



école Nesika Elementary School

School District No. 27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin)

Principal – Mrs. Holly Zurak
Vice-Principal – Mrs. Heather McKinnon

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September Newsletter

Welcome Back from your Principals: Welcome back to a new school year! We are looking forward to having your children back for an exciting year of learning. Welcome to all our returning students and a special welcome to our new students and families. Mrs. McKinnon and I wish your family all the best, and we look forward to connecting with you throughout the year! - Mrs. Holly Zurak, Principal

All Good Things Begin with Gratitude:

Thank you to all of our staff who diligently worked to welcome students back to school, making sure all classrooms are welcoming and safe spaces. A special thanks to our custodians Roxanne and Michael who did incredible work cleaning the school over the summer months.

Communication & Reminders:

SD27 Website: Our school has a website! Check out the Nesika page and bookmark it at: <https://www.sd27.bc.ca/nes>. Newsletters will be emailed home the first day of each month. They can be viewed at any time on the school district website

You can also find us on Facebook: @EcoleNesikaElementary - This is a good resource to check for new or updated school celebrations of school community and culture.

Safe Arrival Program: Nesika will continue to use the student absence reporting system called “SafeArrival”. If you need help with the program, please call our office. If you have a message for your child – please use the child’s agenda to communicate the after school plan to your child and their teacher. This helps us cut down on calls to the office. Thank you!



Code of Conduct: The Nesika Code of Conduct was reviewed at our September Assembly by Mrs. Zurak. Families should review the Code of Conduct and the Family Handbook located on our school website. Both documents have been sent out via email as well. Hard copies are available in the office as needed. Our revised Code of Conduct frames all behaviour as communication, with the Circle of Courage at the center. This is a strength based, resilience-focused approach rooted in the principle that to be emotionally healthy, all youth need a sense of belonging, mastery, independence, and generosity. Please review at home with with your whole family. Common language supports our collective good work.

Student Verification Packages: A package of forms has gone home with each child. Please **DO NOT** separate the pages. Return entire package back to your child’s teacher. Please review carefully and make any changes necessary right on the form, **sign and date the last page**. It is important that email addresses and telephone numbers are current.

Drop off and Pick up: When dropping off or picking up your child after school, please wait outside the school for your child rather than in the hallway or the boot room as they are very busy areas. **A reminder that the car loop is for moving vehicles ONLY please do not park to stay or leave your vehicle.**

School Food Program: We are pleased to continue to offer a school food program for students who need it. Every classroom receives a “Brain Food Bin” each morning with some grab and go food items. At recess time, a staff member will ask who in each classroom needs a full lunch, or a healthy top-up (additional lunch snack). The staff member then prepares *that many* lunches and top-ups for the day. It is important that students who need this program self-advocate and sign up each day as needed. There is no cost to this program, and no need to contact the school office. If you’re interested in helping with our program or have any questions, please contact Holly in the office.

Mark your Calendars / Events:

PAC Meeting: The September PAC meeting is this Tuesday September 17th from 5:30pm-6:30pm in the library – all parents/guardians welcome! There will be a meeting for any parents/guardians interested in helping with Hot Lunch immediately preceding from 5:00-5:30. Contact: nesikapac@hotmail.com if you are unable to make the meeting but would like to help out with the Hot Lunch Program. **This program needs volunteers in order to run effectively.**

Terry Fox Run: Nesika’s Terry Fox run will be scheduled for Friday September 20th, at 1:30pm. Families are welcome to run with us. This year’s theme is #NoMatterWhat. Our online fundraising link can be accessed here: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/NesikaElementary>

Apple Fundraiser: Once again we are happy to offer 20lb boxes of Okanagan apples to sell to families as a school fundraiser. The due date for order forms is **Friday September 20th**. Hard copies of the order forms are available at the office. Good news! We now accept e-transfer!

Pro-D Day (Monday September 23) – No School for Students.

Photo Day: Individual student photos will be taken by Right Photography on **Tuesday October 1st**. There is no fee for students to have their photo taken. A proof will come home and you can decide at that time if you want to purchase photos. Please do not send money on photo day. Class photos take place in the spring.

Orange Shirt Day: Our school will recognize Orange Shirt Day on Friday September 27th as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Please wear orange! T-shirts have been purchased for our new Kinderpals.

Monday September 30th is a STAT – No school in session.

Cross-Country Run: Nesika students athletes in grades 3-6 (who practice with the team) can participate in the annual Cross-Country Run on Friday October 11th. Interested students will bring home a permission form later in September. Practices will begin soon.

Volleyball: Inter-school sports for our grade 5/6 athletes begins with volleyball! The volleyball season begins later in October and practices will begin near the start of that month. Thank you to Ms. Therrien, M Routtu, Mr. Wallin and Mme Easthope who will help with practices and coaching. 😊

School Clubs: Lunch hour clubs are another way students can connect to our school community and feel a sense of belonging. We are beginning to develop a list and calendar for school clubs. If you or a family member have a passion to contribute, please contact our vice-principal Heather McKinnon heather.mckinnon@sd27.bc.ca to put your idea and time forward!