

Marie Sharpe Elementary

260 Cameron Street, Williams Lake. B.C. V2G 1S8
Phone: (250) 392- 4104 Fax: (250) 392-6574



Newsletter #1

September 3rd, 2019

Welcome Back!

We would like to welcome back all returning students and those that are joining our Marie Sharpe family for the first time this year. I am looking forward to another school year full of fun filled activities and learning opportunities. Please contact the office if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's education, procedures/protocols or if you would just like to introduce yourself. A special welcome to our new staff members; Vanessa Neufeld (Kindergarten on Fridays), Melody Drew (Grade 2), Dave Julius (Counselor), and Jody Erho (Educational Assistant).

Bell Schedule Changes

We have some slight changes to our bell schedule to meet the new Ministry of Education instructional hour requirements. The following changes have been made:

8:56 am – Welcome bell (students get lined up at their entrances)

9:01 am – School session begins

3:03 pm – School dismissal bell

Students will be reminded of these new times in the first week of school.

Student/Parent Handbook



This handbook is intended to provide a concise and understandable overview of some of the most important opportunities and expectations that anchor our program. To reduce our school's Carbon Footprint, we will post the handbook onto the school district website (www.sd27.bc.ca) or it can be obtained in hard copy at a parents' request from the office.

Classroom Configurations/Movement

We have a large influx of new students at Marie Sharpe at the beginning of this school year and we welcome them all. Our Kindergarten level will warrant another classroom and teacher so we will be transitioning some to a new classroom shortly. We are hoping to have this settled by next week. In the meantime, we will be accessing our Strong Start classroom for half of the Kindergartens. Thank you for your patience in this and parents will be notified of any changes. This is a disruption we don't like to make but we need to accommodate all our returning and new students. You will be notified when your child is moved to a new classroom. Thank you for your patience.

Student Drop Off and Pick Up

Please drop your children off outside at their assigned doors so they can line up with the rest of their classmates.

At the end of the day please wait to pick up your children outside in order to keep traffic down in the school. New students were shown where their proper entrance/exit door is during the first day of school by their classroom teacher. **Students that are late or are being picked up early should sign in/out at the office. We appreciate your assistance with this.**

Student Absences
Call: 250-392-4052
250-392-4104

Upcoming Events

- Thursday Sept. 5th**
Cross Country practices start
- Monday Sept. 9th**
Breakfast Club starts
Emergency Lunch starts
- Wednesday Sept. 11th**
PAC meeting @6:30 pm
- Friday Sept. 14th**
Pizza Day
- Monday Sept. 16th**
Strong Start begins 9am-12pm
- Wednesday Sept. 18th**
Welcome Back BBQ
5:00 – 7:00 pm
- Thursday Sept. 19th**
Hot Dog Day
- Friday Sept. 20th**
Curriculum Implementation
Day – No school for students
- Thursday Sept. 26th**
Terry Fox Run @ 10:45 am
- Friday Sept. 27th**
Pro D Day – No school for
students
- Monday Oct. 30th**
Orange Shirt Day at Boitano
Park @ 9:30 am
- Monday Oct. 7th**
Individual Photo Day



Newsletters

There will be a newsletter sent out every 3 weeks to inform parents of what is happening at the school in the upcoming months. Please ensure that you ask your child to give you the newsletter as there is always important information for parents. The newsletter will also be found on-line at www.sd27.bc.ca – go to **Schools Tab** – under **Directory** click **Elementary Schools** – click **Marie Sharpe Elementary**.



Welcome Back to School BBQ!

Parents and students of the Marie Sharpe family are invited to come on Wednesday, September 18th at 5:00 pm for a family BBQ and meet the teacher evening.

5:00 pm - meet their child’s teacher in the classroom and learn about some of the great things they will be doing in the classroom/school

5:10 pm – 5:30 pm – student/parent activity while meeting other families

5:30 – 7:00 pm enjoying a hot dog while mingling and meeting other parents and the Marie Sharpe staff.

Please come and join us!

Secretarial Hours

Our secretary is Coralee Lebourdais, and her hours are tentatively 8:50am - 12:10pm and 12:55 pm – 3:12 pm Monday-Friday. She will be in earlier the first week of school starting at 8:30 am and finishing up at 4:00 pm.



Picture Day

All students will have their individual photos taken on Monday, October 7th. Retakes will be on Thursday, November 7th. Look for more information in a special one-page newsletter on ordering packages and costs that will be sent home with students closer to the picture day. Our new school photography company is Life Touch. Class photos, free for every student, will be taken in the Spring.

Student Absences

Please call the school at (250) 392-4104 or (250) 392-4052 to leave a message if your child will be absent or late for school preferably before 9:01 am. Please speak slowly and include your child’s first and last name. ***Our First Nation Liaison will be operating our Safe Arrival call center in the morning from 9:01 am – 9:30 am.*** There is a form that has been sent home by teachers regarding sign up for the Safe Arrival Program. Please sign the form and send it back with your child if you wish to be part of the program.

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) – 1st Meeting Wednesday, Sept. 11th @ 6:30 pm

I would like to encourage all parents to become active in the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). PAC affords all parents a voice in the decision making process at the school and allows the disbursement of gaming funds and other funds for school related activities. PAC meetings occur on the 1st Wednesday of each month (providing it is a school day) at 6:30 pm in the “Breakfast Club” room.

School Lunch / Breakfast Program



The school will once again provide a breakfast program through our Breakfast Club of Canada funding starting **Monday September 9th**. Students who need breakfast or a little extra can participate in the program from 8:30-8:56 am in the “Breakfast Club” room. Students will line-up outside the Kindergarten entrance to be let in by the coordinator. The school emergency lunch program will be up and running **Monday, Sept. 9th**. ***This program is only for students that do not have a lunch because of financial circumstances or have forgotten to bring one.***

Strong Start

On behalf of Naomi Weil (Strong Start Teacher), we are excited to once again offer our Strong Start program for children 0 –4 years of age. It will be up and running, every day from 9:00am to 12:00pm Monday to Friday **beginning Monday, Sept. 16th**. Drop in any time to see what this fun and dynamic program is all about! NO pre-registration is necessary, just drop in, register and join in. Parents MUST accompany their child to this program.

Immunizations

If your child is in Kindergarten this year please ensure that all their immunizations are up to date by calling Interior Health at 250-305-5000. Grade 6 students will be bringing home consent forms in early October to have their scheduled immunizations. Immunizations will only be given once parental consent has been given. Please return the forms as soon as possible.

Bus Information



The Transportation Department has a 2 digit route number installed on the buses for easy identification for your child. Riding the bus is a privilege and not a right so please have a discussion with your child about appropriate bus behavior. We have discussed this in our 1st day assembly. Please call the Bus Garage at 250-398-8632 regarding questions about schedules or routes.

School Supplies



This year families will be required to purchase their child's school supplies from Staples on-line or other stores. It may be too late to order the Staples bags through the store but please call them to inquire. Our supply lists were distributed to Staples for families to see there. **There will be no Staples Bags of supplies available at the school. Please ensure your child has indoor shoes and please label their belongings before they come to school.**

Please bring school supplies no later than Monday, Sept. 9th

Teaching and Support Staff

Mr. Calvin Dubray	Principal
Mrs. Coralee Lebourdais	Secretary
Mrs. Jessica Katsura	Librarian/Reading Recovery
Mrs. Kirsten Hamm	Nature Kindergarten
Mrs. Tanya Isnardy/	Kindergarten
Mrs. Vanessa Neufeld	Kindergarten (Friday)
Ms. Marianne Okrainetz	Grade 1
Ms. Cecilia Harry	Grade 1/2
Ms. Melody Drew	Grade 2
Ms. Katherine Goertz	Grade 3/4
Mrs. Celina Parkin	Grade 3/4
Mrs. Tracy Walton	Grade 5/6
Mr. Jeremy Parkin	Grade 5/6
Mrs. Jennifer Reedman	Resource Teacher
Ms. Marlene Eccles	ELL/Learning Support
Ms. Charlotte Haines	Chilcotin (Language/Culture)
TBA	Shuswap (Language/Culture)
Mrs. Naomi Weil	Strong Start Facilitator
Mr. Patrick Larose	Custodian
Ms. Ashley Mortensen	Custodian
Mrs. Cindy Stockill-Grant	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Tracy Campbell	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Katrina Balmer	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Angie Johnson	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Chelsea Hamblin	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Jody Erho	Educational Assistant
Lynda Porter	Educational Assistant
Mrs. Tanya Johnson	Nature K Educational Assistant
Mrs. Kim Davis	Library Technician
Ms. Karen Grant	First Nations Liaison
Ms. Dawn Ross	First Nations Support
TBA	First Nations Support
Sally Wiege	Noon Hour Supervisor
Anna Kalelest	Noon Hour Supervisor
Karen Grant	Noon Hour Supervisor
Corrina Harrison	Noon Hour Supervisor
TBA	Nature Kindergarten Noon Hour Supervisor



School Hours

Welcome Bell: 8:56 am
Instruction Begins: 9:01 am
Recess: 10:30 to 10:45 am
Lunch: 12:10 – 12:55 pm
Dismissal: 3:03 pm

We request that students enter and exit the building at the door assigned to their classroom as this reduces hallway traffic.

Nature K School Hours

Welcome: 9:01 am
Instruction begins: 9:06 am
Recess: 10:30 – 10:45 am
Lunch: 12:10 – 12:55 pm
Bus pick up: 2:53 pm
Parent pick up: 3:03 pm

On Tuesday afternoons, Nature K students will be up at Marie Sharpe for 'Buddy Reading', PE, Library time, assemblies and other special events. Students can be picked up at the front entrance in the Strong Start Center.

New Team Members

We would also like to welcome a few new staff members that are joining us; Mrs. Neufeld (Kindergarten teacher on Fridays), Ms. Drew (Grade 2 teacher), Mrs. Erho (Educational Assistant) and Mr. Julius (Counselor), and Mrs. Porter (educational assistant) and some returning people and some with new roles; Mrs. Isnardy (Kindergarten), Ms. Goertz (Grade 3/4 teacher), Ms. Parkin (Grade 3/4 teacher), Mrs. Walton (Grade 5/6 teacher), Mrs. Reedman (Resource Teacher), Ms. Eccles (ELL/Learning support teacher).



School Activities/Job Board

Many extracurricular school activities exist at Marie Sharpe Elementary including sports, student leadership and field trips. If you would like to volunteer for, or support any of these activities please call the school or talk to your child's teacher for more information on how to get involved. Please encourage your child to become involved in school activities as it creates confidence, sense of pride in their school and makes the school experience that much more enjoyable. Students also have an opportunity to apply for different jobs around the school that assists us in maintaining a positive environment but also gives employable skills to our students.

Terry Fox Run



All students will be participating in the annual Terry Fox Run Day that is on Thursday, September 26th at 10:45 am. **Any students wanting to fundraise may pick up a fundraising form from the office once parental permission has been given.**

Orange Shirt Day

This year SD #27 will be recognizing Orange Shirt Day on Monday, September 30th. We will be hand drumming and some of our students will be Hoop Dancing. We will be walking over to the ceremony at 9:20 am and returning to the school at 11:15 am. We ask that students and staff wear orange in support of the survivors and to remember those that have passed on. A permission form will be coming home the week before the event.

Hot Dog/Pizza Days and PAC Lunches



On a rotating, week to week basis, every Friday will be a Hot Dog or Pizza Day (Thursday if no school on the Friday). The cost for pizza and hot dogs is \$2.00 and on Hot Dog Days we offer juice boxes for 0.50 cents. If your child is going to be participating, please send the money in by Wednesday afternoon so the secretary and volunteers can count the orders and get them in. Once a month, on the last Tuesday of the month, the PAC provides a sponsored lunch that is free of charge to those students wanting to participate.

This month's days are as follows:

- **Friday, Sept. 13th – Pizza**
- **Thursday, Sept. 19th – Hot Dog Day**
- **Thursday, Sept. 26th – Pizza**

Student Recognition Awards Program



Our school has been using the Successful Learner Traits in the past 3 years to enhance student's responsibility of their learning and recognizes students' success as a product of *how-they-apply-themselves*, rather than *what-they-know*. The use of the Framework is based upon a key shift of prioritizing competencies within all learning using the Traits to explicitly teach students what leads to success. The Traits are Compassionate, Enthusiastic, Risk Taking, Confident, Creative, Strategic, Industrious and Thoughtful. In effort to recognize and reward outstanding student efforts and accomplishments in these areas at Marie Sharpe Elementary, students will be recognized at recognition assemblies to be held every month at the end of the month. Parents are welcome to join us for those assemblies. "Successful Learner Trait" cards are used to support our Positive Behavior Support program and encourages students to build habits of doing good things and being recognized for that.

Facebook Page/SD #27 Website

We have a Facebook page that parents can access to see what we have been up to in our learning and get information about upcoming events. The Facebook page is titled Marie Sharpe Elementary. Other teachers may choose to operate a Facebook page that is specific to their class such as Nature K. Please ask your child's teacher regarding this method of communication. For our website page to access information about the

school, newsletters and school plans, please visit www.sd27.bc.ca and click on the Find Your School button in the middle of the opening page and then click on the Marie Sharpe Elementary button.

Forms

Your child will be bringing home forms in the first and second week of school. The **Student Verification form** is to be filled out by parents of children who were here last year to ensure we have all of your updated information (phone numbers, address, emergency contact) in our system. The **Media/Personal Information Consent form** is for permission to use pictures and other information regarding your child in the outside media (newspaper, school /school district website, radio) if it so arises. The **Computer Usage/Personal Information form** gives permission for your child to access the internet, understanding the expectations that will be attached to this responsibility. The **Language/Culture form** is to select a language; French, Chilcotin or Shuswap for grade 5/6 students and First Nation Cultural Studies for K-6 ***This will be based on teacher availability to run these language and culture programs.*** The **Reverse Consent for First Nations Services form** will be sent out to all students that have identified as First Nations, Metis or Inuit. The consent form is only to be signed if **you DO NOT want your child to receive First Nation programming services.** The **Safe Arrival form** is to give us permission to call you if your child has not arrived at school and you have not contacted us to let us know your child would be away.



Attention Parents: please return the following forms on Monday or
ASAP

- ***Media/Personal Information Consent form***
- ***Computer Use form***
- ***Language/First Nations Cultural Studies preference form***
- ***First Nations/First Nations Ancestry Reverse consent form***
- ***Safe Arrival Sign Up form***

**If you would like to receive newsletters through email please send
your email address to school with your child.**