September 2016

BENCH ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

Mission – *To provide a safe and respectful environment while inspiring students to find joy in becoming lifelong learners.*

Welcome to 2016-2017 school year.

We are all excited to have the students back in our classrooms and hallways. The enthusiasm and energy they bring to learning is exciting! It is our mission to provide a safe and respectful environment while inspiring students to find joy in becoming lifelong learners.

Bench's wonderful staff, spend hours planning and creating classroom lessons to engage our students' learning. Our teachers use all the information and assessments that they have to help each student grow and succeed in their individual academic goals.

We look forward to meeting you all at our "**Meet the Teacher**" night on Thursday September 22nd.

BIKE SAFETY

Just a reminder about bike safety. There have been reports that young bikers on their way to school have been seen in the middle of the road. Please reinforce bike safety rules before students ride their bikes and wear a helmet

Calendar

Monday, September 19

- Kindergarten Speech/Language screenings

Thursday , September 22

- Meet the teacher night 5:30-6:30

Friday, September 30

- Terry Fox Run
- Not a Box showcase (am)

Monday, October 10

- ThanksGiving –no school

Wednesday ,October 12

- PLC Early Dismissal at 12:24

Wednesday, October 12

- Photo Day – primary

Thursday, October 20

- Great Shake Out 10AM

Friday, October 21

- Non-Instructional Day (Professional Learning) no school

Thursday, October 27

- Halloween dance
- Curriculum Support – ½ Day Early Dismissal at 11:26

SUPERVISION

Just a reminder that supervision doesn't start until 8:00 am, so please do your best to ensure your child's safety by dropping them off after that time.

INFORMATION SHARING

EMAIL is our primary mode of communication and updates, newsletters and any necessary information will be sent regularly. Please make sure that you are receiving our emails.

Official information is also accessible on the BENCH ELEMENTARY Facebook page and on our website.

BUS INFORMATION

All information is available to parents on the school district website. If you do not have a log in name or password please contact transportation. http://bus.sd79.bc.ca/elinkrp/Login.aspx

ALLERGIES

We have many new staff members in our school and we ask that for your child's safety that you please take time to update the office and your classroom teacher if there are any concerns regarding allergies that may impact your child at school.

BENCH ELEMENTARY

250-743-5552

Aboriginal Education
September 2016

Uy'skweyul! Tansi! Welcome to another fantastic year of learning. Staff throughout the district work to foster inclusive classrooms where every student feels a sense of belonging and experiences academic success.

If your child has Aboriginal ancestry, (documentation is NOT required) and you would like to self-identify, please see the school secretary for a self-identification form. Each year your child will be funded for and included in Aboriginal Education programs. Almost all programs will be delivered in the regular classroom, to ALL students. You will be asked to give permission for any activities offered outside of the regular class.

You can opt in or out of ABED services any time by notifying the ABED staff in person or in writing either at your school or through the district office 250 748 0321 ext 235, dbeardsley@sd79.bc.ca Please go to http://abed.sd79.bc.ca/faq/ for more information.

Kid Zone Drop-in Centre

Drop in after school and let off some steam, play pool or board games, or enjoy a little video gaming! Need help with school work or a project? Our staff is always available to help at our homework club. Just need some down time to socialize? We can do that too!

Ages 7 - 14

Monday - Friday | Sept 6 - Dec 16

Location: Island Savings Centre

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Activity	Craft / Games Night	Gym Night	Girls Night	Pizza Party	Games Night
Times	2:30 pm - 5:00 pm	2:30 pm - 5:00 pm	2:30 pm - 5:00 pm	2:30 pm - 7:00 pm	2:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Cost	Free	Free	Free	$2	Free
Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

BENCH ELEMENTARY

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STAFF for our 2016/2017 year

Office:
Principal Joseph Boudreau
Vice-Principal Rhonda Fitzpatrick
Secretary Sherry Jones

Classroom Teachers:
Susan Mayner Div 1 Gr. 7
Shannon Miller Div. 2 Gr. 6/7
Ian Low Div. 3 Gr. 5/6
Sherry Gignac Div. 4 Gr. 5/6
Jenny Ingram Div. 5 Gr. 5
Karen Evans Div. 6 Gr. 4/5
Loryll Paziuk Div. 7 Gr. 4
Larissa Boechler Div. 8 Gr. 3/4
Lori Johnstone Div. 9 Gr. 3
Deanie Coleman Div. 10 Gr. 2/3
Marie Wilson Div. 11 Gr. 2
Donna McDonald Div. 12 Gr. 1/2
Annamieke Spotts Div. 12 Gr. 1/2
Sandi Urquhart Div. 13 Gr. 1
Gabrielle Kinsley Div. 14 Gr. k/1
Laurie Sheftel Div. 15 Gr. K
Karen Wardle Div. 16 Gr. K

Support Teachers:
Jinder Dhami - LA
Perri Espeseth LIF/MUSIC/FINE ARTS
Josh Page - MUSIC/FINE ARTS

EA's:

Christine Anderson
Elza Olsen
Wendy Hammond
Steve Garnet
Shazia Monro
Laura Mellish
Karen Sellar

Itinerant Teachers:
Karen Farr - SLP
Jo Quinlan - Counsellor
Tracey Cameron - ELL
Julie Beland- Vision support
Fiona Young - Hearing support

HEAD LICE AWARENESS

Head lice are common in BC communities. Although they are a bother**, head lice are not a health risk.**

Head lice spread quickly by close, head-to-head contact. Lice cannot live on furniture or carpet, and they cannot jump or fly. There may be few or no symptoms, but itching may occur.

You can help by:

- Checking your child's head with the wet combing method of detection once a week throughout the year.
    - Review the pamphlet *Wet Combing - How to Get Rid of Head Lice,* available online, at your school, and Public Health Unit.
- Encouraging your child to wear their hair tied back.
- Treating if you notice live lice on your child's head.
- Reminding family and friends about the importance of routine head checks using the wet combing method.

For more information:

- Read the HealthLinkBC Head Lice File http://www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthfiles/hfile06.stm
- Contact your Public Health Unit