



Bert Ambrose Elementary School

(PRN, School District #60)

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STRIVING TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE OUR POTENTIAL FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

February 10, 2015

Another month has come and gone quickly. We hope that your Family Day long weekend included lots of family fun. Our basketball teams have been working hard and showing great improvement. Our read across Canada contest was a great success – thanks to Mrs. Hartman for organizing this. We hope that students and families keep on reading even though our contest is over.

Jump Rope for Heart

Our Jump Rope for Heart event will take place on Friday, February 13th. Students will have times in the gym to show their skipping talent. Thanks in advance for all the work done by students and families to collect pledges for a great cause and to Mrs. Barr and Mrs. London's classes for organizing this event. Students are asked to return all pledge envelopes, even if they didn't collect any pledges.

Kindergarten

We are accepting registrations for our September 2015 Kindergarten class. If you have not already registered, please stop by the office and fill in a registration form. Please bring your child's birth certificate and a proof of address (utility bill, city bill or rental/mortgage agreement that includes your name and the physical address where you live).

Student Illness/lates

If your child will be away from school, please call in to let us know – this saves Mrs. Selin time in doing our check each morning. With lots of different illnesses going around lately, we also ask that you keep your child at home if they are ill to avoid spreading this unnecessarily. Students arriving late need to check in at the office. A reminder that students arriving late are missing important instruction – please try to ensure that your child is ready to start the day on a positive note by arriving in a timely manner.

Family Vacations

Every year we are approached by an increasing number of parents who wish to take their child(ren) out of school for extended periods of time. Usually this is for reasons associated with family plans or family business. We do not have a procedure for granting students a "leave of absence". Rather it is assumed that parents will make decisions in the best interest of their own child. We are respectful of the fact that many of our families have family members that live far away, and spending time with them is important. Difficulties arise, however, when parents wish to have some reassurance that their child will not be "behind" in classroom work. If your child misses school for extended periods of time, they will be "behind" in classroom work. Students may well have other cultural travel experiences that

contribute to their overall development, but the many varied daily classroom activities they will miss cannot be duplicated by worksheets or workbooks. We are not in the position to provide assignments for children who have extended absences due to family plans. Rather we suggest the following activities to assist with planning for your child's educational needs while travelling:

1. Set aside time for reading.
2. Set aside time for writing a journal or diary.
3. Keep a scrapbook of the events and places visited.
4. Keep a Math journal with relation to money, distances and time.

We will be happy to see what your child has accomplished upon their return, but will NOT be evaluating or marking these activities. It is your right to take your child out of school due to family circumstances, but once you have exercised this option, you must also accept the responsibility of your child's education during that absence.

Science Fair

Intermediate students have begun work on their Science Fair projects. Our school fair will take place on Friday, March 6th. Parent and child viewing of projects will take place on Thursday March 5 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Any parents interested in being judges, please contact Mrs. Ollenberger at collenberger@prn.bc.ca. The regional science fair will take place in Dawson Creek this year on April 16th.

PAC News

Thank you to the PAC donation for the new library furniture, it is being used regularly and enjoyed by all. There is a PAC meeting tonight in the library at 6:30. This meeting will include a discussion about fundraising – what is upcoming and what are we raising the money for – everyone is welcome to contribute ideas and suggestions.

Upcoming:

Feb. 11	Hot Lunch Dominos
Feb. 13	Jump Rope for Heart
Feb. 18	Hot Lunch Saigon Noodles
Feb 25	Hot Lunch Quiznos
March 2	NID – no school for students
March 5-6	Grade 5/6 Basketball tournaments
March 6	Bert Ambrose Science Fair
March 18-19	Early Dismissal days – 1 hour early
March 20	Student Healthy Living Conference
March 20	Last day before Spring Break
April 7	School opens after Spring Break