



Grindrod Elementary School

263 Carlin Street, (Box 249), Grindrod, B.C. V0E 1Y0
Telephone: (250) 838-7579 Fax: (250) 804-7787



September 10th, 2018

September Special Events Update

We have some exciting plans for our students this month and we want to keep you informed early so you might help us be well prepared. Parents are welcome to attend our fieldtrips with their child. If you plan to drive, criminal record checks are required. We have a form at the school office that we can provide which you can bring in when you go to the RCMP office in Enderby to have your check done. Once completed, please provide the school with a copy of the results. This is required by the school district and is strictly in the interest of all children's safety. You do not have to do this; if we already have a copy of your Criminal Record Check on file. We very much appreciate your support as parent supervisors and drivers for our special events and fieldtrips.

First Profession Development Day

Monday, September 17th is the date of our school district's first professional development day. Although students do not attend school on this day, teachers will be hard at work deepening their knowledge regarding the new BC curriculum. An emphasis for our school will be on Student Self-assessment and the Core Competencies we want all students to develop as they move through their K-12 school years.

These Core Competencies include:

- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Creative Thinking
- Positive Personal and Cultural Identity
- Personal Awareness and Responsibility
- Social Responsibility

To learn more about these competencies, go to the Ministry of Education website at <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/competencies>.

Annual "Meet the Teacher" Corn Roast

On Thursday, September 20 we invite our families to join us at the school for our annual

corn roast. This is a time to reconnect with friends in our school community and to meet



your child's teacher in an informal setting. We add hotdogs to the corn roast so families can make it a dinner out. The expense is covered by the PAC and school, but we

do invite donations to our breakfast program which runs all year for students at our school.

Annual Beach Day Fieldtrip

Each September we plan a Beach Day at Water Wheel Park in Enderby for our entire school. This year we will go on Friday, September 21. During our time there, teachers prepare art, science, indigenous education and literacy centers for the students. The students work together in multi-aged groups with our older students providing leadership and support. This is a great time for the students and staff to get to know each other better while learning and having fun in the outdoors. Although we will bus students to the site, we invite parents to join us. Members of the PAC will typically assist us with our hot dog roasting at lunch. We will depart the school at 9:30 and return by the end of the school day.

Orange Shirt Day

At Grindrod we will wear Orange on Wednesday, September 26th, to commemorate the residential school experience, to honour the healing journey of the survivors and their families. We will host an awareness assembly beginning at 1:15pm in our gym. Families are welcome to attend. To learn more about why an orange shirt is worn on this day please go to <http://www.orangeshirtday.org/about.html>.

Photo Day

Our school photography day is scheduled for Wednesday, October 10th. This is the day individual photos are taken, so brush your hair!

We invite pre-school siblings to come to the school to have pictures done as well if they are interested. More information will come out from the photographers, Mountains West Studios, prior to the photo day.

Terry Fox Run

We are one of over one thousand schools across Canada, which have joined Terry Fox's campaign to raise funds to help find a cure for cancer. This is an important event at Grindrod School and we are always keen to participate. In keeping with Terry Fox's original goal to raise one dollar for each person in Canada at the time of his run, our goal is to raise \$1.00 for each member of our school community. Our run will take place just after our **Month End Celebration Assembly**, which begins at 12:45 on Friday, September 28th in our gym. We invite our parents to join us as we walk and run together.

PAC Meeting Date

Our first PAC meeting of the year will be on Tuesday, September 25th beginning at 2:10 in the library. All parents are invited to attend our PAC meetings. Your feedback and support helps us to make our school a great place for children. We hope to see you here on the 25th.

School Demographics Update

As of September 7, we have 123 students attending Grindrod Elementary. Our class configurations and sizes are:

K	19 students
1/2	20 students
2/3	18 students
3/4	21 students
5/6	21 students
6/7	24 students

This represents a significant increase in our overall school population from last year. We are pleased to welcome so many new families to our community.

October Pro D Days

It is very effective for schools to do the bulk of their professional development early in the school year so that lessons learned can be employed practically in the classroom over the

longest period of time. That is in part why we have two professional development days in October. The first is a school based day on October 5th. This is in conjunction with Thanksgiving Day on October 8th, giving families a four-day weekend.

The second Pro D Day is a Provincial Pro D and it is on Friday, October 19th. Provincial Pro D Days give educators around the province the opportunity to network and learn from each other and to attend workshops in neighbouring districts.

New Student Registration Day

Early registration for new students, including Kindergarten, French Immersion and Outdoor Learning is on October 9th. Kindergarten and new student registration at your local school can be done from 8:30am till 2:00pm. Please bring your child's Birth Certificate (or other primary identification) and Care Card to register.

This year, families can register for French Immersion and Outdoor Learning programs also on this day. More information on the registration process will be sent out to families as this day approaches.

Reminders

Just a quick reminder that school fees and forms are due as soon as possible. Your support with completing this in a timely fashion helps us tremendously.

Check Out our Website

Our website is a great place to keep current on many aspects of school life at Grindrod Elementary. This is where our Code of Conduct, school goals and newsletters can be found, as well as, current blogs on past and upcoming events. We also work hard to keep our website calendar up to date so that you can always check what is coming up in our school. We hope you find this tool useful.

Thank You to Our Kindergarten Parents

I want to share my appreciation with all the kindergarten parents who took the time to complete the UBC Early Years (CHEQ) survey. Your feedback is valued!