

# KAY BINGHAM NEWSLETTER

950 Southill Street, Kamloops, BC V2B 5M2  
Phone (250) 376-5586 • Fax (250) 377-2252 • Website  
kay-bingham.sd73.bc.ca

**September 9, 2015**



## WELCOME BACK EVERYONE!

It is so good to be back at school hearing the laughter and chatter of children; they generate so much positive energy! Old and new acquaintances are being made with students, families and staff. A very special and warm welcome is extended to all new KBES students and families. I am positive that you will enjoy your new school as you get to know families and staff.

As your new principal, I want to express my sincere joy in starting a new school year. I thoroughly enjoy the excitement generated with the commencement of school. I am pleased to be part of the team and learning community at Kay Bingham Elementary School. We will continue to work on our school goals of improving student achievement in literacy, numeracy and social responsibility. I look forward to connecting with you and partnering with all of you over the year.

Staff has been working diligently the last few days in preparation to welcome students back. This week, students are with last year's teachers participating in a variety of learning activities while final class placements are being made. Part of each day is being spent in Den Groups, where students participate in a variety of social responsibility activities that focus on our ROCKS behaviour expectations! We believe KBES ROCKS when we are **R**espectful, **O**rganized, **C**ooperative, **K**ind and **S**afe!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Colleen Wood,  
Principal



## MUG N MUFFIN

All KBES students, parents/guardians and staff are invited to a Mug N Muffin on Wednesday, September 16 from 8:00 – 8:40 am. This is a very informal time for us to get together as a KBES family and socialize over a cup of coffee (juice for children) and muffin. We hope you are able to drop by on your way to work and socialize with us for a few minutes.



## SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

With families moving in and out of Kay Bingham Elementary School's catchment area, it takes a few days for final classes to be set. While this can be somewhat unsettling, we plan to have classes in place as soon as possible. We want to assure you that significant preparation, thought and dialogue goes into finalizing classes. The process actually starts in the Spring and continues throughout this week with final adjustments being made. Our goal is to establish positive, productive learning environments for all 300 Kay Bingham Elementary students. While some students may be initially disappointed to not be with their best friend/s, we believe in their ability to form new friendships within their classes. The power of "positive parent talk" cannot be over emphasized in supporting your child and assuring them they will flourish in their new class! We want to thank you in advance for your support.

Our Kindergarten students will have a gradual entry into school with full-day attendance starting Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.

## KAY BINGHAM STAFF

KBES has a great team that is looking forward to partnering with families to support students' learning and growth. We have many new staff members and anticipate additional team members being added over the month of September. Please join me in welcoming new staff to KBES!

Kay Bingham Elementary **R.O.C.K.S.!**

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Primary Teachers: Mrs. Henderson, Mrs. Nystoruk, Mrs. McMillan, Ms. Fletcher, Ms. Sears, Ms. Holmes & Mrs. Plastina  
Intermediate Teachers: Mrs. Covaceuszach, Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Hallett & Mr. Covaceuszach

Learning Assistance Resource Teachers: Mrs. Murray & Mrs. Gurski

Prep Teachers are Mrs. Schultz & Ms. Mabee

Music Teacher: Mr. Baker

Our Teacher Librarian is Mrs. Bond

Our Support Staff are as follows:

Mrs. Bonderud, Secretary  
Mrs. Hofmann, Library Assistant  
Mrs. Ross, First Nations Education Worker

Certified Education Assistants: Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Smith; Ms. Heighton & Ms. Seppala

Custodians: Mrs. Heer, Mr. Plastina & Mr. Karstein

Administrators: Ms. Mabee, Vice Principal & Mrs. Wood Principal

The Staff at KBES are dedicated and skilled professionals. We look forward to partnering with our families in the development of your children/our students' cognitive, social/emotional and physical skills. Staff photos will be updated and posted outside the office within the next couple of weeks for your convenience.

## SCHOOL HOURS

Our bell schedule has been adjusted to allow for the 2 week Spring Break.

8:00 Office Opens  
8:20 Doors open for students  
**8:33** Classes Begin  
10:05 Recess Break  
12:00 Lunch Break (students eat until 12:15 and then go outside to play)  
12:50 Classes Resume  
2:30 Dismissal



SNACKS AND LUNCHES ARE EATEN IN THE CLASSROOM

As there is **no supervision** provided before and after school, it is important that students do not arrive early for school or picked up late after school.

## MEDICAL ALERTS/COURT ORDERS

Student and staff safety is always a top priority. If your child has a medical alert or if there is a court order in effect, please ensure the office is informed immediately and the appropriate paperwork is provided. Please be aware that staff is not permitted to administer non-prescription medications to students. In order for us to administer prescription medication, a form must be completed by a Doctor. Students with anaphylaxis are required to have 2 epipens at school. Again, policies do not allow us to administer Benadryl and then an epipen.



## INFORMATION PACKAGE/FORMS

On Monday, the office will be sending an information package for each family. This package will include important forms (School Supply Fees, Young Peoples' Concert, Safe Arrival, Media Release, etc) for parents to complete and return. Blank Student Verification Forms will also be sent home this year. **It is important that parents complete the requested information on the verification form and return it to the school office ASAP.** As families change phone numbers, addresses and contact information throughout the year, please notify the school office.



## SAFE ARRIVAL

If your child is going to be late or absent from school, please call our Safe Arrival number (250-434-3083). If your child is absent from class and we haven't heard from you, we will call you to ensure that your child is safe and accounted for.



## MEALS PROGRAM

September Menus were sent home with students today with **orders due on Tuesday, September 15 by 9:00 am.** Our first meal will be delivered on Monday, September 21.

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When students are absent on a day that they've ordered a meal, the meal will be placed in the fridge, where they can pick it up the next day. If you can't find a Meals Menu in your child's backpack, you can pick one up outside the office, or print one off from our school's website.

With the later start in September, October's Meals Menu will be available the week of September 21<sup>st</sup>. The menu will be posted to our school's website when it is available.

## PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

All parents/guardians of students attending Kay Bingham Elementary School are considered members of our PAC. Your input at monthly PAC meetings is both welcomed and appreciated. **The first PAC meeting will be held Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 8:45 am.** As a staff, we appreciate our PAC and all they do for our students and families.

## ENTERING & EXITING THE SCHOOL

To avoid congestion, students enter and exit the door nearest their classroom.

**All students who arrive late or are picked up early will need to sign out at the office.**

Please be aware that the main door is the only door that is unlocked.



## PARKING AND DROP OFF

Safety is always a top priority. Your cooperation is very much appreciated in refraining from using the staff parking lot as a drop off zone. Likewise, please also refrain from parking in the drop off zone. We would ask for extra diligence in watching

for students as they use the crosswalk and cross the street. Please take the time to review frequently with your child safety rules (including stranger danger) for walking, riding their bikes, rollerblades and scooters to and from school. Students who choose to ride their bikes to school are encouraged



to lock them in the bike racks. Students are expected to dismount from bikes, scooters, and skateboards while on school grounds. Likewise,

rollerblades and "heel rollers" are to be removed/disengaged.

## SCHOOL SPIRIT

Every Friday, students and staff are encouraged to wear our school colours (purple and gold) or a school shirt. Information on the purchase of school wear will be provided later this month.



## AFTER SCHOOL PLANS

It is important that children know their after school schedule before leaving for school in the morning. Students will not be permitted to use the school phones to make after school plans with classmates.



## 2015/16 SCHOOL CALENDAR

*September 25 – Non Instructional Day*

October 12 – Thanksgiving

October 14 – Early Closure (12:30 dismissal)

October 15 – Early Closure (12:30 dismissal)

October 23 – Non Instructional Day

November 11 – Remembrance Day

December 7 – Non Instructional Day

December 21 – January 1 – Winter Break

February 8 – Family Day

February 19 – Non Instructional Day

February 24 – Early Closure (12:30 dismissal)

February 25 – Early Closure (12:30 dismissal)

March 21 – April 1 – Spring Break

April 18 – Non Instructional Day

May 16 – Non Instructional Day

May 23 – Victoria Day

June 29 – Last Day of School; noon dismissal

**SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS** will be posted on our website the last Thursday of each month. If you would like to receive it electronically, please contact Mrs. Bonderud in the office or email her at [sbonderud@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:sbonderud@sd73.bc.ca). This is the only newsletter that will be sent home with all students. Newsletters will also be available in the office.



# KAY BINGHAM NEWSLETTER

**KBES's WEBSITE** website has significant school information. All newsletters, upcoming events, meals menus and School Board Meeting Minutes can be found there. Please check our website out at: <http://kay-bingham.sd73.bc.ca/>



## **A FANTASTIC RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS!**

Students in Grades 1 through 6 are encouraged to purchase a school agenda for \$7.00. The student agendas are a wealth of information and are intended to be a home resource to support your child. In addition to outlining the bell schedule, school calendar, and School Improvement Plan our Student Handbook is included for your convenience. Within the handbook you will find our ROCKS Matrix, along with an explanation of various expected behaviours while children are at school.

The agenda has messages for students to reinforce 4 onTRAC steps to help them plan for success. The 4 steps are:

- Thinking about and setting goals
- Recording things such as homework.
- Act is the process of planning time
- Check is the process of assessing and evaluating one's progress



Finally, our student agendas this year have key messages for Raising Respect and Taking a Stand Against Bullying. Please set aside time when your child receives their agenda to go over the format, teach the 4 onTRAC steps for planning and reinforce

the important monthly messages and skills on how to deal effectively with bullying.

## **PICTURE DAY**

Our school picture day is scheduled for Thursday October 1, with retakes on October 29<sup>th</sup>. You can anticipate brochures being sent home within the next two weeks.



## **ONE TO ONE READING TUTOR TRAINING**

If you have 100 minutes a week and are interested in reading with some of our students, then One to One Reading is for you! Tutor training is being offered on Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 9:00 pm and Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – noon at the Henry Grube Education Centre. Please contact Fiona Clare at 250-372-9373 or [fionaclare@shaw.ca](mailto:fionaclare@shaw.ca) if you are interested in being part of this great reading support program!

## **HEAD LICE**

Head lice is a nuisance and invariably shows up at school. It is important that we are all responsible in treating cases of head lice. Our homes need to be diligent in checking their child's head to ensure they are lice and nit free. If you haven't done a check yet this week, please do so and make it part of your weekly routine. If your child has head lice, please, treat them appropriately and contact the school, so that we can notify other families in the class to also check and treat, if necessary, their children's heads. Confidentiality and dignity of students/families will always be maintained.



**Please be mindful that Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> is a non instructional day, therefore there will be no school for students. Non instructional days are days that focus on professional development for all staff.**

**Our next newsletter will be posted to our school's website and available in the office on Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>!**