

PARENTS'/GUARDIANS NEWSLETTER

September 9, 2015

WELCOME TO BERNIE WOLFE COMMUNITY SCHOOL!

Welcome to the 2015-16 school year. We hope that you have enjoyed the summer and that our students are coming to us refreshed and ready for an exciting year. The staff at Bernie Wolfe Community School looks forward to meeting and working with you to ensure a positive and productive experience for your sons and daughters.

To those parents and students who are new to Bernie Wolfe Community School, we extend a very warm welcome and hope that your experience here is productive and enjoyable. To those who are returning this Fall, welcome back and very best wishes for a great year ahead!

Traffic: Just a reminder, traffic around the school will continue to be congested. We ask for you to please be mindful of our students. Safety First! We are also in need of adult crossing guards. This is a paid position For more information please contact the school.

School Parking Lot: The parking lot has been reconfigured. Visitor parking is now located near the entrance of the parking lot. You may also park in the stalls that say ERC parking. Staff parking is in the rear section of the parking lot with the numbered stalls. An additional exit lane is also added out of the parking lot. This should make it easier for vehicles wanting to exit the parking lot and travel south. This should better accommodate drop off and pick up.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBERS!

We also have a number of new teachers at Bernie Wolfe this year. We welcome the following teachers to the staff and wish them every success.

Vernon Eby – Vice - Principal
Arusia Leskiw – Grade K-4 UK Bilingual Program
Jessica Dupont – 5 Physical Education
Jeff Hoepner – Grade 3
Angela Jones - Grade 1
Graham Smith – Grade 2/3
Warren Dahl - Counsellor

Hopefully you will all become familiar with our new staff members as the year progresses.

PICTURE DAY

Pictures of all students and staff will take place on Monday, September 21

OPEN HOUSE PLANNED

We believe it is important for parents/guardians to come to the school early in the school year to meet the teachers and to become familiar with the programs, supports and activities available. Please make a note that this opportunity is planned as follows:

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2015 5:00-7:00 pm

More details will follow prior to the event. Please watch for them.

OPENING DAY FOLLOW-UP

1. **School Web Site and Teacher Web Site:**
 - a. We encourage you to visit the web sites on a regular basis. The latest newsletter, school announcements and parent groups will have information posted on line for you.
 - b. **Note: All future newsletters will be emailed to families using the schools distribution list. Please make sure the school has your current email address.**

2. **Student Fees**
 - a. During the next week, homeroom teachers would like to complete the collection of student fees. The breakdown is as follows:
 - i. **Kindergarten - \$25 per student**
 - ii. **Grade 1-4 - \$50 per student.**
 - iii. **Grade 5-8 - \$35 per student**
 - b. **If you wish to purchase a yearbook please add \$17**
 - c. **(Any additional fees for specialty courses or events may be collected by the teacher.)**

3. **Student Verification Sheet:** Your child has brought home today our most recent information regarding addresses, telephone numbers, emergency contacts etc. Also indicated on this form is important medical information. **PLEASE ENSURE THAT THIS FORM IS CHECKED, REVISED AND RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2015. IF NO REVISIONS ARE NECESSARY, PLEASE RETURN THE FORM AS IT WAS DISTRIBUTED.**
 - a. **Please be sure to check off the consent area and to add your Email address as we will be using it to update our distribution list. You will receive many reminders, announcements and the school newsletter via email.**

4. **Arrival Times:**
 - a. Unless weather is a problem, students may enter the school at 8:40 am and 12:35 pm. If you arrive earlier, you are asked to stay on the playground.

5. Dismissal:

- a. If you are picking up your child at the end of the day we ask that you please wait in the foyer until the dismissal bell goes off at 3:30.

6. Lunch Routines:

- a. Students who stay for lunch are to remain on school property for the entire lunch hour.

7. Student Agendas:

- a. Students have been issued an Agenda book that has some very important operational information as well as the schools expectation. The teachers will review some of this information, but we also ask that you take a few minutes to review this with your child.

REGULAR ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY ARE IMPORTANT!

The staff at Bernie Wolfe works very hard to develop good attendance habits on the part of the students. It is important that students attend school regularly and arrive on time for scheduled classes and other obligations. School policy is in place to support students and to make them accountable for learning these habits.

Call-Back System

If your son/daughter is to be absent from school, please inform the school by leaving a message on the school call-back line (**204-958-6532**) before 8:00 a.m., or by sending a written note, prior to the absence, to the homeroom teacher. If students do not arrive at school and no information has been received, parents will be contacted. We hope that you will remember to notify us so that we do not have to disturb you.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Your involvement is important and is welcomed at BWCS in any of the following ways:

- regular contact with the staff regarding the progress of your son/daughter;
- volunteering at the school;
- assisting in a partnership with a project or school activity
- being a member of any of the parent committees

Community Connector/Family Room: Our Community Connector is based out of the Family Room which is located half way down the gym hallway. The Community Connector provides pre-school programs, connects with families. As well as recruit and train volunteers. Parents are invited to drop by the Family Room when you are in the school.

In addition we have 3 parent groups who meet on a monthly basis.

- **PAC** - Parent Advisory Council of Bernie Wolfe. The first meeting is on **Tuesday, September 15 at 6:00 pm.**
- **LPC** – Lunch Program Committee. The first meeting is on **Tuesday, September 15 at 7:00 pm.**
- **TPUE** – Transcona Parents of Ukrainian Education. The first meeting is scheduled for **Monday, September 21 at 6:00 pm.**

We urge all of our parents to be actively involved in their child's education. Research has shown consistently that student success is directly related to the level of parent involvement in the child's education. In addition, volunteering provides a wonderful opportunity for parents to network with the parents of other students at the school. If you have any further questions about any of the groups, please do not hesitate to call the school. We look forward to your participation

FAIR NOTICE

We encourage all caregivers to familiarize themselves with the following divisional policies. The details of the policy are located on the divisional web site in the policy manual.

1. Policy JICH ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG USE BY STUDENTS

In the interest of the health, safety, social and emotional well-being of all students, the board has adopted the following policy to address student alcohol and other drug use during school or at school related activities and functions.

The policy will have three principle components:

Prevention: a curriculum designed to present age appropriate accurate information to students to help them make positive and healthy lifestyle choices and prevent alcohol and drug use.

Intervention: a program designed to identify and intervene with students with alcohol and/or drug related behaviour and problems.

Consequences: a set of disciplinary actions that address alcohol or other drug infractions.

2. Policy JIH-R Search Procedures

Lockers and Desks

Lockers/desks are school property and, as such, are subject to inspection by school authorities at any time without notice, without student consent and without a search warrant, whenever a school authority has reason to believe that such a search is necessary.

Student Clothing or Possessions

- (1) A student's personal effects (e.g. purse, book bag, outer clothing, etc.) may be searched whenever a school authority has reason to believe that such a search is necessary.
- (2) Students can be required to empty their pockets and remove their shoes and socks. Staff will not directly search the student(s) but require them to empty pockets, etc.
- (3) Only the principal or designate may authorize a search of a student's clothing or possessions.

2015-2016 Yearly Calendar

Note: This is a tentative calendar. As we move through the year we will regularly be updating the calendar on the school's website and a calendar will also accompany our newsletter emailed to you.

<p><u>September 2015</u> Run Club Tuesday and Thursday mornings</p> <p>8 In-Service Admin. – NO CLASSES 9 Classes begin 10 Start of the Year Assembly – 10:00 a.m. 15 PAC Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. & LPC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. 17 Gr. 6-8 Cross Country Meet (after school) 21 Picture Day – 9:00 a.m 21 TPUE Meeting @ 6:00 pm 23 Open house - Meet the Teacher Night – 5:00 – 7:00 p.m 24 Gr. 6-8 – Cross Country Meet (after school) 25 Assembly – Terry Fox Walk/Run – 9:00 a.m. 25 Pizza Lunch</p>	<p><u>October 2015</u> Run Club Tuesday and Thursday mornings</p> <p>6 Gr. 6-8 – Div. Cross Country Meet – all day 7 Early Dismissal – 2:45 9 Professional Development – NO CLASSES 12 Thanksgiving – NO SCHOOL 13 PAC Meeting @ 6:00 and LPC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m 14 Gr. 6 girls Immunization 19 TPUE Meeting @ 6:00 pm 22 Assembly – Take Care Be Aware – p.m. 22 Family Movie Night – 6:00 p.m. 23 SAGE – Professional Development – NO CLASSES 27 Gr. 6 – Sharing Session Concert – 6:30 p.m. 30 Pizza Lunch 30 Halloween Dance & Celebration p.m -</p>
<p><u>November 2015</u></p> <p>4 RETSD/WSO Concert – Centennial Concert Hall – evening 6 Picture Day – Retake – all day 9 Assembly – Remembrance Day) – a.m. 10 Professional Development – NO CLASSES 11 Remembrance Day – NO SCHOOL 16 TPUE Meeting @ 6:00 pm 17 PAC Meeting @ 6:00 and LPC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. 18 Early Dismissal 2:45 27 Pizza Lunch</p>	<p><u>December 2015</u> Table Tennis club for Grade 4-8</p> <p>2 Winter Concert (K-5) – Dress Rehearsal – p.m. 3 Winter Concert (K-5) - 1:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. 4 Reports sent home 10 Student Led's – 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. 11 Student Led's – 8:30 – 11:30 - NO CLASSES 11 Professional Development – p.m. - NO CLASSES 14 TPUE Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. 18 Pizza Lunch 18 Christmas Dance – p.m. 18 <i>Friday Early dismissal – Christmas Break 2:30 p.m</i></p>
<p><u>January 2016</u> Table Tennis club for Grade 4-8</p> <p>4 <i>Monday Classes resume</i> 7 Gr. 4 – Immunization – a.m. 11 TPUE Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. 12 PAC Meeting @ 6:00 and LPC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. 13 Early dismissal - 2:45 p.m. 18 Gr. 2 & 3C – WSO Concert – a.m. 21 Kolyada - 6:00 p.m. @ BWCS 28 Gr 6-8 – Winter Band Concert - 6:30 p.m. 29 Pizza Lunch</p>	<p><u>February 2016</u> Table Tennis club for Grade 4-8</p> <p>5 Professional Development – NO CLASSES 9 PAC Meeting @ 6:00 and LPC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. 12 School Dance – p.m. 15 Louis Riel Day - NO CLASSES 22 TPUE Meeting @ 6:00 pm 24 Early dismissal 2:45 p.m 26 Pizza Lunch</p>

<p><u>March 2016</u> Run Club Tuesday and Thursday mornings</p> <p>8 PAC Meeting @ 6:00 and LPC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m 11 Reports sent home 11 Family Craft Night – 6:00 – 7:30 17 Student Led's – 4:30 – 7:00 p.m 18 Student Led's – 8:30 – 11:30 p.m 18 Gr. 7-8 Brandon Jazz Festival – all day 18 Professional Development - NO CLASSES 21 TPUE Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. 22 Assembly – Sustainability – a.m 24 Pizza Lunch 24 Last Day of Classes before Spring Break 25 Good Friday – No School</p>	<p><u>April 2016</u> Run Club Tuesday and Thursday mornings</p> <p>4 Classes resume 6 Early Dismissal 2:45 pm 12 PAC Meeting @ 6:00 and LPC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. 13 Growing & Learning Event – 2:00-6:00 pm (Ecole Centrale) 18 TPUE Meeting @ 6:00 p.m 21 Assembly – Working Together – p.m. 21 Family Fun Night - 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. 22 PD (School Planning) - NO CLASSES 25 Gr. 7 – Badminton Tournament 26 Gr. 8 – Badminton Tournament 28 Gr. 4 – Zone Handball Tournament - all day – BWCS 29 Gr. 5 – Mini Handball Tournament – all day - BWCS 29 Pizza Lunch</p>
<p><u>May 2016</u> Run Club Tuesday and Thursday mornings</p> <p>2 Music Monday 10 Gr. 6 girls – Immunization – a.m. 10 PAC Meeting @ 6:00 and LPC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m 11 Early dismissal 2:45 p.m. 16 TPUE Meeting @ 6:00 p.m 19 Gr. 6-8 - Spring Band Concert – 6:30 p.m 23 Victoria Day – NO CLASSES 27 Gr. 7-8 – Div Track & Field – all day 27 Assembly – Volunteer Recognition – 2:15 27 Pizza Lunch</p>	<p><u>June 2016</u> Run Club Tuesday and Thursday mornings</p> <p>1 New Kindergarten Orientation – 6:00 p.m. 3 Gr. 5 – Div. Track & Field – all day 7 PAC Meeting @ 6:00 and LPC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m 20 TPUE Meeting @ 6:00 p.m 22-24 Gr. 6 – Camp Arnes 24 Pizza Lunch 26 Gr. 8 Farewell/Recognition Assembly – 10:00 a.m. 29 NO SCHOOL – Admin. Day 30 Report Cards sent home 30 Early dismissal – Last day 2:30 p.m</p>

OUR VERY BEST WISHES FOR A SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL YEAR !