

Bristol Elementary School Newsletter

January & February 2018

Vision: "A Place to Learn Through Friendship, Fun and Respect"

Mission: "To Nurture Thoughtful, Responsible, Independent 21st Century Learners"

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, January 8th: School resumes after the Christmas break

Tuesday, January 16th: PSSC meeting 7:00 pm at Bristol Elementary School

Friday, January 27th: Family Literacy Day

Tuesday, February 6th: Safer Internet Day

February 12th to 16th: Staff Appreciation Week

February 15th: National Flag Day of Canada

February 17th: National Heritage Day

February 19th: Family Day (no school for students)

February 26th-March 2nd: BrES Winter Carnival Week

Tuesday, February 27th: Early Dismissal for Students/PL for Teachers

Wednesday, February 28nd: Pink T-Shirt Day

Friday, March 2nd: K-5 Skating at NCCC from 1:00-2:30 pm

Friday, March 2rd: Last day of school before March Break

March 5th-9th: March Break

Monday, March 12th: School Resumes after March Break.

Tuesday, March 27th: Professional Learning Full Day – No school for students

Friday, March 30th: Holiday-Good Friday

Monday, April 2nd: Holiday-Easter Monday

Monday, April 9th: Report Cards Sent Home

Thursday, April 12th: Parent-Teacher Interviews from 3:15-7:15 pm

Friday, April 13th: Parent-Teacher Interviews 8:15-11:30 am
1:00-3:30 pm Professional Learning for Teachers (no school for students)

Tuesday, April 24th – Early Dismissal for Students/PL for Teachers

Friday, May 4th: NBTA Provincial Council Day for Teachers (no school for students)

Monday, May 14th: NBTA Branch Meeting Day (no school for students)

Friday, May 18th: Jump Rope for Heart at NCCC from 1:00-2:30 pm

Monday, May 21st: Holiday-Victoria Day

Tuesday, May 29th: Early Dismissal for Students/PL for Teachers

Friday, June 22nd: Last Day of School for Students



Every Day Counts:

“A growing body of research indicates that missing 10 percent of the year or more for any reason – including unexcused absence, excused absence, and suspension – places students at significant risk of negative outcomes, including academic difficulties, increased involvement in the juvenile justice system and dropping out. To reduce these negative outcomes, it’s important to address attendance for all students who miss 10% of the year or more.” (Sprick, Alabiso and Yore in Educational Leadership 73(3).)

At Bristol Elementary, we are deeply invested in making your child’s learning a priority and for students to be successful in school, they need to be **in** school. Home contacts by the homeroom teacher after 4 absences and letters from the Principal after 8 absences are two ways in which we keep you aware of the number of missed days. We will be reaching out to families of students who have 8 or more absences to discuss how attendance can improve and problem-solve around issues that may be impacting your child’s attendance as we know that you are as deeply concerned about your child’s success as we are. We look forward to working with you to help reach attendance goals.

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Keeping Children Smoke-Free

January is Tobacco Reduction Month, and this is a good time to think about how to keep your child's environment smoke free

Tobacco Facts:

- Tobacco smoke contains over 4000 chemicals including at least 70 which are carcinogenic or cause cancer.
- The top 6 toxins which are released when a tobacco product is burned are: tar, nicotine, carbon monoxide, formaldehyde, hydrogen cyanide and benzene.
- Besides cancer, smoking is responsible for many other diseases
- Because children breathe faster than adults, they are particularly sensitive to second hand smoke. Asthma rates are much higher in children whose parents smoke, and children are more likely to develop ear infections if exposed to second hand smoke.
- E-cigarettes or vaping is not recommended by Health Canada because of possible health risks, nicotine poisoning and addiction. Nicotine free or flavoured vaping products are also not recommended.

Tips for Talking to Children:

- Take advantage of opportunities to let your child know about the harmful effects of tobacco.
- If your children are involved in sports, remind them that remaining smoke free will help their performance in physical activity.
- Talk to your child about peer pressure and practice how to refuse smoking or vaping.

What Else You Can Do:

- Quit Smoking, being a positive role model is important
- Protect your child from second hand smoke
- Speak out and support smoke free spaces in our communities.

Need Help? Go to: www.smokershelpline.ca or call 1-877-513-5333

Resources:

NB anti-tobacco Coalition:

<http://www.nbatc.ca/en/>

Health Canada:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/health-concerns/tobacco.html>

Reminder

If you are sending lunch items to be heated up at school in the microwave they must be able to be heated up in under a minute. Items such as frozen dinners and KD cups take too long to heat/cook. Also, please make sure to send utensils as we have a limited supply.

Important Reminder

Custody Information. By law, schools are required to provide, on request from non-custodial parents, information about a student's education, except when a court order prohibiting access of a parent to a child exists. **If there is a current, valid court order prohibiting access to this child, the responsibility rests with the custodial parent to provide the school with a copy of this document. Please send in a copy or contact the administrative assistant at 392-5124. It is critical that we receive custody information as soon as possible.**

Contact Information

If your contact information changes throughout the year, including home phone, work phone, cell phone, email address and/or mailing address, please let us know **as soon as possible**. It is important for your child's wellbeing that we have a current number by which to contact you at all times. Please note this includes **email address** we have on file for our School Connects Messaging so that you will continue to receive our school messages.

Staying Informed at BrES

There are many ways to stay up on the news happening at Bristol Elementary!

- Watch for our newsletter the **first Thursday of every month**.
- Visit our website at www.bres.nbed.nb.ca
- Read the emails or listen to the phone messages from **School Connects**.
- Our newly created Bristol Elementary School FaceBook page.

Staffing Changes

Beginning February 1st, 2018, Mrs. Stephenson will be on deferred leave until June 26, 2018 with plans to return to BrES in September 2018. During her absence the acting principal will be Ms. Katie Saunders. Ms. Saunders will work with Mrs. Stephenson during the last part of January to allow for a smooth transition. Mrs. Stephenson is going to miss the staff and students at BrES but will keep in touch throughout her leave.

When schools, families, and community groups work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more.

-Henderson, Mapp

