



*Respect Enables
All Learners*

KAY BINGHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

950 Southill Street, Kamloops, BC V2B 5M2 · Phone: 250-376-5586 · Fax: 250-377-2252



WELCOME BACK TO THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Hopefully, everyone had a wonderful, relaxing summer. Summer is always an exciting time to kick back with family and friends and enjoy the beauty we have in this area of the province. I hope you were all able to do that. We are anticipating a wonderful year of learning at KBES and we are excited to be working with each of you. Our school community at KBES is one that supports and teaches kindness, respect, safety, and inclusion for all.

I would like to welcome all the new families to our school, as well as all returning families. I know that you will find the staff to be very welcoming and offer you any assistance you may need. A special welcome to our new Kindergarteners! This is my third year at KBES, and I look forward to learning, growing, and building our school community with you. Feel free to introduce yourself if you see me outside, during what will hopefully be, a warm fall season!

We appreciate your patience as we strive to place students in classes this week. With the catchment change and reconfiguration taking place this year, it has been a little more challenging than usual. Our goal is to move to our new classrooms on Friday. You will receive an email from your child's 2024-25 teacher by Friday at 4pm.


Our school warning bell rings at 8:25am and dismissal is at 2:39pm each day. To ensure the safety of your child(ren), please drop off your child(ren) in time to begin school and pick them up promptly once school is over, as after school supervision is not provided at KBES. Students are not permitted to stay without adult supervision.

We are happy to see all our youngsters' happy and smiling faces back in the school. We are looking forward to a fabulous year of learning together. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher, or call the office.

Ms. Rosie Caputo, Principal

STAFF ASSIGNMENTS

KBES has a fantastic team who is eager to partner with parents/guardians to meet all our students' needs. Below you will find our staffing assignments for the 2024–2025 year.

<p><i>Salmon Pod</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Mrs. Henderson K ❖ Mrs. Aaltonen 1 	<p><i>Support Teachers</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Mrs. Young LART ❖ Ms. McCowan Library/Fine Arts ❖ Ms. Allan Health & Physical Education
<p><i>Coyote Pod</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Ms. Riddlke/Ms. Chand 1/2 ❖ Ms. Wessel 2 ❖ Ms. Wishnowski 2/3 	<p><i>Certified Educational Assistants (CEAs)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Ms. Dupont ❖ Ms. Stanley ❖ Ms. Faint ❖ Ms. MacRae ❖ Ms. Walden
<p><i>Swan Pod</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Mrs. Covaceuszach/Ms. Gardiner 3/4 ❖ Mr. Johnson/Mrs. Primus 4/5 	<p><i>Aboriginal Education Workers (AEWs)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Mr. Lysons ❖ Ms. Harry
<p><i>Bear Pod</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Mr. Henry 5/6 ❖ Ms. Kelly 6/7 ❖ Ms. Pye 7 ❖ Ms. Brennan 7 	<p><i>Custodians</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Ms. Heyer ❖ Ms. deBruijn ❖ Mr. Christopherson
<p><i>Office</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Mrs. Bonderud Secretary ❖ Mrs. Primus Vice Principal/LART/Gr 4 ❖ Ms. Caputo Principal 	<p><i>Other Support Staff</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Ms. Bittante, Library Assistant 

HANDLE WITH CARE

If your family is experiencing difficulties at home, our team would like to provide additional support at school. I understand that you may not always be able to share all the details and that is okay. If your child is coming to school after a difficult night, morning, or weekend, please message myself or your child's teacher with a simple HANDLE WITH CARE. Nothing else needs to be said or asked. This will let us know that your child may need extra time, patience or help during the day.

DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Just a reminder that in accordance with City of Kamloops Bylaw 34-26, dogs are not allowed on school property. While I love my 4-legged furry pet, not everyone feels as comfortable as others are around dogs. Please respect everyone by ensuring you adhere to

this. Please also mention this to family members/daycare providers who may be dropping off or picking up your children, so they are aware.

BELL SCHEDULE

The bell schedule will be as follows:

WARNING BELL (<i>DOORS OPEN</i>)	8:25 AM
START OF DAY (<i>CLASSES BEGIN</i>)	8:30 AM
RECESS BEGINS	9:55 AM
RECESS ENDS	10:10 AM
LUNCH BEGINS	12:10 PM
WARNING BELL	1:05 PM
LUNCH ENDS (<i>CLASSES RESUME</i>)	1:10 PM
DISMISSAL (END OF DAY)	2:39 PM

NEWSLETTERS

A newsletter will typically be sent home prior to the beginning of the month to the email address on file. If you have changed your email address or are new to the school, please contact the office. The newsletter will also be posted on the school website. Paper copies will always be available at the front office. If for any reason you require a paper copy each time, please contact the office.

ENTRY AND EXIT TO BUILDING

Students will enter the building from their exterior classroom doors. They will be dismissed from these same doors. Any visitors must report and sign in at the front office.

SAFE ARRIVAL

Please do not forget to call in your child's absence and late arrivals each day that they are absent from school. The absence reporting telephone number is 1-844-350-2647 and if you have not done so, you may create an account at the following website: go.schoolmessenger.ca. You may also download the app for school messenger.

SCENT SENSITIVE SCHOOL

KBES is a scent sensitive school. This means we discourage the use of scents and fragrances because many staff and students have allergy related scents. Please try to use neutral hair products, deodorants, and other personal hygiene products.

CLASS PLACEMENTS

I want to assure all families that the staff have worked hard to create the best learning and teaching environments for all our students. The process is incredibly involved, including much thoughtful reflection and significant dialogue for each class composition. While the organization of this process begins in the spring with teacher collaboration, consideration of parent educational request, learner and teacher profiles, as well as balancing the number of students in a class with the number of staff assigned, composition requirements, and class size are all factors that are considered. This often results in multilevel or split-level classrooms and children may not be in the same class with the teacher that they had hoped

for or with their best friend. However, please realize that students will be able to develop new friendships, maintain old friendships, and build a new connection with their new teacher. This is a fantastic opportunity for “positive parent talk” in supporting your child and assuring them they will be successful and flourish in whatever classroom they are placed in. Our KBES staff thank you in advance for your support with this, knowing we are all working hard to create a positive learning environment for all our learners.

By Friday of this week (fingers crossed), students will be moving to the classrooms where they will be for the remainder of this year. You will receive an email indicating your child’s teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Beginning on Monday morning, students will report to their classrooms for the year by way of the outdoor classroom entrances. Each teacher will have a sign next to the doorway in the window, indicating the teacher’s name and grade level. This will help us ensure that all students, particularly younger ones, get to the classrooms that they need to be at on Monday morning.

LOCKERS

Lockers are assigned and managed by the classroom teachers. Students do not use locks; therefore, no valuables such as electronic devices should be kept inside of them.

CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS

Criminal record checks are necessary for all parents who wish to participate in field trips, as volunteers, and school related supervision. As per Administrative Policy 490

VOLUNTEERS IN SCHOOLS:

3. Principals will require a criminal record check for potential volunteers in any situation or circumstance where the principal deems such checks to be appropriate. Such checks may include the following situations:

3.1 Where volunteers are alone with children without the near company of other adults; and

3.2 Where there is minimal direct supervision by staff members

And as per Administrative Policy 260 FIELD TRIPS

6. Requirement for Field Trip Supervisors

6.5 The Principal will ensure that all volunteers and chaperones provide a current criminal record check. This applies to all non-District employees. A criminal record check within the previous three years may be deemed current.

All volunteers, coaches, chaperones, and supervisors at school events must apply for a criminal record check. The process has been revised and can be completed via an online portal. PAPER COPIES ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTED.

If you wish to complete the online application, the access code provided below is unique to our organization. This code will be required when submitting an online request:

- Online Link: <https://justice.gov.bc.ca/criminalrecordcheck>
- Access Code: **DHVXJZ59PT**

MEALS PROGRAM

Our meals program schedule will be hopefully sent out this week. We are awaiting news from Canuel Catering in regard to menu and costs. These will usually be sent out approximately two weeks prior to the start of the month. If you require a subsidy for the 2024-2025 year, please contact the office.

SCHOOLCASH ONLINE

This year, we will be using SchoolCash Online as the go-to system to allow parents to pay for fees, field trips, agendas, and other fees online. Each item will be 'loaded' into your account as it becomes available, to allow you to pay. Please ensure your email address is up to date. Please contact Mrs. Bonderud if you have any questions.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PREVENTION PLAN (CDPP)

With the beginning of a new school year, our CDPP is available on the school website and coincides with the district plan. Currently, please remember:

- Stay home when sick
- Practice the daily health check and follow health advice
- Wearing a mask is a personal choice
- Practice good hand hygiene (wash hands, use hand sanitizer) and good respiratory etiquette (cover mouth when coughing; wash hands after coughing or sneezing)

SCHOOL SUPPLIES/AGENDA



A school supply list will be sent out in the next few days. Parents also have the convenient option to participate in the SD73 school supply program. By paying a one-time fee, students will be provided with the supplies that they need for the entire school year. Regardless of which way you choose to participate, fees and supplies are due to the school by September 30th.

School supplies and agenda fees will be loaded to SchoolCash Online next week. Please contact Mrs. Bonderud, at the office, if you have any questions.

SD73 DRESS CODE

The dress code for SD73 can be found here [AP350.2 Dress Code Policy](#).

CODE OF CONDUCT

The student code of conduct is accessible on this [link](#). It will be reviewed in classrooms over the coming week, and we appreciate it also being reviewed at home.

MEDICAL FORMS

Please let the office know immediately if your child has a serious health condition or requires medication to be administered at school. *Medic Alert Planning* forms and *Request for Administration of Medication at School* forms must be completed, revised, and renewed each school year. Please contact the office if you require more information or need to update the forms.

MyEdBC MESSAGES

One of the platforms that SD73 uses to send out email and other messages to parents is MyEdBC. Unfortunately, it has come to our attention that Hotmail email accounts filter out any MyEdBC messages. We would ask that if you have a Hotmail account that you currently use for school and district messaging, that you provide the school with an alternate email address to not miss any important messages. We have been informed that Gmail accounts work fine with this platform.

PERSONAL DIGITAL DEVICES

In May of this year a survey was sent out to gather parent and staff feedback on guidelines to the Code of Conduct for personal digital device use. Our school will meet the requirements of the Personal Digital Device Ministerial Order that is now part of the [District Student Code of Conduct](#).

We will work as a staff and with the Parent Advisory Council to revisit our school and classroom expectations for personal digital device use now that we have a new District Student Code of Conduct. While we are writing our new expectations, we will rely on our current procedures.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE YEAR

September 2024

- 03 First day of school
- 11 Kindergarten begins full days
- 16 PAC Meeting 6:00pm
- 19 Mug 'n Muffin (RSVP Required)
- 19 Terry Fox Run-Bring a toonie for Terry
- 23 Non-Instructional Day (School closed)
- 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (School Closed)
- 30 School Fees due

October

- 02 Picture Day
- 07 Thanksgiving Day (School Closed)
- 24 Photo Retakes
- 25 Non-Instructional Day (School Closed)
- 31 Halloween

November

- 11 Remembrance Day (School Closed)

December

- 02 Non-Instructional Day (School Closed)
- 23 Start of Winter Break

January

- 06 First Day back after winter break

February

- 07 Non-Instructional Day
- 17 Family Day (School Closed)



March

- 17 First Day of Spring Break
- 31 First day back after Spring Break

April

- 7 Day of Suwente'cw
- 18 Good Friday (School Closed)
- 21 Easter Monday (School Closed)
- 28 Non-Instructional Day (School Closed)

May

- 16 Non-Instructional Day (School Closed)
- 19 Victoria Day (School Closed)

June

- 21 National Indigenous Peoples Day
- 25 Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony
- 26 Last Day for students; dismissal at 12:39pm
- 27 Admin Day

WELCOME BACK!