



"You Can't Spell BEST without B.E.S!"



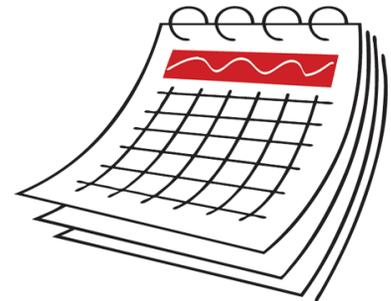
Volunteers Needed for PAC Hot Lunch Program

For the past many, many years, our PAC has organized and provided weekly hot lunch options for our students. More recently, families have even been able to order/pay online for many lunches in advance, making it much more convenient and easier. These lunches were coordinated and prepared (with help) by Mrs. Kimberly Bradshaw, our hot lunch coordinator.

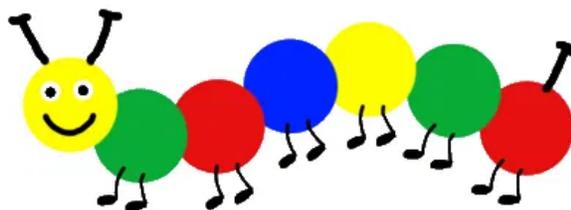
However, this year, Mrs. Bradshaw, has a much busier schedule and while she can coordinate and purchase supplies for hot lunches, she will no longer be able to be present to cook/prepare them at the school. We are **looking for volunteers who can come to the school on the hot lunch days and actually prepare/serve the meals for kids.** Mrs. Bradshaw would provide any instructions, and make sure the supplies are there, but she needs at least 3-4 people per hot lunch day to do the actual assembly. You do not need to be available for all hot lunches - we just need a core group of people who can rotate/alternate or whatever to make sure lunches are prepared. **If you are interested, please contact Kim Bradshaw at kimberlybradshaw77@gmail.com.** Thank you, in advance, for your help!

Upcoming Events at Breton Elementary

- October 2: Last Day of Swimming for Grade 6
- October 2: Photo Day
- October 3: Swimming Begins for Grade 4
- October 6: No School
- October 9: No School - Thanksgiving
- October 10: After School Program Starts
- October 12: Fire Safety Presentation
- October 16: PAC Meeting at 5:30
- October 20: PD Day - (no school)
- October 31: Halloween Celebrations



Parent Council



Our first meeting was on September 13 and there was a great turn out - almost 20 people joined us in person or virtually to start off our new 2023 - 2024 PAC year!

One of the first orders of business was to **hold elections**. While many members have stayed in their positions, we have some new people joining our ranks!

** designates a new person in the position

- **PAC Chair: Desiree Kaiser**
- **Vice Chair: Brittany Kaiser**
- **Secretary: Mandy Kaiser****
- **Treasurer: Bobbi Pye**
- **Directors: Mirjam Rasmussen, Linzee Kerr, Cheryl Rushton**
- **Fundraising Coordinators: Linzee Kerr, Mindy Lahaie****
- **Hot Lunch Coordinator: Kimberly Bradshaw**

Some of the main topics of discussion at the meeting were:

- **Fundraising:** With the success of last year's fundraiser PAC is able to really pare down the fundraising efforts this year. They **intend to do only 2 or 3 smaller fundraisers throughout the year**. Some ideas so far are a Color Run (spring), some kind of meat fundraiser (we all love meat!), and a soup fundraiser.
- **Hot Lunch:** Kim Bradshaw is able to still coordinate this, but she mentioned that she will need volunteers to actually prepare/serve the hot lunches as she is not able to be there during school hours.

Next meeting: Monday, October 16, 2023 at 5:30

First PAC Fundraiser - Delicious, Homemade Soup!



Our first fundraiser of the year is **tubes of delicious, homemade-tasting soup** - made in nearby Sherwood Park! With the cooler weather on the way, a bowl of soup can be the perfect thing to warm up the body and soothe the soul. So why not buy a variety of savory, easy-to-make homemade soup mixes to have on hand? As you can see by the picture above, there are some **classic favorites as well as some popular other flavors** - lots to choose from! You just need to add water and cook for 20 minutes, and you can serve between 6-8 people. A perfect meal for a busy weeknight or a lazy afternoon.

Forms went home last week and **orders are due on Tuesday, October 31.**

If you have any questions, please contact Linzee Kerr at: 780-231-6704

Safety Patrollers are Trained and Ready to Go!

Though it took us a bit longer than usual to get organized and trained this fall, our new team of Safety Patrollers are ready to go! You will notice two students monitoring and directing pedestrian traffic in the crosswalk at the end of the day. These grade 5 and 6 student leaders have volunteered to help younger students and parents get safely across the street and **would appreciate the help and support from parents in helping them do their job safely**. Here are a few things to keep in mind to help the Safety Patrollers do their best work:

- **PLEASE model using the designated crosswalk** to cross the street if you are picking up your child and need to get to your vehicle on the other side of the road. Though it may be a bit out of your way, it is important that children see that a crosswalk is a safe and visible place to cross the street, especially if they are not with an adult.
- **DO NOT cross between buses!** Though adults can manage this type of maneuver, we don't want to model this as a strategy for children to copy. Crossing between parked vehicles is extremely dangerous as oncoming traffic does not have time to notice someone emerging from between parked cars/buses, and children often do not think about checking both ways before possibly running out from between the vehicles.
- **When you approach the crosswalk** with your child, please **stop and wait for the patroller to say "proceed" before you begin to walk across with your child**. The patrollers are trained to go through a number of steps to make sure traffic is stopped and that they have checked both directions. This may take a few extra moments, and it may even seem unnecessary if you can see the "coast is clear" but please be patient as the students are just following the correct procedure, and we want them to do their jobs correctly to keep kids safe.
- **Talk to your child about these same considerations** - using the designated crosswalk, not crossing between buses or cars, and waiting for the patroller to say the words "proceed" before starting to cross the road.



Thank you for partnering with us to help students stay safe while crossing the road after school!

Get some Breton Elementary “Swag” Whenever you Want!



bretonelementary.entripyshops.com

BES

GET YOUR
OFFICIAL GEAR

We are the official **Breton Elementary School** shop!

Welcome to the official online shopping portal for Breton Elementary School. Enjoy browsing a wide selection of products from a variety of brands that you can then customize with the approved logos and graphics found on the site. Display your pride in fantastic apparel customized entirely by you. Our site lets students, parents, fans, & staff choose from approved merchandise to fit their needs 24/7 with no minimum order quantities.

In years past, especially the two years that student/staff were coming back from school closures and Covid restrictions, PAC offered to purchase school t-shirts for students and staff as a **one-time “pick-me-up” gesture and boost of school spirit.**

However, if you would like your child (or even yourself) to have some great gear that showcases our BES logo, **you can go to the following link and choose any kind of “swag” of your liking** - toques, hoodies, long and short sleeved t-shirts - and you **can even choose the color!** You don't like dark blue? Choose pink or gray or white (or other)...the possibilities are endless!

To check out our “Swag Store” just click on the link below the photo!

<https://bretonelementary.entripyshops.com/>

Protect Your Family with Student Accident Insurance



We all know that accidents can, and do, happen. While your provincial coverage or your employee benefits plan may cover some medical, dental or other expenses related to these accidents, they may not cover all of them. **Student Accident Insurance helps to protect your family from these unexpected costs if your child is injured on school property or during school-sponsored activities.**

The Wild Rose Board of Education provides automatic blanket student accident coverage for all students registered with our school division. This coverage is funded by the Board for those additional insurance needs that can result from a student accident.

[Student Accident Insurance](#) provides a **recovery option for extra costs associated with a student accident**. Examples of more common types of coverage would be for **eyeglasses, ambulance costs, or dental coverage**. Please note that **the parent must pay for the expense of the medical requirement and then request reimbursement** utilizing the claimant form. Please ask the school for the claimant form should a student accident occur that results in additional costs.

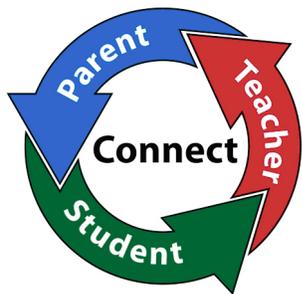
Coverage is **available in three affordable plan options**, for as low as \$17/year (that's just over 4 cents a day!) in **Lite, Plus** and **Premium**. Benefits include:

- Dental treatment
- Damage to eyeglasses or contact lenses
- Ambulance transportation
- Braces, casts, crutches, hearing aids, prosthetics and splints
- Counseling, physiotherapy and tutoring
- Prescription drugs
- Accidental death, total and permanent disability
- **NEW!** Hospital cash allowance for costs associated with extended hospital stays such as parking, television or Wi-Fi in your room, parking, cafeteria meals or babysitting expenses for family members.

Discounts are available for families with 3 or more children. For more policy details or to buy a plan, please visit www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com or call 1-833-560-0527 (toll-free) or 416-916-1588 (local).

****Please note that the insurance agreement is between you and Student Accident Insurance.**

Parent-Teacher Conferences This November



Typically, our school does “touch base” parent-teacher conferences about a **month before our first report card**. This gives teachers a chance to meet with parents to discuss their observations, as well as areas of strength and growth, for their child, before the first report card comes out. The intent of these “pre-report card” conferences is to **give parents a snapshot of what teachers are noticing so far** in regards to their child’s progress. This allows for collaboration around support strategies and also prevents any “surprises” on the first report card.

While in the past (pre-Covid) we had these interviews in mid to late October, we have been noticing that it has been taking students longer to settle in, get used to routines, establish what previous knowledge is present and then finally start learning new concepts. So we once again have **decided to host these conferences in early November - Monday, November 6 and Tuesday, November 7**. By this point students are settled and there has been time to start making real progress in new learning outcomes. **Areas of strength and growth** can be identified, as well as discussion on **ways parents can support their child**. This allows another month of learning and support before the first report card comes out in early December.

Conferences will be **offered in 2 formats - in person or by phone**. All interviews, regardless of format, are **booked online through our School Interview Services site**. A note with instructions on when/how to do this will be sent home later this month.

No Drop Off in Bus Lanes OR Parking Lot Please!



We are still experiencing some confusion about where kids can be dropped off for school in the mornings. **Please read the following carefully!**

***The **bus loading/unloading zone** is located along the front sidewalk of the school between the crosswalk all the way to the museum. **DO NOT USE THE BUS AREA TO DROP OFF YOUR CHILD, EVEN IF THERE ARE NO BUSES PRESENTLY IN THAT ZONE!** This area is off limits to vehicles in the morning.

If you are dropping off your child, **please pull up along the curb in front of the school**, or you can stop on the other side of the street and your child can cross in the designated crosswalk area.

Also **PLEASE DO NOT PULL INTO THE PARKING LOT TO DROP OFF YOUR CHILD - THIS IS NOT A DROP OFF ZONE!** Please drop off your child in front of the school.

Family Wellness is Here for You!

The following is a message from our Family Wellness Worker - Mrs. Jennifer Olson-Ross

I hope you and your family had a fund and relaxing summer break and that students and families were happy to be able to return to school this year.

As the Family Wellness Worker at Breton Elementary and Breton High School, I want families to feel free to contact me if they are having concerns with their child, or with how to support their child.

The Family Wellness program is a voluntary program that provides emotional, behavioural and social support to students and their families. The program is free, and available to families with children aged 5 - 19 years old, who are enrolled in the Breton community schools.

The program specifically helps with student emotional regulation, connection, verbal expression and communication and skill-building, as well as provides parent support such as information, resources, and community referrals.



Please reach out to us if you have any questions or would like more information on how we can support you or your child.

Mrs. Ross (FWW)

Ms. Holmgren (FWW Assistant)

After School Program Starting Soon!

Our fall After-School Program will be **starting on Tuesday, October 10** and run for 6 weeks (excluding October 31, which is Halloween).

This program is **open to students in grades 1-3**, but **space is limited to 20 students**. **Preference will be given to students who were unable to participate in the spring session last year, in order to try to be fair. The program runs from **3:05 - 5:00**. Registration forms are being sent home this week.



Dropping Students Off in the Morning

Just a reminder that our school day doesn't start until 8:25 and **all students need to stay outside until then, even our Kindergarten and PreK students**. Now that our little ones have settled in and know where their classroom is, etc. **parents can walk them to the front area of the school** (by the benches) where they can **set down their backpacks and go and play**. Before 8:25 we cannot guarantee that teachers are in classrooms to supervise students (as they are often prepping materials, etc), so we need students to be outside where the supervisors can watch over them. Thank you!



Breton Youth Center - Now Open to Grade 6!

A yellow background with a black outline of a sign. At the top, there are four white stars and a black wavy line. The word "ATTENTION" is written in large, bold, black letters inside a white rounded rectangle. Below this, two blue megaphones with red handles are positioned on either side of the text. The text inside the sign reads: "Welcome to the Breton Youth Centre!", "Our Mission is: To provide a safe, supportive place for youth in grades 6-12 that live in Breton and the surrounding area.", "The Breton Youth Centre is located at the Carolyn Strand Civic Centre (same building as the library) - downstairs.", "All our events are supported by screened volunteers and service organizations such as Family Resource Network, The Drayton Valley Youth Hub, AHS, WRSD and FCSS.", and "If you would like to learn more or volunteer please contact us!". At the bottom of the sign, there is a white heart with black outlines and radiating lines. The background of the sign has a yellow and white striped pattern.

ATTENTION

Welcome to the Breton Youth Centre!

Our Mission is:
To provide a safe, supportive place for youth in grades 6-12 that live in Breton and the surrounding area.

The Breton Youth Centre is located at the Carolyn Strand Civic Centre (same building as the library) - downstairs.

All our events are supported by screened volunteers and service organizations such as Family Resource Network, The Drayton Valley Youth Hub, AHS, WRSD and FCSS.

If you would like to learn more or volunteer please contact us!

EMAIL: BRETONYOUTHCENTRE@GMAIL.COM
PHONE: 780-202-0635

Important Reminder for Parent Portal/Demographic Forms



Please remember to log into your Parent Portal account to complete your demographic forms for each of your children. We are no longer sending home paper copies for parents to complete. If you **need help** logging in or completing the form, please **contact Miss Shannon at the office at 780-696-3555.**

Fire Safety Week



October is Fire Safety month, and specifically, **Fire Safety Week is October 9 - 13.**

The Breton Fire Department will be coming out on **Thursday, October 12** to give presentations to K-6 students.

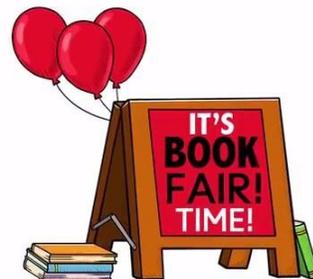
Students are encouraged to create fire escape floor plans, showing **TWO** ways to get out. **Students who complete and hand in a fire escape plan will receive a treat!**

Book Fair Coming!

Good news! Our new Learning Commons Facilitator, Mrs. Shokoples, is planning on **bringing the Book Fair to Breton Elementary this fall!**

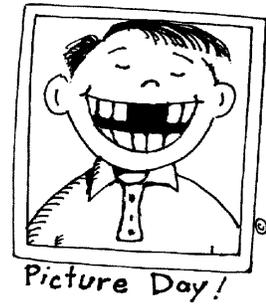
We will **also be offering an online link** to our Book Fair, so parents can order books directly from Scholastic and still support our school library.

Dates have not yet been finalized, but will be in late October or early November - (hopefully during Parent/Teacher interviews if possible). **Once we know for sure, notices will be sent home.**



School Photo Day!

Photos will be taken for all students on **Monday, October 2** in the morning. We would appreciate 1 or 2 parent volunteers to go and get the next class in line, as well as help notice and fix student appearance before the photo (stray hair, crooked tie, etc). If you think you could help between 9:00 and 11:30 please contact the school office. **Kindergarten students can be brought in by parents for photos first thing in the morning if possible (9:00) and then taken back home**, or parents can choose to wait until the “retake day” which is on Thursday, November 2.



Halloween Celebrations and School-Friendly Costumes



Halloween is on a Monday this year, so our **classroom celebrations can occur on Monday, October 31**. (Teachers will be making arrangements for how their own students will celebrate that day, and will notify parents of anything they need to know).

And in the spirit of keeping Halloween “**child friendly**” and making sure our school feels “**safe and caring**” we are **asking parents to PLEASE use discretion** when choosing which costume your child wears to school. **Blood, gore, and scary masks are very frightening for our younger students**, and in the past we have had young children too afraid to use the bathrooms or go into the hallways for fear of seeing some of these scary costumes. These are not the Halloween memories we want to create here at BES. So **please save the “scary” costumes for evening trick-or-treating**, and **send your child in an appropriate Halloween costume so everyone can enjoy this fun day!**

Breton Elementary Thanks:

Breton Elementary would love to thank the **groups/individuals who have generously donated to our breakfast and lunch programs** to help us provide food for our kiddos:



- Breton Ag Society - \$3000
- Individual Donation - \$3000
- Individual Donation - \$10

Contact Us: Breton Elementary School, Box 220, Breton, AB, T0C 0P0

Phone: 780-696-3555

Email: michelle.feist@wrsd.ca shannon.johnson@wrsd.ca

Follow us on Facebook at Breton Elementary School to keep up with news and events at BES!

