



# CATALINE ELEMENTARY

## FEBRUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

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(250) 392-7154

January 31, 2025

### Partners in Attendance

Parents play an important role in the education of their children. Their involvement and encouragement can help a child excel. Other family members and friends also play a key role in making sure students understand why they need to attend school to succeed. A success in school starts with regular attendance from the early years right through high school completion. Did you know that even as early as Kindergarten, chronic absenteeism makes it more difficult to learn? Parents and schools can work together to find solutions that support children's success in learning. Please contact your teacher or the school if looking for attendance support.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and practice good hygiene (e.g. handwashing)
- Be in regular communication with your child's teachers.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-urgent related medical appointments and extended trips when school is not in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers and school, and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If your child must stay home due to illness, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

Please support your child as a Cataline attendance **HERO**:  
**Here** at school, **Everyday**, **Ready** to learn, **On** time

### Safe Arrival Program

Please use the SafeArrival program to report your child's absence. There are 3 convenient methods:

1. SchoolMessenger app from Apple App or Google play stores:  
<https://go.schoolmessenger.com>
2. Safe Arrival website:  
<https://go.schoolmessenger.com>
3. Toll free number: 1-833-582-6894

**\*\*If you are picking up your child early from school – please DO NOT report this on the app. Please send a message to your child's teacher via their agenda.**

### PAC News

Next PAC meeting will be Monday February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 in the library.

### **New Fundraiser that will be running year-round!!**

Use **Flipgive** when doing your online shopping and help earn money for our PAC! Digital Gift cards can also be bought and used for yourself or sent as gifts! **Download the APP Flipgive** and use team code **7SYLDR** or use the following link to register and start shopping  
[https://www.flipgive.com/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0BMQABHVCL7wDUTm1cov4rOC1ynfTABSErCLFfswN4HbcQwXrjGUASQjfeVlxveA\\_aem\\_umlH0JFMVlw3Q-ugJqFfGg](https://www.flipgive.com/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0BMQABHVCL7wDUTm1cov4rOC1ynfTABSErCLFfswN4HbcQwXrjGUASQjfeVlxveA_aem_umlH0JFMVlw3Q-ugJqFfGg) using team code **7SYLDR**.

### Munch a Lunch

All orders for March lunches are to be completed no later than Feb 21 @ 2:55 pm

Paper order forms will be available in the office.

Parents, please use this link to order or to register:  
<https://munchalunch.com/login>

Please follow us on Facebook:  
[Cataline Elementary School P.A.C.](#)

### School Food Program

Our school prepares a simple breakfast each day before school in the prep room from 8:30 am - 8:55 am for those students who may need a little extra nutritional support in the morning. Lunch food is also available every day for students who need a lunch, have forgotten a lunch or need a healthy top-up.

If your family needs support with lunches, please contact the office: [dwayne.benvin@sd27.bc.ca](mailto:dwayne.benvin@sd27.bc.ca) or [tess.riley@sd27.bc.ca](mailto:tess.riley@sd27.bc.ca)

**This confidentially ensures that all students have access to this lunch program.**

**Please check in with your child if they are bringing enough lunch each day.**

### Interschool Sports

#### Basketball Season

The basketball season is in a full court press. Games have begun this week. Games are after school:



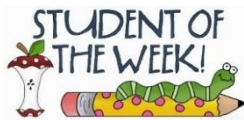
**Monday: Grade 5 boys**

**Tuesday: Grade 6 boys**

**Wednesday: Grade 5 girls**

**Thursday: Grade 6 girls**

**Good Luck Cataline Ballers!!**



**Jan 14: Mrs. Smith nominated Harper Bertoli**

**Jan 20: Ms. Bilkhu nominated Emiko Li**

**Jan 27: Ms. Jen B nominated Oscar Fraleigh**



**Jan 10: Grayson Middleton, Darby Andrews, Haisley Quigley**

**Jan 17: Lucas Quigley, Graham Ranson, Addisyn Anderson**

**Jan 31: Emely Burse, Jay Tanguay, McCoy Russell**

### Volunteering

If you are interested in volunteering with field trips or working with children without direct vision of a teacher, it is school board policy that you have a criminal record check done. Criminal record checks are good for 5 years and are FREE of charge.

Here is the online link: <https://justice.gov.bc.ca/eCRC/>

Access code: **JUV5QFPLWC**

**\*\*Only use the "Internet Explorer" browser. If you are having difficulties with the system, please call 1-855-587-0185 and choose option 2\*\***

### Newsletters

In addition to communication from your child's teacher, a monthly school newsletter and calendar will be emailed to you on the first day of every month. The newsletter will also be posted on our school's district website: **Cataline Elementary (sd27.bc.ca)** and on our school's Facebook page. Please mark it on your calendar to check the newsletter monthly for important information.

### **Kindergarten Registration**

Kindergarten Registration for 2025/2026 school year opens January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025. School District #27 will be using the MyEducation BC **online registration** process for kindergarten student registration for the 2025/2026 school year.

Children must be five years of age by December 31, 2025. Children presently enrolled in kindergarten do not need to re-register for Grade One.

The following documents **are required** at registration and must be uploaded with your on-line registration:

1. Birth Certificate or passport
2. BC Care card – both sides are required
3. Two pieces of proof of physical address **are required** ie. Mortgage statement, rental agreement, hydro bill. **\*\*Driver's license or BCID or Care Cared are second pieces only.**

Please note: Registration is not complete until all documents required are received.

For more information, please go to our the SD27 website: [sd27.bc.ca/CATALINE](https://sd27.bc.ca/CATALINE)

If you wish to have your child attend a school that is not your catchment school, a School of Choice application **MUST** be completed after registration has been submitted at the catchment school.

**Online School of Choice applications will be available on January 27, 2025.**  
**School of Choice deadline is March 12, 2025**

### **Sledding**

Students using the sliding hill **MUST** wear snow gear. Cataline has crazy carpets for student use, and a class set of foam slides for teachers to sign out. However, students may bring their own crazy carpets from home (please label).

### **Used Helmets**

If you have any used helmets that are too small or not being used, we are always looking for extra gear that is in good condition. Donations can be dropped off at the office. Thank-You to many of our parents and community partners who have donated skates and helmets. These have truly helped our skating program and have been well used!

### **Starfish Backpack program**

Starfish backpack program is sponsored by the Daybreak Rotary Club of Williams Lake with the support of many community donors and volunteers. This program provides support to families in need with food over the weekend. Each student is provided with a backpack with sufficient food for the weekend. If you or anyone you know could benefit from this program, please contact the office. A huge thank you to the Williams Lake Rotary Club for this support.

### **Preparedness**

Please ensure your child comes to school with a good healthy lunch. If students are not finished eating in the 15-minute eating block, they are welcome to take their unwrapped food outside to finish. We are strongly encouraging “naked snacks”: Let’s keep our playground litter free!

A Cariboo winter is finally upon us, and wintery weather has arrived. PLEASE ensure your child has a warm jacket and footwear as recess and lunch breaks are outside unless the temperature is deemed too cold by administration (wind chill is taken into consideration). Generally, *if it is colder than -15, students are permitted to stay inside.* Reminder, this is a guideline and not a hard and fast rule.

If it is an inside morning or recess and the decision is made to bring students inside, we will post it on the front door and office window.

Hopefully we do not have many inside days throughout the year as I would rather have students outside during play wherever feasible.

If you need assistance or support in clothing your child for the winter conditions, please reach out to the school. We want the students to be fully prepared for winter conditions.

### **Family Handbook & Code of Conduct**

Please check our school website under “About Us” to locate and save this important information. **Paper copies are also available at the school office.**

### **Strong Start**

Parents interested in attending Strong Start are invited to register at the office (please bring your child’s birth certificate and care card). We offer Strong Start 5 days a week from 9:00 am – noon. Strong Start programs provide a rich learning environment designed for early learning development-language, physical, cognitive, social, and emotional. Mrs. Schindle leads learning activities where children find opportunities to make friends and interact with others of similar ages.

Participate with your young child (aged birth to five) in play-based learning activities – including stories, music, and art. At no cost to families, this early learning drop-in program helps prepare children for success in kindergarten.

### **Grade 5 Pass**

Did you know... The Cariboo Memorial Complex offers a program for every grade five student in the Central Cariboo Recreation Taxation Area, a free membership for the duration of their grade five year. The Grade Five pass includes free admission to the following:

- ❖ **Everyone Welcome Swims**
- ❖ **Rec Swims**
- ❖ **Toonie Swims**
- ❖ **Public Skates**

Just bring in your child’s birth certificate and a proof of residency to get your free pass. For more information contact the Cariboo Memorial Complex at (250) 398-7665.

### **Drop off and pick up**

A reminder that all vehicles in the pick-up loop must have engines turned off when picking up or dropping off your children. **This is an idle-free zone** even in the winter and cold weather.

Please move forward as space opens to keep congestion to a minimum. The left lane in the loop is to be left open so you can pull out once your child is safely in the car. If you need to get out of your vehicle, please park in the parking lot adjacent to the bus loop.

***Please avoid blocking the intersection of Blair St and 11<sup>th</sup> Ave during afternoon pick up. We need to respect our neighbors and make room for the school buses to pass. Waiting until after 3 pm to pick up your child is a viable option as this lessens congestion and most often, the parking lot is free and clear.***

### **Communication Protocol**

Communication between home and school is vital to your child's/children education. Teachers communicate about classroom learning and events through letters home, newsletter, emails, phone calls and your child's agenda.

To make arrangements for a meeting with a teacher, please contact the teacher. If you have concerns about anything having to do with your child's experience at school:

**First:** contact your child's teacher to share information, review the problem and discuss a resolution

**Second:** if, after meeting with the teacher, the problem is unresolved or you are dissatisfied with the resolution, contact the principal or vice-principal.

We will work with you and the teacher to resolve the problem or refer you to someone who can be of greater assistance. Please feel free to call the school and make an appointment to address any concerns at all.

## Upcoming Field Trips

Feb 4	Ms. Allan – Swimming	10:30-11:30
Feb 4	Mrs. Tomlinson/Mrs. Hopkins – Skating	12:30-2:30
Feb 5	Mrs. Smith – Swimming	1:00 – 2:00
Feb 6	Mr. Wilson – Swimming	10:30-11:30
Feb 13	Mrs. Tomlinson/Mrs. Hopkins – Bull Mountain cross country skiing	9:00 – 2:00
Feb 18	Mrs. Smith/Mrs. Serrano - Skating	10:00 – 11:00
Feb 20	Gr 5/6 – Ski Trip to Mt. Timothy	7:15 – 5:00
Feb 21	Ms. Bonnell – Swimming	1:00 – 2:00
Feb 26	Ms. Riley – Swimming	10:30 – 11:30
Feb 26	Mrs. Hansen/Mrs. Sache/Mrs. Bamsey Skating	10:30-11:30
Feb 28	Ms. Bonnell – Swimming	1:00-2:00



CATALINE ELEMENTARY has a Facebook page: Cataline Elementary School  
or check the website <https://www.sd27.bc.ca/CATALINE>

## HOW TECHNOLOGY USE CAN AFFECT ATTENDANCE

In a world where children are “growing up digital,” it’s important to help them learn about healthy digital use so that they are safe and healthy, and so they are able to attend school regularly, on-time, and ready to learn. *Parents are especially important in teaching these skills.*

### **Make your own family media use plan.**

Technologies should work for your family. When used thoughtfully and appropriately, media can enhance daily life. But when used inappropriately or without thought, it can displace many important activities such as face-to-face interactions, family-time, outdoor-play, exercise, unplugged downtime and sleep. Some ideas for a technology use plan are outlined on the following page.

### **Remember:**

Children who get enough sleep have a healthier immune system, and better school performance, behaviour, memory, and mental health.



<b>1-3 Years Old</b>	12 - 14 hours per day
<b>3-6 Years Old</b>	10 - 12 hours per day
<b>7-12 Years Old</b>	10 - 11 hours per day
<b>12-18 Years Old</b>	8 - 9 hours per day

## FAMILY MEDIA USE PLAN



### SCREEN FREE ZONES

Keeping screens outside the bedroom can be very beneficial.

- Incoming messages and calls will interfere with sleep; both audio and vibrating alerts can wake up children and teens.
- It is good to help children avoid the temptation to use or check devices when they should be sleeping - during the night or too early in the morning
- Emitted light from TVs or mobile screens can affect the quality of your child's sleep.

### Our Plan

Mobile devices and TVs are not allowed in the following screen-free zones in our home:

- At the table where we eat
- In bedrooms
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### SCREEN-FREE TIMES

Using a mobile device or watching TV before bed can interfere with a child's sleep. When using screens in the evening:

- Turn the brightness on the screen down
- Don't play or watch media that are intense or scary

### Our Plan

Mobile devices and TVs are not allowed:

- One hour before bedtime
- At dinner time
- At breakfast when I should be getting ready for school
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### SCREEN-FREE SICK DAYS

Some children and teens may want to stay at home so they can use their screens.

### Our Plan

Mobile devices and TVs are not allowed:

- When we stay home on a regular school day