

Big Lake Elementary School

Thursday, September 29, 2022



Farm Harvest Field Trip

Thank you to Shannon Zirnhelt for planting pumpkins for our students last Spring to harvest this Fall. We will be going to her home in Beaver Valley Monday, October 3rd to participate in this fun Fall activity and other outdoor nature education. If you have not already done so, please read, sign and return the permission form for Monday. Remember, we will be returning in

“reverse bus order.”

Harvest Soup

On Tuesday, October 4th, we will have a free hot lunch of harvest soup, made with fresh local veggies. Thanks again to Shannon Zirnhelt!

Cross Country Run

The District Cross Country Run will be held Friday, October 7th. Students who are interested in running have been training with Mrs. Chaffee at lunch. If your child has signed up to run, you will receive a permission form soon. We will need volunteer drivers for this event. Anyone able to drive students, other than their own child(ren), will need to complete the District form, provide a criminal record check and driver's abstract.



Seasonal Colds

As you know, we have had many students out with colds already this month. Our direction at the moment is:

please keep your child home until symptoms subside then it is fine to send them back to school. As usual, we appreciate a phone call if your child will not be in school.

Terry Fox Run

Our annual run saw perfect weather and the students did a fabulous job running around the field. A shout out to all our runners and to Kell who ran the most laps and was awarded the Terry Fox t-shirt. Great Job Everyone! If you have any paper donation forms and funds at home, please send in now.

Phone Tree

The phone tree was sent home yesterday. On the reverse it shows our reverse bus order for field trips happening East of Big Lake. Please discard any previous copies and keep this one handy, as usual, instructions are on the bottom of the form.



Parents Advisory Council
Wednesday, Oct 5th @ 3.30pm
PAC is sponsoring a back-to-school mixer for parents. It will be a fun way to reconnect, especially after these last couple of years of reduced socialising. We also look forward to welcoming new families to our Big Lake family, we can't wait to get to know you better! After school sports end at 3:10pm, so your kids and their younger siblings are invited to join in the festivities too. Food and refreshments will be provided. Just bring yourselves!

Our next PAC meeting is **Thursday, Oct 13th at 2:15 pm** at the school. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. We will also be looking to fill some executive positions, if you would like more

information contact Shannon at 250-243-2321.

School Photos

School photo day is Thursday, October 13th starting at 10 am. Lori Snodgrass will be taking our photos again this year. Pre-school siblings are welcome to have pictures taken too and should be here by 10 am. Weather permitting, photos will be taken outside. The cost per child is \$25 (cheques should be payable directly to the photographer). Each family will receive an edited picture of each child on one USB stick. You will then be able to take this to a developer of your choice (London Drugs, Costco and Shutterfly are available online and will mail your photos to you.) If your child is away on picture day, you may reschedule with Mrs. Snodgrass directly 243-2363. An order form is attached, to help us keep organized.

Lunch Time

In an effort to encourage all students to eat their lunch, they remain inside, seated from 11:45- 12 noon. Thereafter, they go outside to enjoy 30 minutes of play time.

We have some small bikes here which the kids can ride at lunch time in the ice rink area when weather conditions are safe to do so. Students must be able to ride a bike safely and wear their helmet to participate. We are also looking for donations of larger bikes for the older students.

Soup Fundraiser

As it was so well received last year, we are again partnering with Sister's Soup Factory from Prince George selling their gourmet, all natural "dried soups in bags." Soup order forms were sent home last week, if you need extra, please either copy yourself or call the school to have some sent home. Order forms are due to the school with payment by October 12th. Please have any

cheques made out to the school. We will pick up our order in November and thereafter school families will be responsible for delivering soup to their customers.

BLCA Wood Bee

On Saturday, October 15th, the Community Association will be holding a wood gathering work bee starting at 10 am. The work bee usually lasts about 3 hours and a free lunch is provided.

We are in desperate need of workers for this event. Please bring yourselves, your children, and your friends. Mrs. Chaffee will once again supervise children in the school yard if they tire out from packing wood. If you have can, bring chain saws, wheel barrows, wood splitters & dump trailers along with your work gloves. We all enjoy the use of our amazing community hall and helping to keep it warm in the winter fosters good community spirit in our children. We look forward to seeing you.



JOBS AVAILABLE: Snow Removal

The tender form for the snow removal contract is now out. If you are interested in applying to do the snow plowing and sanding at the school, give us a call and we'll send home the form.

We need to hire a casual employee to shovel & snow blow our sidewalks & stairs as needed. Please spread the word, interested parties should contact Ms. Small at the school.

Additionally, we are looking for one or two casual (on-call) noon hour supervisors. If you are interested in this, again please contact Ms. Small at the school.

Pre-school Playgroup

Once again, the School District is offering a playgroup for pre-school children and their parents. This will take place every second Monday from 9 am to 11 am at the Hall, starting October 17th. Shay Dyer will again be our facilitator. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact her at 250-243-2084. Please spread the word, this is an excellent opportunity for moms and tots to get out and meet other community members and have some fun.



Halloween Celebration

Our Halloween Celebration will be at the Hall on Monday, Oct 31st at 1 pm. Parents and preschoolers are welcome to join us this year. As usual, students may come to school in costume. Remember, school district policy states that costumes may not include any weapons (real or fake.) Reminder for November – please send only 1 Halloween treat to school each day. Thanks!

Our Big Lake Volunteer Fire /Rescue Ladies Auxillary will be hosting a Fireworks display again this year on Halloween night at the Fire Hall.

Skating Rink

There has been some interest in repairing and reviving our school ice rink. A community member, Kelly Burnham is spear heading this committee. Watch for announcements in the community newsletter and/or on the Big Lake Community Facebook page.

Head Lice

Head lice are a common occurrence in schools. The Board of Education endorses the Interior Health Authority's protocols for the control and treatment of head lice. Please keep watch for infestations and remind your child to avoid

sharing head wear. If we notice lice on your child, you will be contacted directly, we no longer send out notices to everyone.



Hot Lunches

Through Community Links funding and PAC support, we plan to have 1 or 2 hot lunches per month. The first will be our Harvest Soup on October 4th. There is no charge for these lunches. Stay tuned for an email from PAC to sign up to help out with preparing these lunches.

School Supplies

All students should bring a **WATER BOTTLE** to school **every day!** Please put their name on it, they may fill it at school if necessary.

Students may also want to keep an extra pair of outdoor athletic shoes in their backpack if they are not wearing runners to school. PE is often outside and they also need them for "after school sports."

If you have not already done so, please send the \$30 for your child's supplies. We will send an email reminder to those families still needing to send this in if it has not arrived by mid-October.

VTRA

Please see the back side of our October calendar for information on Student Violence Threat Risk Assessment provided by the District. We are committed to creating and maintaining a school environment where everyone feels safe.

