) provides the legislative authority to mandate the administration of the FSA to all Gr.4 and 7 students. As such, all students are expected to write the exams. Principals and teachers do not have the authority to excuse students from participation unless the student meets specific criteria (modified IEP, medical disability). The FSA's take approximately 270 minutes to complete and the students will write in both written booklets and electronic exams in the computer lab. Once the booklets have been marked, parents will receive them back with a snapshot of their child's performance. Parents can expect to know the results in early March. While students cannot 'study' for these exams, parents are encouraged to have their child visit the Ministry of Education website to familiarize themselves with the types of questions on the exams. The exam results are also used as a snapshot to see how students are doing in our school and in our district compared to the rest of the province. The results are not used in any way

for teachers to use for classroom data for reporting; however, the ITEM TEST ANALYSIS is a very useful document in seeing what strands of the curriculum our students need support with. It would be most appreciated by myself as the Principal, if you could send your children to school ON TIME each day. Making up the exams if students have been absent will be a huge undertaking and I need parents' cooperation to ensure all grade 4 and 7 students are at school during the writing sessions. Parents can visit the Ministry Website themselves to see sample questions and have their child practice some of the online sample questions at:

<https://www.awinfosys.com/eassessments/fsa.htm>

Thank you to parents of grade 4 and 7 students. If parents have questions or queries they can call me at the school (250-374-0608).



PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

A BIG thank you to the PAC for organizing so many fundraisers for our school this year. The staff and students appreciate all your hard work! All parents are encouraged to attend and become actively involved at the school. PAC meetings occur at 6:30 pm on the first Wednesday of each month.

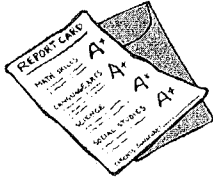
Babysitting is available upon request. The class with the most parent representation receives a prize each month so come on out and support the school!

The PAC is actively seeking volunteers to help with fundraising/events. Planning for the Spring Carnival will begin soon and volunteers are needed for 1-2 hour shifts.

If you haven't already done so, please sign up for the PAC/School Facebook page to get updates.

REPORT CARDS

First term report cards are coming home on Friday, December 2nd. A child's report card can bring feelings of joy, excitement, and pride; it can also cause



concerns, frustration, and uncertainty. In either case, the reporting period marks a new beginning to set goals and reflect on past work habits, achievements, and hardships. Most important, it is a time for you to communicate with your children and determine a path for future academic enrichment and social-emotional growth.

Focus on the Positive

Regardless of the grades your child brings home, you must first focus on positive aspects of the report. This is not always an easy task. For some, this might mean highlighting a strong effort or citizenship grade, or praising an academic accomplishment or a perfect attendance record. Starting on a positive note shows your child that you truly care about the accomplishments, not only areas that need improvement.

Ask the Right Questions

Be careful not to overreact to low grades, or grades you view to be unsatisfactory. Instead, use this time to look at past performance and plan for the future. Talk to your child, asking questions to understand how a particular grade was earned:

- Was the work too difficult?
- Could the pace of the class be inappropriate (too fast, so that your child feels "lost," or too slow, causing your child to feel "bored")?
- Does your child complete all homework and ask questions when problems arise?

The answers you receive might indicate a need to review your child's study habits. Determine whether or not your child is recording all assignments and bringing home all materials necessary to complete them. Does your child have a specific nightly homework time (Sunday through Thursday) when he cannot be disturbed? If not, this would be a great time to establish one! If so, is it long enough? Does your child have a specific place to study where resources (including someone to answer questions) are available and distractions are minimized? Is your child completing all homework on a nightly basis, or are assignments being turned in late, or not at all? Once you have determined the problem, you can begin to create a solution.

The Next Step

Creating a plan to maximize future academic success is an important part of every child's education. Help your child set realistic and attainable goals for the next reporting period. Outline ways in which these goals can be met, as well as rewards and consequences if they are not. Type the "official plan" and post one copy in a prominent household location, another in your child's binder, and forward another to his/her teacher. Involving your child gives him/her ownership and importance in this process, and this makes the report card important not only to you, but also to your child. As parents and teachers, we want the best for children, but in too many cases this is measured only by the number of A's and B's brought home. Emphasize to your child the importance of doing the very best job that he/she can. Encourage him/her to succeed, and measure his/her progress in realistic terms, letting him/her know that you care and are available to help. Break tasks into small steps, so that even the youngest child can measure his/her growth, and the most advanced child can monitor his/her progress. By reviewing the report card, and developing a plan for the future, you will help your child find the road to success.

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HEAD LICE

With the colder weather and holidays, students are 'bundling' up, wearing hats, keeping inside and in close contact with friends and family. This makes it easier for our pesky friends the head lice to spread. It is recommended to parents that you check your children at home at least once a week! If you find any, please treat them immediately and report it to the school so that we can take steps to keep them under control. The school handles any reported cases confidentially. More information about head lice and how to control them can be found on our school website. Thank you in advance for helping with this. Vigilance by the home is the best way to control the spread of head lice. Remember, it isn't enough to just use the shampoo. Some lice are immune - so removal of all the nits (eggs) from the hair after treatment is necessary or they can hatch and re-infest. It only takes one live louse to lay hundreds of eggs.

DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

Please make sure your children are dressed appropriately. The weather can change drastically during the day. This also affects our footwear. Students should have separate inside and outside footwear. When entrances are marked by orange cones, this is an indicator that students should be removing their outside footwear at the door to keep our hallways and classroom clean. A reminder that students are expected to be outside during breaks unless the temperature is colder than -15 Celsius. Please have your children dress accordingly.



TRAFFIC SAFETY

We believe strongly in the safety of our children, therefore, please make sure you are aware of parking and traffic routines at our school. Students and parents are reminded to follow road safety at all times. **Beattie Elementary parking lot is not available for parent parking/pickup.** Parents are

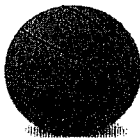
asked to park on the street and/or the Safeway parking lot. Bylaw and RCMP regularly monitor the area for infractions.

MORNING PUBLIC ACCESS TO SCHOOL

Please be aware that for safety and liability the school is not open to the public, parents or students without an appointment, or unless it is a cold weather day (below -15 degrees) until the first bell at 8:20 am. If you need to be in the school prior to that time, please let the office know so arrangements can be made.

Please note at the end of the day- hallways are **very very** busy places. Please pick up your child at the outside of the designated doors. All visitors are required to sign in at the office. This will be in accordance to school district safety protocols. Thank you for your attention and understanding.

BASKETBALL SEASON



The Basketball season is ready to begin this year. League play will begin the third week of January and will end at the beginning of March. Playoffs to follow. Tier 2 boys (grade 6/7) will play on Wednesdays and girls Tier 2 (grade 6/7) on Thursdays. Tier 3 (grade 4/5) boys and girls will play on Wednesdays. **At this point we do not have a Tier 2 boys coach or a second coach for the Tier 2 girls. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested, please contact Mr. Lloyd at the school.**

MAMA MIA

Students from grade 4-7 (Mrs. Fabbro-Smith's grade 3's also invited) will enjoy this performance on December 6th. Primary students will have the opportunity to see a live performance of Winnie the Pooh at the Pavilion in the spring.

SAFE ARRIVAL

Beattie will be using an automated SAFE ARRIVAL SYSTEM. The new system handles parent contact (including phone calls) when a student absence is unexpected, and will allow parents to interact directly with the system in a variety of ways:

- by phone either when the system calls, or when a parent initiates a call to notify of upcoming absence.
- by internet through login controlled webpage interface
- by smartphone app (IOS and android versions available for free)

Toll free number to call: 1-844-350-2647
Website for parent
access: <http://ktsd.schoolconnects.com/>

Parents use the above methods to report student absences rather than phoning the school. **We ask that parents please report student absences before 8:30 am on the day of the absence**, although the system also allows for reporting of student absences long in advance for holiday, trips etc. For tech-savvy parents, we encourage you to download the IOS or Android free app from their respective app store. To find the app, search for "SafeArrival SchoolConnects"(without the quotes) and install the free app.

Please always be sure to inform the teacher of your child's absence as well so that they are aware of any sickness or trips planned and to plan for instruction missed.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Similar to last year, due to limited seating capacity, each student will be limited to 2 tickets for family members for the evening performance. Parents may pick up their tickets ahead of time from the office or pick up their 2 tickets at the door. **There are no limits to matinee performances.** Thank you for your understanding and cooperation! A reminder that there will be a PAC bake sale at the event! If you would like to contribute to the bake sale, please drop off items to the office on or before December 15th. Thank you for your support!

Matinee: 1:30 pm start timetable
Evening Show: 6:30 pm start time

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

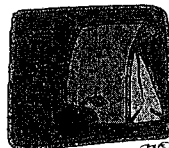
Thank you to everyone at Beattie for making this year's Scholastic Book Fair a huge success. Thanks to all your support \$700 was raised in book tokens so that Ms. MacLaughlin can add more books to our collection in the library.

LOST AND FOUND

Our lost and found will be displayed once again before the Christmas break. Parents please have a look and see if you see something familiar. From time to time I will also post lost and found pictures on our school Facebook page.

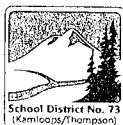
LUNCHTIME SUPERVISORS

Beattie is actively seeking **on call paid Adult lunchtime supervisors** to help with supervision of our students during the lunch hour. If you would like to help, please contact Mr. Lloyd at the office.



PARENT-CHILD MOTHER GOOSE PROGRAM

Tues 6-7pm January 17-March 7 at Beattie Elementary School.
Registration via www.eventbrite.ca starting Dec 13 at 9am. For more info call 250-554-3134 ext333
Cost: Free!! Sponsored by the BC Ministry of Education Ready, Set, Learn Initiative
More information can be found on our website.



"Working together for quality public education."

School District No. 73
(Kamloops/Thompson)
Student Absence Reporting
To report your child's absence please call this toll free number before 8:30am
1-844-350-2647
or visit ktsd.schoolconnects.com



IMPORTANT DATES

*****Please note: sports schedules
located on the school website*****

School Calendar 2016-2017

Date	
Thursday, December 1	Booster Juice orders due
Friday, December 2	PURDY orders go home
Monday, December 5	District Non-Instructional Day – No Classes
Wednesday, December 7	PAC meeting at 6:30
Friday, December 9	Booster Juice delivered
Friday, December 2	Term 1 reports home
Thursday, December 15	CHRISTMAS CONCERTS
Friday, December 16	Last day of school before winter vacation
Tuesday, January 3, 2017	First day of school after winter vacation
Friday, January 20	District Non-Instructional Day- No classes
Monday, February 13	Family Day Holiday – School Closed
Friday, February 17	Parent/Teacher Interviews (Early Closure)
Friday, February 24	District Non-Instructional Day – No Classes
Friday, March 17	Term 2 Report Cards – Last day before Spring Break
Monday, April 3	First Day back after Spring Break
Friday, April 14	Good Friday- No classes
Monday, April 17	Easter Monday- No classes
Friday, April 21	Parent/Teacher Interviews (Early Closure)
Monday, April 24	District Non-Instructional Day – No Classes
Monday, May 15	District Non-Instructional Day – No Classes
Monday, May 22	Victoria Day Holiday – School Closed
Thursday, June 29	Last day for students – report cards home
Friday, June 30	Administrative Day

FROM THE STAFF OF BEATTIE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!



Kim Glendinning
Cathy Jones
Beth Morgan
Linda Bymoen

Lynn Neufeld

Isa de Jan
Jadwiga Adamczyk
Aue McDaniel

Caitlin MacFarquhar
Judy Hunter

Deana Begley
Janet Lewis
Bobby D

Marie Malen
Ludra D, elens
Kelly Charron
Linda Balys
Candee Nielsen