

# Ecole BLT Senior Elementary School

## January News 2021

902-876-3230 – phone  
902-876-3240 – Safe Arrival  
[blt@hrce.ca](mailto:blt@hrce.ca)

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### **Happy New Year**

The staff of Ecole BLT Senior Elementary School would like to wish our students and families a Happy New Year. We hope that the time away from our school was safe and enjoyable for all.

### **Educational Partners**

Our school staff is excited to see your children on a daily basis. Like our families, our school staff wants the very best for your child academically, socially and behaviourally. Please make sure to keep open communication between your home and your child's teachers for the benefit of your child. Teachers will attempt to return messages within 48 hours

### **COVID Pre-screening**

Please remember to screen your child each morning with the COVID-19 screening tool, previously sent to families, and available on our school's web site. Directions for how to proceed are indicated on the screening tool, if symptoms are present. If you have any questions please contact Public Health at 811.

### **School Restrictions**

We would like to applaud our students, families and school staff for everyone's continued diligence in keeping our school safe and healthy by following the Public Health expectations for schools. We know it hasn't been easy but we are doing well and now have an idea of where the finish line is. We are anticipating being able to ease more current restriction near the beginning of February, of which re-opening our food service may be a possibility. As any changes happen we will inform our families.

### **Parking Lot/Student Drop Off**

We would ask and remind our families of some aspects we have been noticing during our morning proceedings:

- please follow the arrows and flow of traffic, this means going around the loop to exit
- if you are dropping off a student at the Jr building, our Sr student can walk from there
- our drop off area is from just in front of the buses stretching up to in front of the orange barriers
- do not have your child dropped off anywhere other than our drop off area such as walking through the buses
- have your child ready to hop out of your vehicle, with their book bag, as soon as your car is stopped so as not to hold up traffic
- please do hugs, kisses, well wishes and after school instructions prior to arriving at school

### **Life Threatening Allergies**

We would ask our families to please plan snacks and lunches carefully and to consider our students who have life threatening allergies, as we have several students allergic to peanuts, tree nuts and seeds. Thank you for your understanding.

### **Breakfast Program**

Our Breakfast Program continues to operate on a daily basis. Thank you to Ms. Quinn and the team for working hard to benefit our students.

### **Safe Arrival/Late Arrivals**

If you know your child will be late or absent from school please notify the school, prior to 8:30, through our Safe Arrival line, 902-876-3240. Please indicate the nature of the absence as we are required to track trends in illnesses for the Dept. of Health, in particular flu strains (they already track COVID-19). If a child is absent and we have not received a call or note, we are required to call a student's home to ensure they are safely taken care of. Also be reminded that students are late at approximately 8:30 am.

### **Winter Weather**

Please be reminded that we will be outdoors in temperatures (including wind chill) as low as -20C. Students should be dressed as warmly as possible. We have advised the students that to roll around in the snow they must have full snow gear, which ensures each student is dry and able to focus on their work while in school. We encourage the students to enjoy the snow and have fun making forts, sculptures, snow angels and lots of other great activities when outside. Throwing snow, kicking snow and burying someone in the snow are not examples of great activities.

### **Head Lice**

As a reminder we would ask our families to check your child regularly for head lice and nits. Our school has not experienced a significant number of cases but we have had a few thus far. New provincial policy changes state that if a child has head lice or nits they ARE allowed to be in school but treated immediately, checked daily and a follow up treatment taking place 7-10 days after the initial treatment. If you have questions please contact Public Health at 811

### **School Supplies**

We would ask that you check with your child as to the status of their school supplies, especially if your child started the school year with partial supplies. Students tend to go through a tremendous number of pencils, erasers and glue sticks. Feel free to check with your child's teacher to see if they need anything.

### **HRCE Math Coaches**

We are excited to have had an HRCE math expert in our school working with our staff so that we can do our very best for the students. We are also excited to have experts coming back in the New Year to continue supporting our school!

### **Busing Arrangements**

Please be reminded to contact the HRCE Transportation Team if you have any needs related to your child's busing. Contact them at 902-431-4723 or [transportation@hrce.ca](mailto:transportation@hrce.ca).

### **Toys, Cards, Electronics & Cell Phones**

Please be reminded that we highly discourage students from bringing toys, cards and electronics to school. Those items are very valuable to each student who owns them and we truly wish for nothing to ever happen to them. Keeping those items at home for long-term enjoyment is the best course of action for the students. Sometimes students may receive a cell phone as a Christmas gift. As well sometimes students may bring these phones to school to support after school arrangements, if this is the case the phone should be put away safely in their book bag or with their teacher. There is no need for a student cell phone to be out during the school day.

### **Lost & Found**

Please remember to label your child's clothing and outerwear to assist with returning lost items to their rightful owner. Additionally we display lost & found items several times each term with an opportunity for students to reclaim their items. Photos of lost & found items are regularly posted on the BLT PTC Facebook, please take a look.

### **February is Registration Month**

If your child is currently in grade 3 or 4 at BLT Sr. and you know that your child will not be returning to our school in September, please contact Mrs. Butler 902-876-3230, to pass along the information. For all other students, including those going to Ridgecliff, there is no need to do anything as your process is an internal, electronic one. For those going to Ridgecliff in September, as we receive information for families it will be passed along immediately but please be patient as this will not likely happen until May.

### **Important Upcoming Dates**

January 11	School re-opens for students after the Holiday Break
February 1-28	African Heritage Month
February 1-28	Registration Month
February 15	Edward Francis Arab Day-no school
March 15-19	March Break
March 24	Assessment & Evaluation Day-no classes for students