



Birchland Elementary School

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Ms. Lisa Salloum, *Principal*

NEWSLETTER # 1

September 6, 2011

Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to a new school year! We trust that you had a happy and healthy summer with your family and friends. Our staff extends a special welcome to those of you who are new to our Birchland community. This includes our fabulous new Kindergarten families, who will be beginning their first school experience with us!



BPAC

Please consider joining BPAC this year. First meeting is **Wednesday, September 21st at 6:30 pm**

Today's newsletter is intended to make you aware of our plans for this first week of school. In the days and weeks to come, you will receive a number of forms that will require your immediate attention, as well as newsletters that will keep you up-to-date with school events. **The last page is the district's Emergency Release Form - please complete and return as soon as possible to the school.**

I would also like to extend a big thank-you to the many community members who have offered support in response to the extensive damage that we suffered to our adventure playground recently. Our district staff is working hard at the restoration process. The great care and concern shown for the joy and wellbeing of our young people represents the true spirit of our Birchland community!

Ms. L. Salloum — Principal

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

For those that placed orders with Creative Children, they will be distributed to students throughout the first week of school.

SEPTEMBER 7, 8 and 9 SCHEDULE

On Wednesday, September 7, Thursday, September 8 and Friday, September 9, the students will go to their BARK teacher (Birchand's Amazing Respectful Kids). Please see the information on the next page. The students will be participating in a variety of lessons and activities to learn about expectations and build our common language at Birchland. New students begin their day in the library on September 7th and will then be placed in temporary classroom groupings.

We hope to have students in permanent classes on Monday, September 12th. (See "**September 12th pick-up**" locations on the next page). This is a reminder that **KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS** begin gradual entry on September 12th and will begin regular classes on **Wednesday, September 14th**.

BARK DAYS SCHEDULE Sept 7, 8 & 9, 2011

Last Year Teacher	Grade	BARK Days Teacher	Room #
Mrs. Baruffa	1	Wednesday - Mrs. Crawford Thursday – Mrs. Tjernagel/Van Straten Friday – Ms. Snowden	Library
Mrs. Rutherford	1/2	Mrs. Odberg	133
Mrs. Odberg	2/3	Mr. Miyanaga	135
Mr. Miyanaga	3/4	Mrs. Quarin	136
Mrs. Quarin	4/5	Mr. Sung	137
Mr. Cummings & Mr. Sung	5	Mr. Cummings	134

PICK-UP LOCATIONS ON SEPT. 12th BY GRADE LEVEL

Kindergarten, Gr 1 to 3
Front Foyer

Grade 4 *Gym*

Grade 5 *Gym*

School Entry

Students enter and exit through their classroom outside door or designated door. Front doors are to be used by Parents and Guests only – they are not to be used by students, unless they are accompanied by an adult, or if it is an emergency.

Please do not send your child to school prior to 8:35 a.m. unless special arrangements have been made.

STUDENT SAFETY

As our students return to school this week, we ask that parents take time to discuss road safety with the children in order that they are careful on their way to and from school.



At this time of the year, we are reminded that the beautiful, natural surroundings can occasionally bring bears into our neighbourhood. Please remember that the smell of food and/or garbage attracts bears and that they will stop and stay in a community if they are enjoying the reward of being fed. For this reason, we ask that students do not eat or discard of snacks on the playground. Should a bear sighting occur on or near our school grounds, please be sure to let the office know. For more information on Bear Awareness, please visit the following website:
<http://www.bearaware.bc.ca/>

Birchland's School Calendar

2011- 2012

September	
6	School Opens
9	Tony Prophet Show & Opening Assembly @ 1 pm in the gym
14-28	Entertainment Book Sale by BPAC
21	PAC Meeting @ 6:30 pm
23	Pro D Day (District)

October	
19	Class & individual Photo
10	Thanksgiving (school closed)
21	Pro D Day (Provincial)

November	
1	Pro D Day (School Based)
11	Remembrance Day
14	School Closed
15	School re-opens

December	
9	Report Cards go home
15	Christmas Concert 7-8 pm
16	Last day before Winter Break

January	
3	School Reopens
27	Pro D Day (School Based)

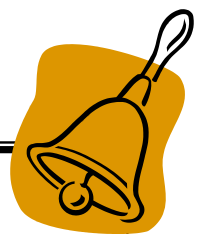
February	
10	Jump Rope for Heart Kick Off Assembly
17	Pro D Day (District)
24	Jump Rope for Heart Day 9 am-12 pm in the gym

March	
9	Last day before Spring Break
12-23	Spring Break
26	School Reopens
27	Report Cards go home

April	
	Track Attack Begins
6	Good Friday
9	Easter Monday
20	Pro D Day (District)

May	
3	Early Dismissal @ 1:55 pm Writer's Worksho9p 1:55-2:55pm & 6-7 pm
21	Victoria Day

June	
1	Sports Day
7	Parent Volunteer Tea 9-10 am
27	Report Cards go home
28	Last day of classes
29	Administrative Day/School Closes



Bell Schedule

8:50	Students enter (bell)
8:55	Instruction begins (bell)
	PA announcements
	Attendance to office
10:30	Recess begins (no bell)
10:45	Recess ends (bell)
11:55	Lunch period begins (no bell)
12:15	Students may go to play
12:40	Lunch period ends (bell)
2:55	Student dismissal

School District No. 43 Elementary School Meals Program

Over the course of the past year, the school district re-organized the elementary school meals program, in an effort to provide a greater number of schools with nutritious lunches. Birchland is pleased to be part of this program. All food preparation will be done at Centennial Secondary's teaching kitchen, under the direction of the teaching chef and elementary school meal co-ordinators. The meals will be delivered each morning to our school.

Attached to our newsletter is the menu for the month of September. The meal program is currently offering complete service for the month of September. Orders are due to our office by **Thursday, September 8th** and cheques are payable to our school "***Birchland Elementary***". We are aware that for some of our families, September can be a difficult month financially. We are able to support a reduced lunch program and ask that you contact your child's teacher or the principal, if this is the case. For further information, please call Ms. Salloum, Principal at Birchland Elementary.

Order form is the next page. If you wish to order lunches for September, please complete the form and return it to the office by **THURSDAY, September 8th** with a cheque.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM CENTENNIAL SCHOOL LUNCH ORDER FORM

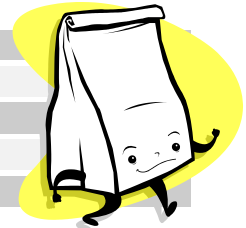
School's Name: BIRCHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Student's Name:




Grade:

Division:

Teacher:



SEPTEMBER 2011

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1 SUMMER BREAK	2 SUMMER BREAK
5 LABOUR DAY	6 NO LUNCH	7 NO LUNCH	8 NO LUNCH	9 NO LUNCH
12 Fruit Juice Turkey on Multigrain Bread Granola Bar Pudding	13 Chocolate Milk BBQ Chicken Wrap Veggies & Dip Peach Slices	14 Fruit Juice Tuna Salad on Multigrain Bread Cookie Fruit Yogurt	15 White Milk Ham & Cheese on Whole Wheat Kaiser Rice Krispie Square Grapes	16 Fruit Juice Chicken Caesar Salad Cookie Fruit Yogurt
19 Chocolate Milk Deli Meat on Whole Wheat Kaiser Cookie Fruit Salad	20 Fruit Juice Roast Beef on Multigrain Bread Veggies & Dip Pudding	21 White Milk Egg Salad Wrap Trail Mix Banana	22 Fruit Juice Chicken Pasta Salad Cookie Fruit Yogurt	23 DISTRICT NON- INSTRUCTIONAL DAY
26 Fruit Juice Turkey on Multigrain Bread Cookie Pudding	27 Chocolate Milk Chicken Teriyaki Wrap Veggies & Dip Peach/Mango Sauce	28 Fruit Juice Tuna Salad on Multigrain Bread Granola Bar Pudding	29 White Milk Salami on Whole Wheat Kaiser Rice Krispie Square Grapes	30 Fruit Juice Chef Salad with Ham & Turkey Cookie Fruit Yogurt

PLEASE NOTE:

- **WE DO NOT GUARANTEE A NUT-FREE ENVIRONMENT. ALL OF OUR BREADS AND BAKED GOODS MAY CONTAIN TRACES OF NUTS.**
- **NO SUBSTITUTIONS TO MENU ITEMS.**
- September Lunches: 14 @ \$5.00 = \$70.00
- Please make cheque payable to the school "**Birchland Elementary School**".
- Orders due to office by **Thursday, September 8, 2011.**