



Birchland Elementary

Mr. D. Shannon, Principal

Telephone: 604-941-3428

Website: Home - Birchland Elementary School

"We belong. We care. We matter."

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

September	15	Kindergarten students begin attending full days
	18	Early Dismissal 12:03pm; Welcoming Conversations grs. 1-5
	19	Professional Development Day (district)
	26	Teddy Bear Picnic (details to follow)
	29	Orange Shirt Day
	30	Truth and Reconciliation Day - school is closed
October	2	Photo Day (Individual Photos)

Meet our 2025/26 staff

Mrs. Akbari	EA	Mrs. Al-Rubaie	EA	Mrs. Bayat Manesh	LST
Mrs. Blue	EA	Ms. Burnett	EA	Ms. Campagna	EA
Mrs. Cherry	2/3	Mrs. Chuang	NHS	Mr. Chun	AMC
Ms. Ersek	PMC	Ms. Frisk	Library	Ms. Granados	DCC
Ms. Hertanto	EA	Mrs. Karen	YW	Mrs. Katie	Counselor
Ms. Jang	SS	Ms. Kim	4/5	Ms. Kossack	DLC
Mrs. Liski	LST	Ms. Lueck	K/1	Mrs. Mankoo	4/5
Mrs. Moon (Choe)	2/3	Ms. Myran	IYW	Ms. Nonis	EA
Ms. Novack	EA	Mrs. Odberg	K/1	Ms. Pakozdy	LISW
Ms. Persuhn	EA	Mr. Raghoobarsingh	4/5	Ms. Samadi	NHS
Ms. Scholz	SLP	Mr. Shannon	Principal	Mrs. Stapelmann	2/3
Ms. Strang	EA	Ms. Thandi	DP	Mrs. Tjernagel	LST
Mrs. Williamson	Secretary			Mrs. Wrocklage	EA

EA=Educational Assistant

AMC=Morning Caretaker

YW=Youth Worker

IYW=Indigenous Youth Worker

SLP=Speech Language Pathologist

LST=Learning Support Teacher

PMC=Afternoon Caretaker

SS=Strong Start

LISW=Learning Inclusion Support Worker

DP=District Psychologist

NHS=Noon Hour Supervisor

DCC=District Challenge Centre

DLC=District Learning Centre

This week...

Please remember that it is an early dismissal day this Thursday - dismissal is at 12:03pm. Thursday afternoon will be an opportunity for the parents of students in grades 1-5 to meet their children's teacher(s) and to share information together about the strengths and stretches of their children (as seen by the parents and the teacher(s)).

Please also note that Friday is a professional development day and there will be no school for students.

Thanks everyone, and here's to a great week ahead!

Dennis

StrongStart Program

Birchland's StrongStart program opens this afternoon (for the year). This is a parent participation program for children 0-5 years of age. This means that parents must remain with their children for the time that they are in the program (it is a drop-in program, not a drop-off program 😊). Anyone needing to take part must register for this program and this can be taken care of when you arrive. Mrs. Jang, our Strong Start Facilitator, will take excellent care of you!

Absences/Early Pick Up

A reminder that if your child is going to be away to please use the absence report (found here): [AbsenceReportForm - New Form](#) We would appreciate it if you used this form. If you are unable to access this form, please send us an email at the following address: birchland@sd43.bc.ca. This email will be received by our secretary and myself. If you wish to include your child's teacher, you may, but it is really important to include the office staff so that we can be certain when your child is away.

If your child needs to be picked up early, you can use the same absence report (above) and then let us know the early dismissal time (in the comment section). Thank you for your attention to this.

Front Doors

Just another reminder that the front doors of the school are unlocked during the day. It is **ESSENTIAL** that any adult that enters the building checks in at the office - no exceptions (even if you wish to take your child to his or her classroom). While your child is very aware of who you are, to other students, you are a stranger, so checking in at the office lets everyone know that we are safe. I know this is something new, so I greatly appreciate your attention to this. Thank you.

Breakfast Program

The Breakfast program is up and running! Mrs. Karen is going to try her best to have a "set" menu this year. The plan is the following:

MONDAY - Cereal, oatmeal, fruit, milk.

TUESDAY - Egg-Based (e.g. breakfast sandwiches, French toast), fruit, milk.

WEDNESDAY - Pancakes with yogurt and berry sauces, milk

THURSDAY - Cheese-Based (e.g. grilled cheese sandwiches, quesadillas, mini pizzas), fruit, milk

FRIDAY - Smoothies and toast.

Our intention is to try and make this consistent each week, BUT PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MENU CAN CHANGE ON ANY GIVEN DAY DUE TO LACK OF TIME OR PRODUCT.

For this week - Tuesday is French Toast, Thursday will be quesadillas.

School Supplies and planners - Cash Online

School supplies can now be paid online (all families should have received an email about this). Planner information is also on Cash online. They are \$5.00.

After School Programs

Thank you to those of you who have responded to the survey I put out asking for feedback for after school programs. I will be looking this over and determining what after school programs we will offer this term.

West Coast Recess and Lunch

At Birchland, we will be going outside at recess and lunch unless the weather is extremely bad or there are potential safety risks. This means that we will be outside virtually every day. Please make sure that your child is prepared each day to go outside.

District / Community News

COBS Has Done It Again! This time, their community support is three times as tasty.

With **three incredible campaigns** running from now until **November 12th**, you'll have plenty of chances to shop local *and* give back. Stop by **COBS at Oxford Market** to see how your purchase helps support your community and the PoCo Foundation.

Not to mention, these freshly baked, delicious and healthy loaves make the perfect school lunch - your kids and community will thank you for it! No crumbs left behind guaranteed!

Until SEPT. 17, \$1 from every **Large Loaf of High Fiber White, Country Grain or Sourdough bread** at Oxford Market COBS will benefit the PoCo Foundation

From SEPT. 18 until OCT. 8, \$1 from every **Large Loaf of High Fiber bread** at Oxford Market COBS will benefit the PoCo Foundation

From OCT. 16 until NOV. 12, \$1 from every **Large Loaf Country Grain bread** at Oxford Market COBS will benefit the PoCo Foundation