



Whew! We are at the end of September. Typically this is a fast month as the schools and district finalize number for the September 30th Ministry funding deadline. It's kind of a big deal for us. But this is the regular part of September. The irregular part, of course, are the new expectations around school routines, hand hygiene, movement through the school, line up etc. Some of these we should have always been doing as a part of a healthy school. Every week we adjust the play zones outside. As we have an established staggered outside schedule, this gives us room to play when outside. However, students need to stay with their learning groups as assigned. I recognize the challenges on this as friends are in other groups but for now we must adhere to this. Most students are doing fine with this and others have needed some reminders. If this becomes an issue with your child, expect to be notified. A collective support on the ways we keep healthy is appreciated. The learning groups are as follows as a reminder:

Group 1 – Rendek (K), Vigna (K/1)
Group 2 – Feragotti (1/2), Draper (2)
Group 3 – Cote (2/3), Page (3/4)
Group 4 – Doeleman (4), Smith (3/4)
Group 5 – Blick (5), Delcaro (4/5)
Group 6 – Ellert (6/7), Percival (6/7)
Group 7 – Sonntag (6/7), Miller (6/7)

Lost and found is almost to nothing!! This may be a benefit of the new way of doing things or,

it's just chillier than expected and students are keeping their hoodies and sweaters on.

As the weather continues to move into the colder months, ensure your child has appropriate clothing for the weather. Even the last couple sunny days are not radiating with warmth!



A thank you to parents for:

- Sending your child with a full water bottle
- Dropping off students as close to 8:45 as possible
- Letting the office know about illness and absences
- Communicating back and forth with your child's teacher
- Supporting the new routines

Your efforts are noticed and make a difference to our calm school culture.

School Photo Day:

School photos will take place on Wednesday October 7, and continue through to Friday October 9th. Retakes are scheduled for October 26th. Please read through the attached notice. We will assign classes to specific days and your classroom teacher will be informing you of your child's photo day. Yes there will be a retake day. There is no obligation to purchase. This is a service for you if you want.

Continue to check out our website for announcements, calendar of events, district and school notices and more. If you cannot find what you are looking for please ask and we will help you navigate it and find what you need.

<https://ares.sd8.bc.ca/>

PAC – We have an active PAC at ARES. We meet once a month for about 1 hour through Zoom currently. All are welcome to attend. One goal that our parent group has this year is to have a representative parent from each class. It's a great way to see what happens and how this PAC supports all our students in so many activities!! We hope to see new faces each meeting.

Volunteers are needed at different times for a variety of programs. Many are on hold due to the pandemic rules but we are working through ways that meet the requirement on health and safety while still managing to offer programs like our breakfast program. Please consider helping out. If you are interested or maybe will be in the future you need to **complete a criminal record** check – forms available at the school as these are at no cost to you. Having this done does not mean you have volunteered but it helps us to be ready. They do take time to be cleared so the sooner the better.

Orange Shirt Day September 30th

Do you know the story of **Orange Shirt day**? If you do, I hope you choose to wear an orange shirt for this day. If not I would

encourage you to ask your child what they know about Orange Shirt day and look up <https://education.nctr.ca/everychildmatterresources/> , or Phyllis Webstad's story.

Coming up in October:

October 1 LGBTQ+ History Month

October 5th World Teacher Day

October 7 PAC meeting at 9 am via zoom (link to be sent out. Request one if you did not get one)

October 12- Thanksgiving Day –No School

October 23rd Provincial Pro-D day – No school for students

Did you know:

- We have custodians starting at 10:00 am. They are in continual clean up mode. When classes leave for outside- desks are wiped clean.
- Classes did a Terry Fox recognition run event individually this year. Thanks for the donations. They will be sent to the foundation on behalf of ARES.
- Kiysuk kuyukut is a greeting in the Ktunaxa language. This one means 'good after noon'.



Cooler days- warmer clothes. Remember to dress for the weather.