



We're Going Back To School



Dear Parents/Guardians:

It is so good to be back at school! We are anxiously awaiting all of the students and staff to return on Tuesday, September 4th. Please be mindful that the first day of school, students attend from 10:30 – noon only. Staff will all be outside starting at 10:20 mingling with families. Our new Kindergarten students, don't attend on Tuesday, as interviews and partial days are organized for them.

The first week of school is a busy week as a primary office job is to account for all of our students; those who have moved away as well as those who are joining us at KBES. As a result, our classes will not be finalized until Friday at the earliest. In the meantime, please be assured that students are engaged in a variety of Welcome Back to School learning activities, as well as, reviewing our KBES ROCKS behavior expectations, Play is the Way, and peaceful problem solving strategies.

You can anticipate a lot of papers being sent out from the school office the first week of school. Please check both your email and child's backpack for information. We are planning on sending home with students by Friday, hardcopies of Student Verification Forms, School Fees, etc. Your prompt attention to these papers and returning them to the school is greatly appreciated. Updating our records on your child's student verification forms, ensure that our information is accurate in the event that we need to contact you.



I'm so exciting for another school year and anticipate a great year of learning for all!

Regards,



Mrs. Wood, Principal

FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL AND SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

With families moving in and out of our school's catchment area, it takes a few days for us to finalize classes. Our goal is to have our students placed in classes by Friday.

I want to assure all families that the staff work very hard to create the best learning and teaching environment for all 300+ students and classrooms. The process is quite involved and includes significant dialogue, thought and reflection for each class. The organization of our school for this school year actually began back in the Spring. Teacher collaboration, consideration of parent educational requests, learner and teacher profiles, as well as, balancing the number of students in a grade with the number of staff assigned (class composition and size regulations) are all factors that are taken into account.

At times this results in multi-grade or split classrooms, as well as, children not being in a class with their best friend or the teacher they had hoped for. It is important for parents to realize that students in multi-grade classes have not been held back to the level of the youngest children in the class. While some students may be initially disappointed to not be with their best friend/s, or the teacher they hoped for, we are confident in their ability to form new friendships, maintain old friendships and develop a connection with their new teacher. "Positive parent talk" cannot be overemphasized in supporting your child and assuring them they will flourish in whatever class they are placed. I want to take this time to thank you in advance for your support with this.



HOME SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

We value parents/guardians and acknowledge you are important partners in your child's educational team and Parent Advisory Council. We look forward to meeting you and working with you throughout the upcoming school year.



We look forward to hosting our annual **Mug N Muffin from 8:00 – 8:30 am on Friday, September 14**. This is a very informal time for us to get together as a school family. Come and mingle with other KBES families and staff over a cup of coffee and muffin. Provided the weather cooperates, we will hold this event outside the office on the primary playground.

KAY BINGHAM NEWSLETTER

KAY BINGHAM STAFF

KBES is fortunate to have an extremely hard working, dedicated, kind and caring group of professionals committed to supporting the academic, social and emotional development of your children. Our staffing is completed but our assignments are not 100% finalized at this current time. In our next Newsletter, I will provide a complete list of staff and their assignments. In the meantime, please join me in welcoming: Ms. Gardner, LART; primary teachers – Ms. Petty, Ms. Wishnowski, Ms Thompson, Ms. Gresley-Jones, Ms Fitzgerald & Ms. Melney; Ms. Salvati, CEA; Ms. Poelzer, Librarian; and Ms. Antoine, AEW.

We want to wish all the best to last year's staff members who moved on. Special Thanks to: Mr. Covaceuszach, Mrs. Sears, Ms. Holmes, Mrs. Schultz, Mrs. Nystoruk, Mrs. Cowan, Ms. Killam, Ms. Collins, Ms. Wood and Mrs. Palluk for their special and unique contributions to KBES over the past year/s.

PAC/PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

All parents/guardians of students attending KBES are considered to be a PAC member. We have a very active and diligent PAC group who work to enhance your child's learning opportunities and experiences at KBES.

Please plan on attending as many home and school activities, as well as our monthly PAC meetings, as you possibly can. **Our first PAC meeting of the school year is scheduled for Friday, September 14th at 8:30 am.** If you can, please join us in the staff room. PAC meetings are generally scheduled once a month. Dates and times will always be included in our monthly newsletters and posted on our school's website.



SAFE ARRIVAL

In June our School District switched our Safe Arrival program to School Messenger. **Please don't forget to call in your child's absence each and every day that they will be absent from school.**

The absence reporting telephone number is 1-844-350-2647. If you haven't done so, you may create an account at the following website: go.schoolmessenger.ca You may also download the app for School Messenger.

SCHOOL HOURS

The learning day for children is from 8:30 – 2:30. The office is open each school day from 8:00 – 3:30.
PLEASE BE AWARE THAT WE DO NOT HAVE BEFORE SCHOOL AND AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION. FOR SAFETY REASONS, STUDENTS SHOULD NOT BE DROPPED OFF EARLY OR PICKED UP LATE FROM THE PLAYGROUND.

8:00 Office Opens
8:20 Doors open for students
8:25 Warning Bell
8:30 Classes begin with Morning Announcements
9:55 Recess begins 10:10 Recess ends
11:50 Students eat lunch in their class
12:15 – 12:45 Students play outside
12:45 -12:50 Students transition back to classes
12:50 Afternoon classes begin
2:30 Students are dismissed for the day

2018/19 SCHOOL CALENDAR

September 21 – Non Instructional Day
October 8 – Thanksgiving
October 19 – Non Instructional Day
October 24 – Early Closure (12:30 Dismissal for Parent Teacher Interviews)
November 11 – Remembrance Day
December 3 – Non Instructional Day
December 24 – January 4 – Winter Break
February 8 – Non Instructional Days
February 18 - Family Day
March 1 – Non Instructional Day
March 18 -22 – Spring Break
April 1 – Non Instructional Day
April 19 – Good Friday
April 22 – Easter Monday
May 17 – Non Instructional Day
May 20 – Victoria Day
June 27 – Last day of school; noon dismissal



LUNCH PROGRAM

Parents may choose to purchase lunches for their children for \$4 a meal. **Our Meals Program will start on Monday, September 17.** Meals menus will be sent home electronically and posted to our website next week and are **due back on Wednesday, September 12th.** Menus will not be sent home with **all** students each month; however, you will be made aware by email that the next menu is out and its subsequent due date. The Menus will also be posted to our school's website each month. If you purchase a meal for your child and they are absent from school, the meal will be placed in the fridge and saved for them for the next school day. **Partial meal subsidies, for financial hardship reasons, may be accessed by contacting Mrs. Wood. These subsidies do not automatically carry forward from school year to school year.**

PEACEFUL PROBLEM SOLVING with



This year KBES is moving from TILT to WITS. The strategies are the same, but the language is different. We are switching to the WITS/LEADS program as it is a comprehensive program that includes community partners (RCMP) and provides a wide variety of classroom resources and activities, including suggestions of children's literature for teaching and reinforcing strategies. In addition, the WITS LEAD program is designed for Intermediate students which provides an additional five strategies for problem solving for students when dealing with conflict. We will be teaching and using this language throughout the school year. If you visit the WITS website, you will find a section entitled "WITS for Families". This section will provide you with additional information on the program and how you can support WITS at home and school.

What do you do if someone is **BOTHERING** you?



Use Your WITS!



How do you solve a **PROBLEM?**



Be a WITS Leader!



SCHOOL SPIRIT DAYS

Friday, September 28th is both Orange Shirt Day and our annual Terry Fox Walk/Run for cancer research at KBES. Students are encouraged to wear orange in honor of those children who attended Residential Schools and to also bring a loonie or toonie as a donation for cancer research.

INTERESTED IN BEING A HOST FAMILY?

Our school may be hosting one or two (6th grade) students from Colombia for the months of October and November. Our International Student Program would like to recruit one or more families to be homestay hosts for these students, should they arrive at our school. The International Program compensates families \$825 per month for hosting and host families take on responsibility of providing accommodation, meals, and some transportation assistance for program events. If you are interested in potentially hosting a student, please email Leslee Faubert (lesleefaubert@shaw.ca) with the subject line "Colombian Elementary Student."

KIDS PLUS ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Parents may choose to purchase Accident Insurance from Kids Plus. To learn more about this insurance program, please visit their website at kidsplus.ca or call 1-800-556-7411 or email kidsplus@ia.ca

We are ready to have a great year!



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Happy Labour Day	4 School Starts 10:30 – Noon.	5 Meals Menu Sent electronically and posted to website	6	7 IMPORTANT STUDENT INFORMATION PACKET GOES HOME.
10	11	12 Meals Orders are due in the office by 8:30 am	13 Return Verification Forms to School Office	14 MUG N MUFFIN 8:00 – 8:30 PAC MEETING AT 8:45
17 Meals Program Starts	18	19	20	21 Non Instructional Day – No School for Students
24	25	26 RAISE A READER Parent Workshop @ HGEC from 6:30 – 8:30 pm Raising Digitally Responsible Youth	27 Newsletter Posted to Website	28 

SEPTEMBER, 2018