

Beechville-Lakeside-Timberlea Senior Elementary School October News 2019

902-876-3230 – phone
902-876-3240 – Safe Arrival
blt@hrce.ca

September Start Up

Our school year is off to a fantastic start! We greatly appreciate the support of our community as we all work toward the same goal; your child's academic, and social/behavioural success. It is our aim to take each child to academic heights they have not previously experienced and we need our families' help to make this happen. Completing all homework, completing all home reading, getting lots of physical activity, eating as healthy as possible, and lots of sleep will help immensely. Please remember to stay in touch with your child's teacher about their progress.

Life Threatening Allergies

Please be reminded that we have members of our school who have a life-threatening allergy to tree nuts/peanuts. When planning snacks and lunches please be mindful of the welfare of these students.

Safe Arrival

Please remember to call the school's Safe Arrival line (902-876-3240) if you know your child will be late or absent from school.

Parent Sign In

A reminder that it is the school's expectation for our parents to drop their children off and pick them up, outside, at their dismissal doors. We greatly appreciate those who understand the school's need for this procedure but we need to ensure all are in compliance. By asking this of our families we ensure that our students will have a growing level of independence and responsibility, relieve congestion in the hallways, and foremost, ensure the safety of the students as we will not have anyone in the building who should not be. Please remember to not use our lot for car travel when students are moving around.

For those who do need to be in the building to drop something off, or pick up a child early, it is expected that they check in at the office with Mrs. Butler. This only takes a few seconds and is immensely appreciated. Any deliveries needing to be made or messages relayed will be done by our school staff. We do not want to interrupt classes and the students' learning. If someone has not followed this procedure you should expect to be requested to do so. Further to this please allow your child to carry their own school bags.

Mountain Maple Area

As has been reported to the school, our Mountain Maple area seems to have a substantial amount of congestion in the mornings. Please be mindful of no parking and no stopping areas and take the greatest amount of care for all in that area.

Walking Students

Please be reminded that walking students, or those being dropped off, should not be at school prior to 8:05 am, when supervision begins. Also unsupervised walking students are expected to immediately leave the school grounds for their after school care, at the end of the day.

Parents/Community Interested In Offering Extra-Curricular Opportunities

We would like to offer any parent or community member the chance to come into the school to do an activity with the students. Maybe you want to teach grade 3 students how to play chess over four Thursdays at lunch, or do an art activity with grade 4 students over two Tuesdays at lunch and so on. If you have the will, we will find a way. Of course the person volunteering their time will have to have a current criminal records check and child abuse registry check prior to the start of the activity. The school will cover all costs associated with the activity.

Electronic Information

Please remember that by going to our school's web page you can find out anything you will need to know about our school and your child's education. You can also sign up for our Twitter information or the HRCE text alerts. You can sign up for Text Alerts from HRCE by going to <https://www.hrce.ca/about-our-schools/parents/subscribe-notifications>

School Cancellation

For the latest information about a school cancellation please consult the local radio stations such as CBC Radio or C100. The HRCE web site and signing up for the HRCE text alerts are also great options. Also if the buses are cancelled in the morning they will also be cancelled for the afternoon, similarly for school.

Outdoor Expectations

With the cooler weather arriving soon, I wanted to remind all that our students should be dressing to be warm when they arrive at school. They can always take off a jacket if it ends up being warm later on that day.

As well when we do have snow come our way I wanted to remind all of our expectations for student conduct:

- 1) Behaviour - the snow is not to be kicked up, or kicked at anyone. The snow is not to be thrown at anyone. No student should be "snowed in." That is buried in the snow, with consent or not. The students should enjoy the snow and their classmates but never at anyone else's expense. Students get one warning about throwing snow. A second time may lead to a suspension. We are not in a position to be careless with another student's health and well-being.
- 2) Clothing – all students are expected to have clothing appropriate to the weather. This means all students should have hats, gloves/mitts, coat, boots, and snow pants. If any family needs assistance please let the school know, we are more than willing to help where possible.
- 3) Temperature – students will be outside before school, recess and lunch in temperatures as cold as -20C. The Environment Canada Weather Office will be our primary source for temperatures. With students coming to school appropriately dressed for outdoor conditions, -20C is not a problem. In my 18 years of having the students outside in cold weather we have never had an issue. Please keep in mind that students will be outdoors for about 30 minutes during their longest period of time. In fact our school remained healthier through the cold and flu season than other schools who keep their students in when it is -5C, and we improved student achievement.

Breakfast Program

We are very excited to be offering a nutritious start to the day for our students during our Breakfast Program. This program takes place on Tuesday and Thursday each week. We have an extremely dedicated and enthusiastic volunteer group running those days, who are doing a great job. We greatly appreciate their time and efforts!

Monthly Assembly

It was our pleasure to host our first positive participation assembly of the school year. It was a wonderful event in which we recognized the great work of our students. Further we also recognize students at the end of each week for the incredible things they do during our GRIN draws. Well done by our students, keep up the great work!

Homework/Home Reading

Please remember that every student in our school should be involved with a book on a nightly basis. It could range from being read to, to reading on their own. Depending on the grade a student is in will dictate the type of homework and expectations for when it needs to be finished. As a rough guide a student in Primary might have reading and possibly a short math or writing activity lasting about 10 minutes for everything. A student in grade 5 might have reading and other work lasting about 50 minutes. Your child's teacher can provide information on homework guidelines and expectations. Homework is meant to, in part, be a life skill and wholly beneficial to student achievement, it is not meant to be hours of torture. Your child's homework is also meant to be an independent activity, please stay in contact with your child's teacher if the homework is proving to be otherwise.

Classroom Programming

If you ever have a question about any of the Provincial programming happening within your child's classroom please feel free to talk with their teacher. Maybe you want to know about the integrated and streamlined curriculum for grades 3-5 or about the change in math delivery from a couple years ago, just ask.

Substitute Lunch Monitor

Our school is often in need of substitute lunch monitors. If you are interested in becoming a paid substitute lunch monitor and working with our students please contact the school at 902-876-3230, we will walk you through making it happen.

Picture Re-takes

Please be reminded that School Picture Re-takes will be during the morning of October 17.

October is Mi'kmaq History Month

Throughout the month we will be pausing to take notice of many aspects related to the Mi'kmaq culture. More information can be found at <http://mikmaqhistorymonth.ca/>

October is ADHD Awareness Month

More information can be found on the centre For ADHD Awareness, Canada's web site <https://caddac.ca/adhd/awareness-advocacy/adhd-awareness-month/>

BLT Sr. as a Restorative School

A Restorative Approach is:

- Building school community
- Involving and valuing everyone: including EPA's, Teachers, Admin, Students, Parents, Support staff, bus drivers, and lunch monitors
- Connecting to the larger community
- Supporting students to learn from one another
- Building relationships based on respect, dignity, care and concern
- Starting with assets, not flaws
- Talking about challenging issues in a respectful non-judgemental manner

Terry Fox Walk

Thank you to all of the community members who were able to join us for our Terry Fox Walk. Our students were fantastic as they made their way through the neighbourhood. We are also excited to donate \$45 to the Terry Fox Foundation and the fight to eliminate cancer.

Lost and Found Items

Any and all items which might have been “left behind” by a student would likely be found in our Lost and Found area. Labelling of your child’s items will help us greatly for getting the lost items back to their rightful owner.

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts

Come Join our Scouting adventures! Every Tuesday starting Sept 24th, at Ridgecliff Middle School, Beavers (grades Primary to 2): 6:30-7:30 pm. Cubs (Grades 3 to 5) 6:30-8:00 pm and Scouts (Grade 6-8) 6:30-8:30 PM, if interested in joining you can PM us or go to myscouts.ca make a profile for your youth and register through there or email at : atlantic.membershipservices@scouts.ca
Any other questions you can email to timberleascouts@gmail.com

Interview Opportunities For Families

On November 27/28 our school will be conducting our first opportunity for parent-teacher interviews. These will be a traditional 10 minute interview. During our second opportunity to get together, April 1/2, our teachers will be conducting Student-led Conferences. More information about each of these communication events will be sent out much closer to the date of the event. As always please stay in close contact with your child’s teacher.

Provincial Student Privacy Policy

In the event someone from the school may ever need to have a conversation with you about an issue between your child and another, we are bound by the Provincial Student Privacy Policy, during that conversation. This means that we are not permitted to mention the other student by name or discuss consequences for another child. We would ask that you respectfully trust that the school will be working to ensure the situation and students are supported so that nothing further would transpire between the parties involved.

Student Agendas

Please know that the student agendas, previously paid for by you, should be to us fairly soon. Our original provider had international issues, which only became known after school had started. This caused us to seek a new source and we happily found a local company to help us.

Important Dates

October 1	Treaty Day * the start of Mi’kmaq History Month
October 1	ADHD Awareness Month
October 3	Paul Behnke-Anti bullying presentation
October 4	Cardboard Challenge
October 14	Thanksgiving Day-no school
October 17	Picture re-take day
October 25	Provincial PD Day-no classes for students
November 11	Remembrance Day-no school
November 22	Assessment & Evaluation day-no classes for students
November 27	P-T interviews during evening
November 28	Professional Development in morning/P-T interviews during afternoon
December ¾	Holiday Concerts-class tbd

Remembrance Day Ceremony

The staff and students of Beechville-Lakeside-Timberlea Senior Elementary would like to invite our community and especially all former and currently serving military members to our Remembrance Day Ceremony on Friday, November 8, 2018 at 10:30 am. Reception to follow. Please RSVP to jtremblay@hrsbc.ca.

