



# Beattie Elementary School

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[www.beattie.sd73.bc.ca](http://www.beattie.sd73.bc.ca)

## December 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,



It is hard to believe that we are now just three weeks away to Winter Vacation.

Winter Break

this year runs from December 25th to January 7th. Classes resume Monday, January 8th. The staff at Beattie Elementary wishes you and your family all the best for this holiday season.

### Winter Concert

Please come join us for our annual Winter Concert on December 13th. Performance times will be 1:30 PM and 5:45 PM. This year's performance will be a Kekuli Themed production with Grades K-5 students singing songs. As well, our drama club will be performing a short skit. Doors will open 15 min prior to the performance time. Relatives are encouraged to attend the 1:30 PM performance as space is limited for the evening performance. Thank-you for your cooperation.

### No school on Monday, December 4th

Just a reminder that there is no school on Monday December 4th. This is a professional learning day for teachers and support staff in our district.



### December School Spirit Days

Monday, Dec. 18th – Candy Cane Day – Wear Red and White

Tuesday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Vacation Day – Tropical shirts, summer t-shirts, shorts, sunglasses, Hawaiian leis, sun hats.

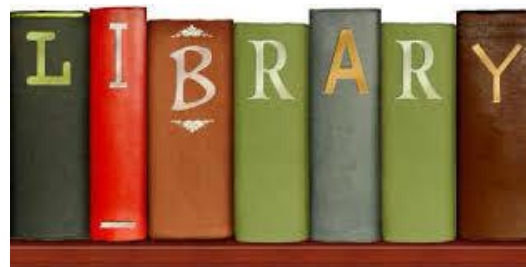
Wednesday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Sweater Day (or Christmas Shirt)

Thursday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> – Holiday Spirit Day – red/green/white, Santa or Elf hat, festive accessories (jewelry, antlers, red-nose, Christmas socks, etc. (no face paint))

Friday, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Long Winter's Nap Day – pajamas, slippers, robe

### Christmas Food Hampers

Beattie Elementary will once again be collecting non-perishable food items for Christmas food hampers. Hampers will be delivered to families in need in the community during the last week of school. Your kind donations are appreciated.



### Library News

A very BIG thank you to all the students and families for supporting this year's Book Fair! Total sales were \$5,279.95 which means we get \$2,430 worth of new books for our school library!! Your support for this important fundraiser is truly appreciated!

## Lost and Found

Our Lost and Found bins (located just past the front entry way) are ALWAYS full!! PLEASE if you notice that your child has something missing, have your child take a look through the bins or stop by when picking up your child to check for whatever it is. We would love all items to be returned to their owners but must rely on the students and their parents to make this happen! Thanks for helping us out with this!

## Cold Weather Reminders

Please work with your child to help them be prepared for spending their break times outdoors. Students are outside in the mornings before school, during recess, and during lunch. Hats, gloves or mittens are a definite must! We would ask that all children also have boots to wear outside, and appropriate shoes to change into for wear inside, including in gym classes. It would also be helpful for them to have layers that they can add or remove according to inside and outside temperatures. When/ if the weather becomes really extreme, we will judge on a day by day basis as to whether it will be an inside or an outside day. Thanks for helping!



## School Fees

School fees are now due to the office. If you have not done so already, please log on to School Cash Online to either claim the Student and Family Affordability Fund or pay your child's school fees.

The Province of BC has provided funding to help families with the rising cost of living through the Student and Family Affordability Fund. This year some of your child's fees (school supplies, agenda, art start performances) can be paid through the Provincial Student and Family Affordability Fund.

## Indoor Shoes

As the weather changes, it is important to note that students are required to wear indoor footwear for health and safety purposes. Please have your son or daughter bring and leave a pair of indoor shoes at school as the weather is certainly wetter and outdoor shoes are tracking in a lot of mud and water. On our linoleum stairs this can be a serious slipping hazard for our students and staff and we would be sorry to see anyone injured in a fall.

## Safe Arrival

Please remember that all student absences and late arrivals must be reported by calling 1-844-350-2647, by visiting [go.schoolmessenger.ca](http://go.schoolmessenger.ca), or download the school messenger app. Please do not call the school directly. All absences or late arrivals that have not been reported before 8:45 am will initiate the School District's safe arrival system to call home and cell phone numbers up to 5 times until a parent is reached and a response is given.

There are now three categories to choose from when notifying the school of your child's absence due to illness. Please choose either respiratory illness, gastrointestinal illness or general illness. By distinguishing between these three categories of illness Interior Health will have more accurate data regarding the illnesses affecting the community.

## Before and After School Pick Up and Student Safety

A reminder to parents that the school parking lot is limited to STAFF PARKING ONLY. To help ensure the safety of our students, parents should not be driving through the parking lot at any time to drop off or pick up their children. Please park on the designated spots on McGill or in the Freshco parking lot. We appreciate your understanding.

The City of Kamloops has also asked us to send out a reminder regarding the dropping-off and picking-up of students in the vicinity of bus stops. The city's current traffic bylaw states that **parking and stopping are prohibited within 20 metres on the near side to 7.5 metres on the far side of any bus stop sign**. Please obey the bus zone signage and refrain from stopping within this area. Blocking this space can prevent transit users (including students) from boarding or exiting the bus and presents accessibility issues. For the safety of our students we also kindly ask that you obey all traffic signs in the vicinity of the school.

## Volleyball News

Volleyball season wrapped up for all teams last week. Skill development and basic game play was the primary focus this season along with teamwork and sportsmanship. A big thanks to everyone who has volunteered their time (coaching, refereeing, score-keeping and driving) to make this extra-curricular activity a success. Basketball will start when students return in January.



# Is your child too sick for school?



## **Deciding when your child is too sick for school is not always an easy decision.**

Children should not come to school if they are sick and unable to participate fully in routine activities. If you have questions and concerns about your child's health, talk with a qualified healthcare professional.

### **Keep children at home if they have:**

- a fever, and keep them home for **24** hours after the fever is gone away without the help of medication.
- vomiting or diarrhea, and keep them home for **24** hours after the last episode.
- a severe sore throat.
- a rash with no known cause.
- a severe cough especially with other symptoms like a runny nose and headache.
- redness, swelling or discharge of the eyes, ears or skin, unless treated.
- been acting unwell and have little energy to join in school activities.

### **For questions about your child's health you can:**

- 1.** Dial 811 or go to [HealthLinkBC.ca](http://HealthLinkBC.ca) to speak with a:
  - Registered Nurse 24 hours a day, every day of the year.
  - Registered Dietitian every weekday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. PST.
  - Pharmacist every night from 5 p.m. to 9 a.m. PST every day of the year.
- 2.** Contact an Urgent Care, Walk-in Clinic or Doctor's Office.
  - See the reverse page on when to go to the emergency department.



### **Seasonal Respiratory Illness**

As we continue through the fall and winter, we can expect to see more respiratory illness. This is an annual occurrence, but there are measures we all can take to prevent illness and manage symptoms while at home. The most important measures are to get vaccinated, staying home when sick and follow general hygiene measures like hand washing. Here is some information that may be helpful: [It's respiratory illness season](#).

**For more information on specific illnesses see:** [A Quick Guide to Common Childhood Diseases](#)





# Is it an Emergency?

Having a sick child can be stressful, but not all illnesses require a visit to the emergency department. Find the right place to go for care.

## Emergency Department

- Difficulty breathing
- Fever in infants younger than 3 months
- Broken bone
- Serious or severe burn
- Vomiting or diarrhea with dehydration
- Sudden change in mental state
- Complicated or deep cut



 Children's  
Hospital

## Urgent Care, Walk-in Clinic or Doctor's Office

- Fever or flu
- Cough, cold, sore throat
- Earache
- Rash
- Pink eye
- Sprain or strain
- Referral to specialist



[Information on when to bring your child to the Emergency Department](#)

