

BEATTIE ELEMENTARY

492 McGill Road,
Kamloops, B.C.
Phone: 250-374-0608

September 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back to another exciting school year! The staff has been working hard to get our new school ready and it looks great! The following newsletter provides information about the upcoming school year- Please do not hesitate, however, to give the office a call if you have further queries or check out our website at: <http://beattie.sd73.bc.ca/>. I look forward to seeing everyone at 10:30 am on Tuesday, September 4th.

Blair Lloyd, Principal

First Week of School

Any families new to our area should ensure they come to register at the school starting August 27th. Please bring one piece of identification to show your address (BC hydro bill, rental agreement or purchase agreement and driver's license,) and please bring your child's care card and birth certificate.

The first day of school is TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 4th. Doors will open at 10:20 and school will begin at 10:30. All children should report to the gym. On WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 5th, all children will report back to their last year's teacher's classroom again and then we will spend Wednesday reviewing school beliefs and reminding children about our school Code of Conduct.

Our hope as a staff is to finalize class placements as soon as we can. Enrolment dictates whether we can go ahead and post the classes or we need to wait for more staffing if enrolment has increased over the summer months and we can no longer accommodate the demand with the present number of classrooms. **Attendance on Tuesday Sept. 4 and Wednesday Sept. 5 is very important for us.** I will be in touch via synervoice so all will know when the new class lists will be posted and when we can start in our new divisions.

Meals Program

The 'Beattie Lunchtime Meal Program' will begin in October. Meal program forms will be sent out in mid-September.

School Fees

A notice to collect school supply fees will be distributed during the second week of school. Please have fees & forms submitted by **September 28th**. Fees cover the expense of school supplies as well as a concert series for our students.

Fruit and vegetable Programs

Beattie runs the Fruit and Vegetable program. If you would like more information about the program, please check out <https://www.bcaitc.ca/>.

Please note: If you do not want your child receiving fruit and vegetables and/or milk program please call the office.

Transportation

There will be 3 school buses travelling to Beattie Elementary: Stuart Wood (Battle street pick-up), Prince Charles Park (11th avenue pick-up), and Lloyd George Elementary (9th avenue pick-up). Students are asked to arrive to the bus location 10 minutes before departure time. Students will be given a registration paper from the bus driver for parents to sign and send back to the bus driver. Within the first week, a students list will be generated for each bus. At the end of the school day, a CEA will monitor loading of the buses.

Bus Location	Bus Number	Pick Up-Morning	Drop Off at Beattie	Pick Up from Beattie	Drop Off-Afternoon
Stuart Wood	A0730	8:11	8:22	2:40	2:50
Prince Charles Park	A7730	8:09	8:25	2:35	2:45
Lloyd George Elem.	A5738	8:09	8:22	2:35	2:45

Verification Reports and other Permission Forms

The school district requires parents to update Student Verification Records on a yearly basis. Along with this document, a *permission for personal information consent*, an *Outside Media in Schools*, and a *walking permission form* will be sent home by the second week of school. ***These forms must be signed and returned to the school no later than September 30th.***

Lunchtime Supervision-PAID position!

We have a few openings for paid positions for interested parents and other community members to come to the school and help with lunchtime supervision and lunches. If you would like to join the team, contact the office.

Parent Involvement and Parent Advisory Council

There are several ways in which you can be an active parent at Beattie Elementary. Our Parent Advisory Council meets at the school on a regular basis, and the meeting dates are published in the school newsletters. **The first PAC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 12th at 6:30 pm in the school library.**

Many people volunteer in our school. Their involvement is greatly appreciated and allows us to expand our programs and to support children in ways that we otherwise would not be able to do. Whenever parents are in the school, we emphasize the importance of confidentiality. Records and personal information are confidential and we expect our parents to respect that. Regular volunteers are required to sign a volunteer agreement, and all visitors to the school must sign in at the office.

One to One Reading

Do you love reading with children? Or someone who may enjoy teaching a child how to read? Kamloops One To One Literacy Program is looking for volunteers to read with students at Beattie Elementary. Volunteers spend 1 1/2 hours per week reading with students. If you are interested in this very worthwhile program, or would like more information, please contact the school.

After School Programs

Beattie Elementary will be offering a variety of after school programs for students in grade 4-7. These programs will begin in early October. More information will be sent home soon.

Strings program

Students from Grades 4 and up are welcome to join. Classes begin late September and continue until the final concert in June. Beginners (no previous violin or cello experience) will be rehearsing on Mondays and Fridays in the "dance studio" from 3:00-3:45 and any advanced students will rehearse from 3:45-4:30 (advanced students need to have had previous experience playing the violin or cello for at least one year). Students can choose either the violin or cello. For more information, please contact Kate Zahir: szahir@sd73.bc.ca

Attendance

At Beattie Elementary the provincial curriculum is taught through an integrated program. Consistent attendance is a vital component of the program and absolutely necessary in order for a child to succeed. Significant student absences and lateness will impact your child's ability to do well and achieve success in the educational program we offer at Beattie Elementary. However, on occasion it is necessary for your child to be away due to illness or other factors. If you know your child will be absent from school **please call 1-844-350-2647 to report an absence or download the Safe Arrival app for smart phones. Contact the office if you have trouble accessing the portal.**

Parking and Traffic

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 are reminded to follow road safety at all times. Students are required to use the crosswalk and look both ways before crossing the street. Beattie parking lot is not available for parent parking. Parents are asked to park on McGill, Frontage or the Safeway parking lot in order to pick up and drop off children. **Please be advised that u-turns are not allowed on McGill-Bylaw and RCMP regularly monitor the area for infractions.**

Bell Schedule: 2018-2019

* Warning Bell (optional)	8:20	am
Start of Day	8:30	am
Start of Recess/Break	9:55	am
End of Recess/Break	10:10	am
Start of Lunch Break	11:50	pm
* Warning Bell (optional)	12:45	pm
End of Lunch Break	12:50	pm
End of Day	2:30	pm

Photo Day

PHOTO DAY – SEPTEMBER 28th: Prior to photo day, a brochure will be sent home with students advertising the photo date and other important details. After photo day each student photographed will receive a proof to place their order. No payment is due at the camera.

Medical Policy

Please contact the school if your child has any health issues or potentially life-threatening conditions

that we need to be made aware of. No medications (prescription or non-prescription) are to be administered by school district employees without prior written consent of the parent/guardian and doctors must sign a ***Request for Administration of Medication at School*** form which includes written medical advice from a physician. This form must be renewed/resigned each school year. For more information, please see *District policies 1006.1 and 1006.2* at www.sd73.bc.ca.

Gym Strip for P.E. Class

On days when Intermediate students have P.E., they are required to wear a T-shirt, shorts (or other flexible clothing like yoga pants), and non-marking running shoes. Primary class clothing requirements will vary with individual teachers. Parents should check with their child's teacher for details.

Indoor Shoes

Students NEED "indoor" shoes at school. For gym classes, athletic shoes are required (Please, no flip flop or open toe shoes). These can also serve as indoor shoes for your child. In the wet weather, the floors get slippery and dangerous, especially on the stairs! Please ensure that your child has shoes here at school for inside wear. Thank you!

Guidelines for Personal Electronic Devices at Beattie Elementary:

- Students who bring devices such as cell phones, ipods, MP3 players, Nintendo DS's or similar will be instructed to keep these items in their backpacks or lockers for the duration of the school day until dismissal.
- As per the *District's Policy 406.1*, the safe keeping of these devices are solely the responsibility of the owners.
- Students needing or wanting to use cell phones to contact parents while at school must use the same procedure currently in place for using the school phone – ask a staff member for permission first - and return device to backpack or locker when finished.
- Students may use e-type readers for quiet reading times upon permission of the teacher (safekeeping is the responsibility of the student).
- School equipment such as digital cameras and movie cameras may be used for school activities with the permission of the teacher.

Fair Notice for Parents

The safety of our children is a top priority for us all. As a school system, we have been involved in intensive safety training with our community partners – the police, Child & Youth Mental Health and the Ministry of Children and Family Development. Together we have developed a district plan for responding to all situations in which students may be posing a threat to themselves or others. School District No. 73 has a policy in place that requires principals to activate a multidisciplinary "threat assessment" protocol in all cases of students making significant high level threats to harm themselves or others. The policy is #542.1 and is available on the school district website at www.sd73.bc.ca Please see the letter from the superintendent at the end of this newsletter for more information.

Communication

If you have any questions that come up during the year, there are a number of ways to get in touch:

- Call the school
- Send an email. Most of the staff and administration can be reached using the first letter of the staff member's first name's initial, followed by the last name @sd73.bc.ca. (Example: John Smith: jsmith@sd73.bc.ca) There are a few exceptions but staff email addresses are also listed

on our website.

- Check out our school facebook page
- Check out our website! It is located at www.beattie.sd73.bc.ca.

Who is teaching at Beattie Elementary this year?	
Teaching Staff	Assignment
LLOYD, Blair	Principal
BUSH, Shawn	Intermediate
BYMOEN, Linda	Primary
CHARRON, Kelly	Intermediate/LDP
CUZZETTO, Franco	Library/Prep/Music
DE JARDIN, Lisa	Primary
FABBRO-SMITH, Gina	Primary/Intermediate
GARTRELL, Renae	Library, ELL
HUNTER, Judy	Primary
KANSKY, Heather	Intermediate
KENNEDY, Katelyn	Intermediate/ELL/Prep
MORGAN, Beth	Intermediate
MULHERN, Tracy	Primary
NEIGEL, Andrea	Primary
PIVA, Cathy	Intermediate
RATUSKI, Inge	Primary
WILKINSON, Brandy	LART
Support Staff	Assignment
ADAMCZYK, Jadwiga	Library Assistant
BAGLEE, Diana	FNEW
DE FRIAS, Robert	Custodian
DJELMO, Indira	CEA
FIRLOTTE, Nick	Custodian
GILBERT, Stacey	Sec In Charge
LAROCHE, Maria	Strong Start
NIELSEN, Cara Lee	CEA
RAMSEY, Heather	CEA
WILLIAMSON, Elizabeth	CEA

After School Plans

Please make every effort to plan after school arrangements before the start of the school day. If you have made after school arrangements and the plans have changed please notify the school, directly. The staff cannot let students leave for home, if they are not feeling well - unless they are accompanied by a supervising adult. This adult must be a relative or an approved representative of the family. Our staff must speak directly to the child's parent or legal guardian before they will be permitted to leave.

School Clothing

Our school is considered a 'place of work' for students. It is expected that our students will respectfully represent Beattie both in and outside of school. At school, and at all school functions, students are expected to dress in a manner and style appropriate for school. We ask that students refrain from wearing spaghetti straps, hats, have midriffs showing, underwear showing, and/or inappropriate

language on clothing. For safety purposes, flip flops are not worn because we have had serious falls on the stairs. In addition, students may not be able to keep their feet safe on the field wearing flip flops. Please refer to School District policy #612.1 for further information.



Tips for a Great School Year Beattie Elementary School

GENERAL POINTS

Keep a Family Calendar

Be sure to read the school year calendar and post it in a visible spot. Note parent-teacher conference dates, report card distribution dates, and other school events. Record them into your personal calendar too. Children love predictability!

Focus on Friendship

When a child feels a sense of belonging and connectedness to his environment, he will learn and develop with greater ease and comfort.

Look for Extra-Curricular Activities

However, parents beware: Do not over-schedule your child (and yourself) to the point of stress and exhaustion.

Spend Some Time at School

Most teachers, principals and vice-principals are delighted to have parents lend a hand in the classroom and around the school campus. It provides an additional sense of connectedness to strengthen their village of care and support. Make sure you check with your child's teacher on when it is appropriate to visit and help. Sometimes

parents in the class can be a distraction.

Create Two-Way Communication

After checking to see whether your child has accurately completed her homework, take a moment to initial the agenda or school planner to let her teacher know you have reviewed the work. Write a comment or ask a question.

Read the School Newsletter, Check the Website, Join the School Facebook Page

This shows your interest in the school community and your willingness to be a part of that connection.

Develop Healthy Habits

Good physical health, proper nutrition, and enough sleep are the most important elements for school success.

One More Thing

Enjoy yourself and your child's elementary year, they go by fast!

Things To Tell the Teacher

What can you tell a teacher that will help him or her do their job better? Students do best when parents and teachers work together as partners. Not sure where to start?

Health conditions

If your child is diabetic, uses an inhaler, is allergic

to peanuts, or has a serious health condition, her teacher should know. It's also helpful to let the

teacher know whether your child has been diagnosed with conditions like ADHD, which may affect behaviour and concentration.

Family issues

Fill in the teacher if your family is going through a major change that could affect your child, such as a divorce, a death in the family, or a move.

Personality traits or behaviour issues

Maybe your son is painfully shy and is worried about making friends at a new school.

Strengths and weaknesses

If you tell teachers these things up front, they will have more time to help your children improve in

the areas they need it most.

Learning style

If your child learns better through hands-on activities than through listening to explanations, mention that to his teacher. Also share any teaching strategies that you've found work well with your child.

Study habits

Tell teachers about your children's study habits and any issues they face in completing the work. Teachers often can offer suggestions to make homework time go more smoothly.

Special interests

Let the teacher know that your young son loves a particular comic book superhero or that your middle school daughter is a gifted painter.

Overcoming Anxiety

Let your children know you care

If your child is anxious about school, send personal notes in the lunch box or book bag.

Reinforce the ability to cope

Children absorb their parent's anxiety, so model optimism and confidence for your child. Let your child know that it is natural to be a little nervous anytime you start something new but that your child will be just fine once he or she becomes familiar with classmates, the teacher, and school routine.

Do not overreact

If the first few days are a little rough, try not to over react. Young children in particular may experience separation anxiety or shyness initially but teachers are trained to help them adjust. If you drop them off, try not to linger. Reassure them that you love them, will think of them during the day, and will be back.

Remain calm and positive

Acknowledge anxiety over a bad experience the previous year. Children who had a difficult time academically or socially or were teased or bullied

may be more fearful or reluctant to return to school. If you have not yet done so, share your child's concern with the school and confirm that the problem has been addressed.

Reinforce your child's ability to cope

Give your child a few strategies to manage a difficult situation on his or her own. But encourage your child to tell you or the teacher if the problem persists. Maintain open lines of communication with the school.

Arrange play dates

Try to arrange get-togethers with some of your child's classmates before school starts and during the first weeks of schools to help your child re-establish positive social relationships with peers.

Plan to volunteer in the classroom

If possible, plan to volunteer in the classroom at least periodically throughout the year. Doing so helps your child understand that school and family life are linked and that you care about the learning experience.

Here are a few final tips for a fantastic school year

Get enough sleep.
 Eat a healthy breakfast.
 Try your best.
 Use good work habits.
 Take your time with school work.
 Ask the teacher for help.
 Keep a sense of humour.

Calendar/Dates for the year (subject to change- please review calendar dates on monthly newsletters):

2018	Date	Event
	September 4	First Day Back! 10:30-12:00 pm
	September 5	First Full Day of Classes
	September 10	Classes Set
	September 20	Terry Fox Run
	September 20	PAC Welcome Back Parent Social
	September 21	Professional Development Day
	September 26	Raise a Reader
	September 28	Photo Day
	September 24	Art Cards due
	October 8	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
	October 11	Parent Teacher Interviews - Early Closure 12:30
	October 19	Professional Development Day
	October 26	Halloween Dance
	November 9	Remembrance Day ceremony
	November 12	Remembrance Day Holiday
	December 1	Christmas Bizarre
	December 3	Professional Development Day
	December 7	Reports due to the office
	December 12	Christmas Concert
	Dec 22 - Jan 6	Winter Break
2019		
	January 7	School Returns
	February 8	Professional Development Day
	February 18	BC Family Day Holiday
	March 1	Professional Development Day

	March 8	Report cards due to office
	March 15	Report Card Distribution
	March 16 to March 24	Spring Break
	April 1	Professional Development Day
	April 5	Day of Recognition
	April 19	Good Friday Holiday
	April 22	Easter Monday Holiday
	May 17	Professional Development Day
	May 20	Victoria Day Holiday
	June 14	Report cards due to office
	June 27	Final day of School Early Closure 12:00 (Report Card)
	June 28	Administration Day