



## École Élémentaire Belmont Elementary School

20390 40th Avenue, Langley, BC, V3A 2X1  
Phone: (604) 533-3641 Fax: (604) 533-8694  
Website: belmont.sd35.bc.ca



Mr. Tim Bonnar  
Principal

Ms. Laurel Costello  
Vice-Principal

Ms. Rose Morris  
Admin. Assistant

Dear Belmont Families,

Welcome back to our returning families and a very special welcome to new families joining our Belmont Elementary School community. Bienvenue à tout le monde! The Belmont Staff and I are looking forward to a very special year ahead. We are excited about the many academic, athletic, social, and cultural experiences our staff will be able to provide for your children throughout the year. We are eager to get started!

We would also like to welcome the following new staff to our community:

- Ms. Bagnall, LA Teacher
- Ms. Bhatia, Gr. 4 Teacher
- Ms. Flowers, Gr. 2/3 Teacher
- Ms. Leigh-Wong, Counsellor
- Ms. Pannu, Gr. 1/2 Teacher
- Mme Pelton, Gr. 1 French Teacher
- Ms. Ranger, Kindergarten Teacher
- Mme St. Pierre, Gr. 3 French Teacher
- Ms. van Zanten, ELL Teacher

In addition to these staff changes, we are currently still working to hire a few staff members.

### FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

#### Schedule for the First Day of School - Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>

- 8:32 a.m. Warning Bell
- 8:37 a.m. Classes Commence
- 10:10 a.m. Dismissal

#### On the first day of school:

- **Kindergarten students** do not attend yet.
- **New students (Gr. 1 to 7)** should report to the library where they will have an introduction to the school and will be told their homeroom classroom for the week. Students will stay in that homeroom for class until pick-up. New parents will be given maps so that they know where pick-up will take place.
- **Returning students (Gr. 1 to 7)** should go to their previous year's classroom for drop off and attendance. Students will be dismissed from the same classroom at 10:10 a.m.
- **Some teachers from last year are no longer at the school or have switched roles or rooms. Please check the chart below to see if this affects your child's class.** Students in those classes should still line up outside their former classroom and teachers will bring them to their new location for the day. At the end of the day on Tuesday, teachers will bring students back to their former classroom for pick-up.

Div.	Grade	Last Year's Teacher	Room	Tuesday Teacher	Room
8		Ms. Penner	36	TBA	36
11	F	Mme Carlson	W6	Mme Buchanan	W8
12		Ms. Power / Ms. Costello	34	Ms. Bhatia	34
14		Ms. Kim	25	Ms. Flowers	25
15	F	Mme Bergeron / Mme Laycock	W1	Mme St. Pierre	W1
17		Ms. Howieson	W7	Ms. Pannu	26
19	F	Mme McCaig	26	Mme McCaig	W7
20	F	Mme Pereira	W8	Mme Pereira	W6
24		Ms. Randen / Ms. Anderson	15	Ms. Ranger	15

### Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> - Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>

- **Kindergarten students** begin attending on Wednesday and will follow the Gradual Entry schedule throughout the next two weeks.
- **Gr. 1 – 7 students** will be in temporary grade-level homeroom classes from Wednesday to Friday. They will start the morning in those classes and be dismissed from them as well. Students will be shown which class to go to on Tuesday. An email will also be sent out to parents Tuesday afternoon with a list of temporary classes.
- During the day, **Gr. 1 to 7 students** will review core skills in Language Arts, Math, and Français to refresh their memories as they begin a new year. Classes will potentially rotate to other rooms for some lessons as well.
- Students will also focus on Belmont's important social-emotional foundations:
  - our Core Values Matrix (Respect, Responsibility, Kindness).
  - the Zones of Regulation.
  - WITS – Positive Choices for Conflict Resolution.
- These important foundations are also found in our agenda. You might want to look at them together as a family once agendas are handed out.

### **First Week School Supplies** (Grades 1 – 7) – During the first week, students should bring:

- A water bottle.
- A healthy snack and lunch for each day.
- Running shoes.
- A pencil case with pencils, eraser, and colouring supplies.
- Older students should bring a binder with some lined paper.

### **NEW CLASSES FOR 2024 – 2025**

- **Grade 1 – 7 students** will move into **new classes** on Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. As much as possible, we will be keeping students in these classes moving forward.
- These classes will become permanent once the School District gives permission to do so. That will depend on any changes in numbers across the district.

- **Grade 1 – 7 class assignments will be posted online on the MyEd Parent Portal on Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 p.m.** Access to the MyEd Parent Portal and help guides for use can be found here: <https://www.sd35.bc.ca/students-parents/myedbc-family-portal-help/>
- If you are not able to access the Parent Portal, you can also check class placements at the office from 8:15 – 8:30 a.m. on Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- In June and again in September, teachers and administration meet to discuss the best academic placement for each student for the following year. Each child's academic and social needs are taken into consideration. Parent requests are also reviewed by administration. It is our hope that you will trust our judgement regarding the classroom placement of your children for this upcoming school year.
- As with most schools in Langley, our school is very full. We currently have a waitlist. It is very difficult at this point to move students from their assigned classes. However, if you still feel that you need to speak with me regarding your child's classroom placement, I will begin taking appointments for this subject matter only after Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 8:00 a.m. Please call the office in order to make an appointment if necessary.

## KINDERGARTEN CLASSES

- Gradual entry for Kindergarten students begins on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.
- The Gradual Entry schedule is attached to the end of this newsletter.
- Information about Gradual Entry was sent separately to Kindergarten families over the summer. Please connect with the office if you did not receive that information.

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES

### School Supplies (Kindergarten – Grade 4)

- As shared in June newsletters, **there is no school supply list for Kindergarten – Grade 4.** The school will be asking for a \$50 fee (Grades K-3) / \$60 (Grade 4) for school supplies and using that money to buy supplies for all of the students. This fee can be paid on SchoolCash Online.

### School Supplies (Grades 5 – 7)

- Please do not bring full school supplies until Monday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>.
- If you did not order school supplies yet for a Grade 5 to 7 student, it is still possible to do so at [www.schoolstart.ca](http://www.schoolstart.ca).
- If you prefer to shop for school supplies at other locations, please see the school supply lists at that website and use them to purchase at the location of your choice.

## AGENDAS / EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

- Each year we ask families to pay for an agenda and emergency supplies. This \$11 fee covers some of the cost of producing agendas and buying snacks and water bottles for our emergency bin. This fee can be paid through SchoolCash Online.
- Agendas will be handed out during the second week of school after payment has been received.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The Provincial Government provides affordability funds that can be used by schools to help families in need of financial support for the costs of schooling. This could include support with field trip costs or supplies. Please contact the office if we can be of assistance.

We are also able to provide breakfast and lunch to students if there is need. Please let us know if we can help in this regard.

## BELL SCHEDULE THIS YEAR

	Regular Days	Early Dismissal Days	Half Days
Welcome Bell	8:32 a.m.	8:32 a.m.	8:32 a.m.
Classes Begin (all students)	8:37 a.m.	8:37 a.m.	8:37 a.m.
Recess Begins	10:10 a.m.	10:10 a.m.	10:10 a.m.
Recess Ends	10:25 a.m.	10:25 a.m.	10:25 a.m.
Lunch Recess Begins	11:47 a.m.	11:47 a.m.	
Lunch Recess Ends	12:20 p.m.	12:20 p.m.	
Dismissal (all students)	2:20 p.m.	1:20 p.m.	11:20 a.m.

### Morning Supervision

- Supervision starts in the morning at 8:17 a.m.
- Students should not be arriving at school before supervision begins.
- Students should be waiting outside of the school building and should not be entering hallways before the day begins.
- Students K-3 should have supervision by a parent/guardian/older sibling/daycare provider until they enter their classrooms at the 8:37 a.m. bell.

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

- The **school calendar** for the year is attached to this letter. There is also a calendar on our website: <https://belmont.sd35.bc.ca/>. Thank you for putting key dates into your own calendar.

### Important Upcoming Dates

- Tuesday, Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> First Day for Gr. 1 – 7 Students. 8:37 – 10:10 a.m.
- Wednesday, Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> Kindergarten gradual entry begins
- Thursday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> Meet the Teacher @ 6 p.m. (PAC Dinner @ 5 p.m.)
- Friday, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> Terry Fox Run
- Monday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> Photo Day
- Friday, Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> Every Child Matters - Orange Shirt Day
- Monday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - No School
- Friday, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> School Improvement Day - No Students

## SCHOOL MESSENGER – NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

The Langley School District uses a notification system called SchoolMessenger to communicate information to families. As we welcome our new families to our schools, some parents/guardians may receive a text message notifying them about SchoolMessenger. For more information about the system and how to opt-in to receive text messages, visit the District webpage [here](#).

## PARENT CONSENT FORMS – EMAIL REQUESTS

Each year, Langley Schools asks families to complete a set of parent consent forms for their child. These consent forms are required by our schools to ensure the health, safety, and security of all students. Langley schools use a secure web form to collect this information. Beginning mid-September, please watch for an email request (subject Parent Consent Request) that contains one link for you to submit consents for all children in your family attending any Langley school. If your email address or contact information has changed, please call your school to correct it in our files. If you have not received an email regarding Parent Consent Request by the end of September or have any questions/concerns, please contact the office.

## DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

### Morning Drop-off and After-school Pick-up:

- All students should line up at their outside doors to enter classrooms in the morning. This helps with supervision and morning attendance, improving student safety.
- All students should exit at the end of the day through their outside doors as well.
- If students are in Kindergarten to Grade 3, they should be dropped off and picked up at the classroom door by a parent, caregiver, or older sibling.
- Only people that are on the **designated emergency contact list** can pick up children from school. We will be sending home forms for people to update emergency contact lists. If your child goes to daycare, the daycare should be listed on the designated emergency contact list.
- Please try your best to arrange and communicate alternative pickups, playdates, etc. before morning drop off to avoid calling the office to communicate these messages mid-day.

### Parking Lot Etiquette

- Please follow the signs that are directing traffic in the parking lot.
- Please pay close attention to the crosswalk attendants and to pedestrian traffic.
- The right-hand traffic lane past the crosswalk is for drop off / pick up. Students should not be dropped off or picked up before the crosswalk.
- This lane is designed for **quick drop-off and pick-up**. If you are waiting more than a minute for your child, then you please find a proper parking spot.
- Please only park in designated parking spots. There is additional street parking available if the lot is full. Please do not block the driveways of our neighbours or park in no-parking zones.
- Please do not park in handicap parking spots if you do not have a SPARC permit. Members of our community rely on these spots being available and we want to ensure they are accessible for those who need them.

### **Pedestrian Routes**

- Pedestrians are asked to **use the crosswalk**, not other routes across the parking lot.
- Please do not walk on 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue directly across the parking lot entrance. Instead walk down 204<sup>th</sup> to the walkway and crosswalk.

### **Road Construction**

- You will notice that the Township is building a multi-use pathway on the south side of 40<sup>th</sup> from 200<sup>th</sup> to 204<sup>th</sup>.
- The section in front of the school should be done this week and will help increase safety for students and families walking or biking to school. We appreciate the Township listening to concerns about safety in this area.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

We have many opportunities for parent volunteers at Belmont. All volunteers must be approved by administration and must follow school guidelines. All casual volunteers must fill out a Volunteer Safety Check form. Volunteers who will regularly be working with a small group or individual students (ex. Coaching a team or being a parent reader) must provide a Criminal Record Check. The school will provide volunteers a letter that they can take to the RCMP station to request the Criminal Record Check. **New this year, volunteers are required to complete online training if they are regularly volunteering in schools. Volunteers must have their CRC and online training complete before they begin volunteering.**

Online Training Link (password: SD35volunteer)

<https://www.sd35.bc.ca/our-district/volunteer-at-the-langley-school-district/>

If you are potentially interested in volunteering for coaching, team clubs or other school community activities, please complete this form. This is not a commitment but just information gathering at this point. <https://forms.office.com/r/n4g9ACiFwS>

## **VOLUNTEER DRIVERS**

During the year, teachers often ask parents to serve as drivers for field trips. There is a parent driver form that need to be filled out in advance of these trips. The form will cover the entire school year. **Please complete this paperwork well in advance of the field trip date** to ensure all requirements are met. If you know you will likely drive at some point this school year, we encourage you to complete these steps proactively. Please note that **this paperwork has to be redone each school year.**

Drivers need to provide the following along with the form.

- Copies of insurance and driver's license
- Proof of \$2 000 000 liability
- A driver's abstract from ICBC

## NOON-HOUR SUPERVISORS

Do you have experience working with children? Are you interested in a part-time job helping look after students (one hour per day)? We are looking to hire noon-hour supervisors! Full-time (five hours per week) and part-time options are available.

Interested applicants should contact the office for an application form. Prior to hiring, applicants will need to submit a current resume, a high school diploma or transcript and a valid first aid certificate.

## GENERAL SCHOOL PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

### Absences

- If your child is going to be absent or arriving late, please email [besattendance@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:besattendance@sd35.bc.ca) or call 604-533-3641 and press 1 to leave a message.
- In the message, please list your child's full name and division number or teacher name.
- Alternatively, you can fill out the Attendance Form that can be found on our website: <https://belmont.sd35.bc.ca/>.
- We ask that you try to submit your absence by 8:30 am so that we can have it logged prior to the automatic system call out.

### Late Students

- Late students are to line up in the front foyer to check in at the office.
- Parents do not need to accompany students into the building to sign in.

### No Dogs (or other pets) on School Grounds

- **Please do not bring dogs on school property**, especially during drop-off and pick-up. This is very important for student safety.
- **Service dogs (officially trained)** are welcome.
- Please do not bring other pets to school either.



### Nut Aware School

- We have quite a few students at Belmont who are allergic to peanuts or tree nuts.
- We are a Nut Aware school in order to keep students safe.
- **Please do not send nuts of any type (including peanut butter) to school.**



### Medical Alerts and Medication at School

- If your child has medical needs that require at school attention or a life-threatening condition, please complete a medical form at the office. For parents of children with *anaphylactic* allergies, you must complete a medical care plan and send the Epi-Pen to school with your child.
- If you learn that your child has a communicable disease, please let us know right away! These infections can be very dangerous to other children who have depressed immune systems that result from various medical conditions or treatments. We like to alert the classroom families at times like these.
- Whenever possible, please administer your child's medication at home rather than relying on school staff to do this. This includes ADHD medication, over-the-counter allergy medications, and nasal sprays. If your child must take medication during the school day, it must be turned in to the office. The parent or guardian will need to complete the proper permission forms for the

administration of medication at school which also requires the signature of the prescribing doctor.

## TECHNOLOGY GUIDELINES

- Cell phone (or personal electronic device) use by students during school hours (8:37 a.m. – 2:20 p.m.) is only allowed for educational purposes and with teacher permission.
- Cell phones should be left at home or left in backpacks while at school unless the teacher has allowed them to be used for educational purposes.
- In some classrooms, use of devices may be allowed under adult supervision for educational purposes.
- Students may only use cameras (digital, cell phone, or film) for educational purposes and with staff permission and supervision at school.
- To reduce the likelihood of theft, cell phones (if at school at all) should be turned off and stored as per classroom procedures. The school is not responsible for any loss, theft, or damage.
- Please limit contact with students by text or phone call to before or after school hours. Please call the school office if you need to connect with a student.

## USE OF SCHOOL TELEPHONES

The school telephones are used for school business and are in constant demand. Students must have written permission from their teachers to use the telephone. The phone lines are very busy at the end of the school day, so please pre-arrange after-school activities and rides home.

## FAMILY ACCIDENT REIMBURSEMENT PLAN

The Family Accident Reimbursement Plan is a voluntary insurance plan available to parents. The plan is voluntary, but there are significant benefits if a child has an accident. Enrolment in the program is done online through <https://www.solutionsinsurance.com/aonbc>.

## BELMONT PAC (PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL)

- We have a wonderful PAC at Belmont, and we encourage parents to participate in PAC meetings in order find out more about the many ways in which PAC benefits our school.
- See below for PAC News and details about how to find information about PAC activities, volunteer opportunities, and hot lunch.

## PAC NEWS

Welcome back! Please join us at our first general meeting held on **Tuesday, Sept 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the Belmont Library**. There will be a meet-and-greet at 6:30pm with the agenda beginning at 7pm. Please consider attending to get to know the PAC, meet other parents, and have a chance to win some great door prizes! The budget for 2024 – 2025 will be voted on at the first general meeting.





**Belmont Elementary**  
**PARENT**  
**Advisory Council**

**First Meeting of the year!**

**Tuesday Sept 10th**  
**6:30pm**  
**Belmont Library**

**Calling all Belmont Parents!**  
 Please join us for the  
**FIRST MEETING OF THE YEAR!**

**Door Prizes!!**

**Tuesday Sept 10th**  
**Belmont Library**  
 - 6:30pm Meet-and-Greet  
 - 7:00pm Door Prizes Drawn  
 and Meeting Start

- Share your ideas!
- Meet other parents and kids!
- Door prizes!
- Children welcome. Activities!  
 Small gifts for each child!
- Build our school community.

**Questions?**  
 -Join our Facebook page:  
**Belmont Elementary PAC**  
 -BelmontPAC@gmail.com

**Volunteer Opportunities**

Please check out the [full-year PAC SignUpGenius](#) for opportunities to help out. There are roles both big and small and we would appreciate the extra help to make this an amazing year for Belmont students.

**Hot Lunch**

- The first Hot Lunch will be on September 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Ordering for Hot Lunch will open on September 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Weekly orders close every Friday at midnight. [www.munchalunch.com](http://www.munchalunch.com)



**Contact Information**

<https://www.facebook.com/BelmontElementaryPAC/belmontpac@gmail.com>  
<http://www.belmontpac.com>

## **LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT YEAR!**

The Belmont Staff is very excited about this upcoming school year and eager to make this year a memorable one. We will see you all very soon!

Sincerely,

Tim Bonnar  
Principal

**Full Day Gradual Entry Schedule – Kindergarten – Belmont**

*Gradual Entry – all in attendance Full Day by Monday, September 16th, 2024*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2  <b>Labour Day - no school</b>	3  <b>No school for Kindergarten students</b>	4  Temporary Classes  <u>Group A</u> 8:45 – 9:45  <u>Group B</u> 10:30 – 11:30	5  Temporary Classes  <u>Group A</u> 8:45 – 10:15  <u>Group B</u> 10:30 – 12:00	6  Temporary Classes  <u>Group A</u> 8:45 – 10:45 (Bring snack)  <u>Group B</u> 12:00 – 2:00 (Bring snack)
9  Temporary Classes  <u>All Students</u> 8:45 – 10:45 (Bring snack)	10  Temporary Classes  <u>All Students</u> 8:45 – 11:15 (Bring snack)  Families will be emailed a welcome letter, meetings sign up link and permanent placement by 5 p.m.	11  Permanent Classes  <u>All Students</u> 8:45 – 11:45 (Bring snack)  Afternoon Meetings with Families	12  Permanent Classes  <u>All Students</u> 8:45 – 12:15 (Bring snack & lunch)  Afternoon Meetings with Families	13  Permanent Classes  <u>All Students</u> 8:45 – 12:45 (Bring snack & lunch)  Afternoon Meetings with Families
16  <b>Full day Kindergarten begins</b> Welcome Bell – 8:32 Classes Start – 8:37 Dismissal – 2:20	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

# Langley Children's Choir is looking for singers!

Openings are now available for singers in grades 3 to 7

What are we looking for?

- ✓ School choir members (if your school has one)
- ✓ Good attitude and enthusiasm!
- ✓ Advanced vocal skills, and the ability to focus
- ✓ A firm commitment to the group
- ✓ Desire to develop as a singer and choir member



What do you get out of this?

- ✓ Make new friends who like to sing, too
- ✓ Learn about how to sing better and learn lots of music
- ✓ Perform at other schools (a day off!)
- ✓ Have fun on a choir tour or camp in the spring
- ✓ Sing at festivals and hear other great choirs

Rehearsals? Langley Secondary School, 21405 – 56 Ave on Tuesdays,  
Sept – April from 4:30 – 6 pm

Fees? \$275 per year (reduced rate for families) plus refundable \$100 deposit

Directors? Kim Hardy and Patti Thorpe (both Langley music teachers) plus accompanist Heather Hicks

How Do I Join?

Contact us for an audition time before Sept 9, 2024. Auditions will be Tuesday Sept. 10

*Please include singer's name, phone number, school and grade.*

Patti Thorpe  
[pthorpe@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:pthorpe@sd35.bc.ca)