



The Baker Drive (September)

Monthly Updates and Connections.

September 8th, 2023

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A Few Words



Dear Baker Drive Families,

We are excited to welcome you to another exciting year at Baker Drive Elementary! Throughout the past two weeks, staff members have spent many hours setting-up their classrooms and organizing learning resources in anticipation of children returning to school this week. The school looks amazing and we can't wait to share the space with all of our learners!

During the first two weeks of school, our focus as a learning community will be supporting students with their transition back to school routines. Between Tuesday, September 5th and Friday, September 8th, our staff have prepared a series of stations that are designed to both introduce and remind students of what to expect as a Baker Bear. In particular, we will use this time as an opportunity to introduce our "Bear Essentials" model which is a key initiative related to our focus on supporting students with the development of pro-social behaviours. Through this model, we will work together as a community to support the following:

- a) Being Kind
- b) Everyone is Welcome
- c) Accepting Responsibility
- d) Resilience

In addition to students rotating through a number of stations, they will also have plenty of opportunity to connect with their peers and all staff members both in the classroom and outside during recess and lunch. This is especially important as we have many new families that have joined our learning community this year.

Take care,

Joe Jamieson - Principal

Learning Community Communication



Newsletters

At Baker Drive, there is a monthly newsletter that will be shared with our learning community on the first Thursday of each month. The purpose of providing a monthly newsletter is to provide you with some insight and information into all of the events taking place at the school. Occasionally, I will send out additional emails to our learning community to remind you of an important event.

Email and Phone

At times during the school year, you may want to speak with me to seek clarification or to discuss a concern. The majority of time, parents email me and I will respond to you, at the latest, by the end of the next school day. Although email is convenient, I prefer to speak to you by phone or in-person to limit

any miscommunication that can take place electronically. Please know that you are welcome to come into to the building during drop-off or pick-up if you would like to speak with me. If I am unavailable, we will schedule a time to meet the following day.

Mr. Jamieson's email address: jjamieson@sd43.bc.ca¹

School Phone Number: (604) 461-5323

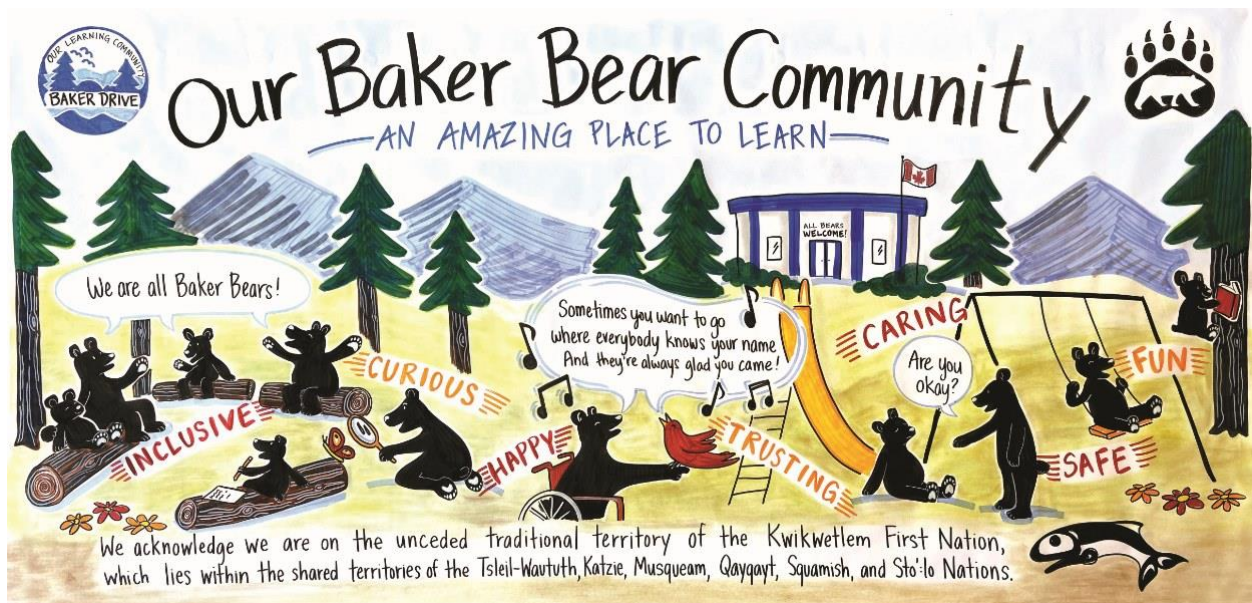
Teacher Communication

Once students have been placed in their 2023-24 classroom, you can expect to receive communication from your child's teacher about how best to reach them if you have a question or concern.

School Website

Each SD43 school website contains a variety of information for families. Please visit the the Baker Drive school website to find a school calendar, a link to submit an absence and other District announcements.

Baker Drive 2023-24 School Staff



Below is a list of our 2023-24 Baker Drive Staff

Classroom Teachers:

- Ms. Karen Capel, Ms. Kelsey Keller, Ms. Sandi David, Ms. Kelly Kolbe, Ms. Jacqueline Fontaine, Ms. Christine Dos Santos, Ms. Jen Freeman, Ms. Lindsay Ward, Ms. Mary Anne Guevarra & Ms. Denean Lederer

Specialized Teaching Staff:

¹<mailto:jjamieson@sd43.bc.ca>

- Ms. Sue Sabourin (Student Services), Ms. Tracy Tong (Student Services), Mr. Alvaro Rojas (Music), Ms. Alexa Romilly (Teacher Librarian and Learning Commons Facilitator) & Ms. Brooke Townsend (Counselling)

Classroom Support Staff:

- Ms. Kathy Desjarlais, Ms. Linda Wilson, Ms. Lynn Truong, Ms. Joanne Kim & Ms. Jody Baliko

School Support Staff:

- Mr. Joe Jamieson (Principal), Ms. Lisa Ploss (Clerical), Ms. Hardish Manhas (Noon Hour Supervisor), Ms. Melissa Tucker (Noon Hour Supervisor), Mr. Jeff Froese (Morning Caretaker) & Ian Yoon (Evening Caretaker)

Attendance, Illness & Sign-out Reminders



Your child's safe arrival in their classroom is VERY important. Attendance is done every day at 8:50am and 12:40pm. Families MUST complete an online Absence Report (under Quicklinks on website) OR call the office and leave a message ANY TIME your child is late, absent, or needs to leave early. If you are picking up your child from school prior to dismissal time, please come into the office and speak with either Ms. Ploss or Mr. Jamieson. They will direct you to sign-out while a message is relayed to your child's teacher indicating that there is an early dismissal.

In rare cases, you may be late picking your child up from school. Please call the school if this is the case and we will have your child wait for you in either the main office or Mr. Jamieson's office.

School Supplies



Thanks to the leadership of our amazing PAC and our classroom teachers, all necessary school supplies were bulk ordered last year. This is NOT a fundraiser but rather a cost recovery model. Once we have our payment system set for the year you have the opportunity to pay for the schools supplies your child will receive in class this year.

Snacks and Lunch



Baker Bears need to bring snack and lunch from home every day. Our PAC knows making lunches day after day can be a chore so – thanks to them – Wednesdays are Hot Lunch Days. This is a PAC fundraiser and more information for how to order and what to expect will be provided shortly - along with the start-date.

The timing for snack break and eating lunch is selected by each classroom teacher. Learners eat with their teacher in the classroom. Please send your child with items they can open and eat on their own so they can enjoy as much of their lunch with their friends as possible rather than waiting for help. ALL students will be outside from 12:00pm-12:40pm.

Please also take time to package your child's lunch in an environmentally friendly manner. With the support of our Eco Bears and staff, we are all working toward liter less lunches and disposing of any waste using either our recycling or organics bins. In future newsletters, the Eco Bears will contribute some friendly reminders for all Baker Drive families!

Guests In The School & Classroom

Welcome Guests

Schools and classrooms are considered private. The safety of our children is paramount. It is also important that learning happen with minimal interruptions. ALL adults – including parents, District Staff and presenters – are required to be in the building at the invitation of a staff member, communicate with office staff, sign-IN and OUT at the office, and wear a visitors' badge.

Individual School Photos



PICTURE DAY

On Tuesday, September 12th, all Baker Drive students will be participating in individual school photos. Please click on the link below to view a digital reminder flyer.

Reminder Notice²

Baker Drive Open House



On Thursday, September 21st, both students and families are invited to attend the Baker Drive Open House from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. The purpose of the Open House is to welcome all families into our school, introduce staff members, meet your child's teacher(s) and tour the school.

The event will begin in our school gymnasium at 5:30pm with a short welcome speech by Mr. Jamieson as well as an introduction to all Baker Drive Staff Members. At 5:40pm, families will be able to leave the gym and make their way to their child's classroom or tour the school. The event will conclude at 6:30pm.

As a reminder, an Open House is a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher and often parents and guardians choose to have conversations about how their child is doing so far during the school year. These conversations should take place in private! Please save these conversations for goal-setting conferences which will take place in October. If you do have a concern or question about your child, please connect with your child's teacher by email.

We are looking forward to seeing you on Thursday, September 21st.

-Mr. Jamieson

²<https://view.edgeimaging.ca/viewer/64f7a95fe09f427b2e1125c1?iid=5f3554ba8117171ca36656a1&source=email.64f7a95fe09f427b2e1125c2.0>

Eco Bears



With climate change causing extreme weather in our world these days, it's very important that we all take sustainable action where ever possible. With that, the ECO Bears are returning to Baker Drive with an invitation to any Eco-Hearted third to fifth graders who would like to join. Starting September 15, we will be meeting every Friday to have lunch and talk about some initiatives that we will take on to reduce climate change. Anyone and any talents are encouraged to join to be speakers, poster makers, litter collectors, garbage/recycling sorters, garden care takers and simply just supporters.

To start off, we'd like to focus on minimizing waste by sending snacks and lunches in reusable containers and cutting out single serving packages. There is a tremendous amount of cumulative garbage is

produced in daily lunches and snacks throughout the week when we buy single serving foods. We are also teaching about the importance of proper sorting to reduce contamination in our bins.

The 4 Rs of for the Environment start with:

First - Refuse – Try to refuse any items that you don't actually need.

Second - Reduce – Try to limit the amount of things that you buy or use.

Third - Reuse – Try to source what you need from what you already have. Try to source from used before new.

Lastly - Recycle – This is the last resort if you've tried all of the above and still need to create garbage. Remember to clean and sort items before recycling. Contamination might cause good, recyclable and compostable items to be sent to the landfill in the end.

The Eco Bears look forward to their continued role of educating students, staff and the Baker Drive Community on key environmental initiatives!

School District 43 - District Emergency Preparedness and Response Information for Baker Drive Families



District Emergency Procedures Information For Parents

During an emergency five key responses can be implemented based on situation and context. Regular school safety drills are conducted throughout the year.

DROP, COVER & HOLD ON (Used in the event of an earthquake or explosion):

Procedures:

- DROP to the ground.
- Take COVER under a sturdy desk or table, and
- HOLD ON until the shaking stops.
- Wait 60 seconds and then EVACUATE (see Evacuation Procedures).

EVACUATE (Used when a building or area becomes unsafe due to: fire, flood, chemical accident or following an earthquake):

Procedures:

- Exit the building via the pre-planned shortest safe route.
- Report to designated assembly area.

SHELTER IN PLACE (Used when personal safety is in danger if anyone leaves the building. Usually associated with an environmental hazard outside such as a gas leak, chemical spill, or wild animal near the building e.g. cougar or bear)

Procedures:

- Return to building from outside and stay indoors.
- Continue normal activities within building.
- Close exterior doors and windows.
- Turn off ventilation and heat, tape window seams if applicable.
- DO NOT approach the site until clearance has been given by school district or emergency personnel.

HOLD AND SECURE (Used to secure building because of an emergency situation outside such as a police incident - e.g. suspect pursued by police near building. Allows building to continue with the normal day but forbids outside activity and unnecessary room-to-room transit)

Procedures:

- Close and lock exterior doors and windows-monitor main entrance.
- DO NOT allow unauthorized personnel into building.
- Continue activities inside as per usual; limit internal movement if necessary.
- DO NOT approach the site until clearance has been given by school district or emergency personnel.

LOCKDOWN (Used when there is an immediate and imminent threat to the building population. Most commonly implemented when the building has an active intruder)

Procedures:

- Close and lock exterior doors and windows, secure and barricade doors.
- Stay or gather into a secure room as quickly as possible.
- Turn out lights, pull shades.
- Get out of line of sight of doors and windows, hide, don't talk.
- Turn off and do not use cell phones.
- Normal activity ceases. Await police response.

- DO NOT approach the site until clearance has been given by school district or emergency personnel.

During an emergency we ask parents not to call the school as telephone lines may be needed for emergency communications. Please monitor school email and school or district websites for official information and updates.

STUDENT RELEASE

In case of an incident at the school or in the community, it may be required to release students to parents/guardians from the school or school grounds or move students from the school area to an alternate location for release. For more information, please refer to your School Emergency Preparedness Information below.

IMPORTANT EMERGENCY PREPARATION INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS & THEIR FAMILIES

Please read the following information and talk to your child to ensure that you and your family respond appropriately and effectively to an emergency situation at the school. Your informed and measured response will help the school to manage the emergency effectively and will assist the student release procedures that your school has put in place.

STUDENT RELEASE PROCEDURES

These are the procedures for our school: Baker Drive Elementary.

1. Students will be released from the school, outdoor evacuation area or alternate location subject to the situation.

2. If we need to move from the school grounds, we will relocate to:

- Alternate Location #1: Dr. Charles Best Secondary School
- Alternate Location #2: Hillcrest Middle School

3. The school and school district will communicate with parents on information about picking up their child via email when possible, and school/district websites.

WHAT IS STUDENT RELEASE?

In the event of an earthquake or other necessary situation, the school will implement a controlled release of students for their safety and well being. Should this be necessary, the school will only release your child to an authorized adult as identified on your "Student Identification Emergency Release Form", or if necessary, to emergency medical personnel. Your identified alternative(s) has been authorized to pick up your child should you be unable to reach the school. Designated alternatives should live within walking distance of the school, if possible. In the event of a situation requiring release, the school will respond as follows:

- The "Student Identification Emergency Release Form", which is filled in by parents usually in September and kept on file, will provide the necessary information for student release.
- Students will be released from the school to an authorized adult (as listed on the "Student Identification Emergency Release Form") and when it is deemed safe to do so. When Emergency

Responders and the School Board Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) has given clearance for student pick up, parents will be notified and allowed to pick up their child. These School District Student Release Procedures have been developed with your child's safety as the top priority.

MyEd Parent Portal & Student Verification Forms



As our district is moving towards digitization of our forms, while ensuring that we are safeguarding personal information, Student Verification forms will no longer be printed but published to the Family Portal starting this school year 2023-2024.

Starting Monday, September 18th, Baker Drive families will be able to log into the Family Portal to verify information.

If there are no changes to the information - No further action will be required from the Parent/Legal Guardian.

If there are changes to the information - depending on the type of change/s made, please see below:

- The Parent/Legal Guardian can print the student verification form and make the necessary changes then send the updated form (with the required documentations) back to the school by email or by dropping it off in the office. Types of changes on the student verification form could include:
 - Changing a phone number, email address, emergency contacts' information
 - Legal Name change (student), home address, legal custodianship/guardianship changes (legal alert), Medical alert changes, citizenship (ex. Permanent Resident to Canadian Citizen) – will require formal documentation
- Parents who require changes to be made and do not have the ability to print can contact the school office and request a printed copy (to be given directly to the parent).

Should you have any questions regarding this process, please feel free to contact the school office.

BC Demographics Survey



We all deserve to live in a province where we have equitable opportunities to thrive. But many of the systems and structures our society is built on turn a blind eye to the unique needs of Indigenous Peoples and racialized people. That's why the B.C. government is running two important initiatives. They're asking everyone in B.C. to fill out the BC Demographic Survey to help identify and eliminate systemic racism from government programs and services. The survey is available online in 15 languages until Oct. 15 and will take about 15 minutes of your time. It is available at <https://antiracism.gov.bc.ca/bcdemographicsurvey>

The B.C. government is also asking for public input in developing anti-racism legislation that will hold government accountable for addressing systemic racism within its programs and services, and to provide supports to those who have been negatively impacted. No matter what your experiences or background is – your input matters! The public questionnaire is available until Oct. 15 in 15 languages and takes about 10 minutes to complete. It is available at <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/antiracism>

So, don't wait! Your feedback is anonymous and will help us make our province work better for everyone. Every person's perspective counts.

The Weeks Ahead



For your convenience, here's a list of some important dates to help keep track of upcoming events and non-session days in September & October

- Thursday, September 21st: Open House (5:30pm-6:30pm)
- Friday, September 22nd: School Closed - Professional Day
- Thursday, September 28th (1:00pm-2:00pm) Terry Fox Run
- Friday, September 29th - Orange Shirt Day
- Monday, October 2nd - School Closed - Truth & Reconciliation Day
- Monday, October 9th - School Closed - Thanksgiving
- Friday, October 20th - School Closed - Professional Day
- Thursday, October 26th - Early Dismissal @ 12:00pm for Goal-Setting Conferences