**Welcome Back Cataline Families!**

September is finally upon us, and we at Cataline are excited for students to return to school for the 2024-2025 school year. Welcome to the new to us families! Please find included in this newsletter important information regarding school start-up.

**We look forward to welcoming new and returning students on Wednesday, September 4th. This is an early dismissal day and students will be dismissed at 11:20am. Buses will run as usual on this early dismissal schedule beginning at 11:27am.**

All students will be starting the first day in their 2024-2025 classroom. Class lists will be posted on the exterior doors with direction about which entrance each class will use. A master copy of all lists will be posted on the office window. We anticipate minimal changes to the lists, but urge our school community to be aware that some changes may be made after the first day based on registration and enrollment. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Grades 1 – 6 children need to only bring their indoor shoes, snack and water bottle for the first day of classes. Teachers will be distributing student supplies throughout the school year.

Note: Kindergarten students follow a graduated entry schedule as communicated by the Kindergarten teachers. If you need a reminder about your Kindergartener’s schedule, please contact the school directly.

**Bell Schedule:**

Start Time: 8:55am

Recess: 10:25 – 10:40am

Lunch: 12:10 – 12:55pm

Dismissal: 2:55pm

**Student Pick-up / Drop-off**

*Parents are required to remain in their vehicle in the pick-up line.* Pulling ahead reduces congestion on the streets above Cataline. **Please turn off your engines.** The left lane will be left open so you can pull out once your child is safely in the car. Students will not be released to their parent’s vehicle until the vehicle is alongside the barriers. Students wait next to the gymnasium entrance for parents to arrive. Parking for student pick up is located in the lower lot adjacent the field.

**Bus Registration for the 2024-2025 School Year:**

New and returning bus students all must be registered for their school bus route in order to ride the bus. Please register with the bus garage: **QR Code - >**

Link: [Formfinder (transfinder.com)](https://sd27.transfinder.com/formfinder/Survey.html?c=sd27&t=58d49fb55k7g)

**Newsletters:**

Monthly school newsletters and calendars will be posted to the school district website [Cataline Elementary (sd27.bc.ca)](https://www.sd27.bc.ca/CATALINE), as well as emailed to parents at the end of each month. We also have a school Facebook page that I would encourage you to join as it is used regularly and has very timely news, shares about learning, and celebrations (**Cataline Elementary School**). Please ensure you contact the school to confirm we have your most up to date email address and phone numbers.

**Media Consent:**

A media consent form will come home with your child the first week of September. Please note that if you give authorization to the school to share images of your child, they may appear on our website or Facebook page. Please consider this when signing and returning forms.

**PAC (Parent Advisory Council):**

A strong relationship between the school and parents is very important in a child’s education, and one way of being involved with the school is to be a member of the PAC. Last year’s PAC was an energetic and dedicated group, who diligently and compassionately supported our school greatly. This was very much appreciated. With your help, we hope this strong partnership continues this upcoming school year. We strongly encourage your involvement as all parents are invited to attend Cataline PAC meetings.

**Safe Arrival Program:**

We will continue to use the School Messenger safe arrival program/app. It is a downloadable and free app in the Apple or Google Play store. If your child is going to be absent or late, please call: **1-833-582-6944** and follow the prompts. **Please do not call the school to report an absence.**

**School Supplies:**

School supply fees are $40 and can be paid at the office anytime or you can e-transfer *(Please ensure your child’s name is included in the memo line)*

cat.finance@sd27.bc.ca

**StrongStart**

Parents interested in attending Strong Start with Mrs. Norma Schindle are invited to register at the office. We are offering Strong Start 5 days a week from 9am – noon. Strong Start is a parent/tot learning opportunity.

**Upcoming Important Dates:**

* Tuesday September 3, 2024: No School for Students, District Day
* Wednesday September 4, 2024: First Day for Students (in grades 1-6) **Early Dismissal 11:20am**
* Thursday September 5, 2024: First full day for Students (in grades 1-6)
* Monday September 9, 2024: First day of school breakfast and lunch program (more info in the September newsletter)
* Friday September 20, 2024: Cataline Terry Fox Run
* Monday September 23, 2024: No School for Students, **Pro-D Day**
* Monday September 30, 2024: No School, **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**

We look forward to starting off the year in a good way. Please reach out if you have questions, updates, or concerns.

Dwayne Benvin – Principal

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Tess Riley – Vice-Principal

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