



## OPEN HOUSE & BBQ

Steeple families are invited to the BBQ and Open House on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Parents & Guardians must attend with their child.

### IMPORTANT DATES:

#### **THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 17TH**

DRESS LIKE YOUR FAVOURITE BOOK CHARACTER DAY

#### **FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 18TH**

NO SCHOOL

#### **MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21ST**

PAC MEETING - LIBRARY - 5:30PM

#### **TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22ND**

FALL INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS

PAARLAUF - LAURIE MIDDLE SCHOOL - INTERMEDIATES - 3:30PM

#### **WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 23RD**

OPEN HOUSE & BBQ - 4:30PM

#### **FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25TH**

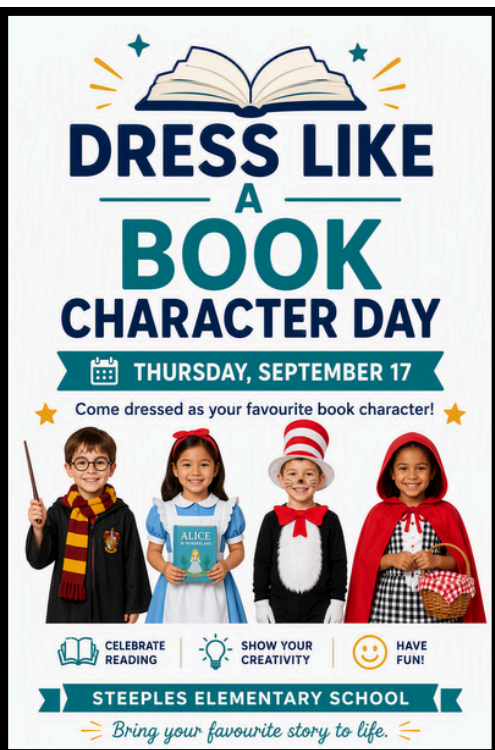
TERRY FOX RUN

#### **TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 29TH**

ORANGE SHIRT DAY

#### **WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30TH**

NO SCHOOL



## **Parking Reminder for Morning & Afternoon Pickup**

We appreciate your ongoing support in keeping our school safe, respectful, and accessible for everyone.

As a quick reminder:

- Please do not park in the staff parking lot during morning drop-off or afternoon pickup. These spaces are reserved for school staff and must remain available for their use.
- Wheelchair-accessible parking zones are strictly for vehicles displaying a valid permit. Parking in these spots without a permit prevents access for those who rely on them.
- For safety reasons, parents and students should not walk through the staff parking lot. This area has frequent vehicle movement and is not designed for pedestrian traffic.

Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and inclusive environment. Your cooperation makes a big difference.

## **DISTRICT HOT LUNCHES**

District Hot Lunches will start back in October. Hot lunches are on Wednesdays by pre ordering online. Stay tuned in next weeks newsletter for more information on ordering.



## **VISITORS** *Sign In* **• TO THE OFFICE •**



If you are visiting the school  
**AFTER THE BELL HAS RANG**

— and —

**BEFORE DISMISSAL,**  
please pop by the office to

**SIGN IN AND  
PICK UP A VISITOR BADGE.**



*Thank you for helping us*  
**KEEP OUR SCHOOL SAFE!** 

# STEEPLES ELEMENTARY PAC NEWS

## PAC MEETING

 **Monday, September 21**

 **5:30 PM**

 **Library**

**All Steeples Parents & Guardians  
Are Welcome to Attend!**

 **Learn what's happening at our school**

 **Meet other families**

 **Share your ideas and feedback**

**We hope to see you there!**



Hello Steeples Families,

BGC Cranbrook has a few full-time spots left in our After-School Program for this fall! Please email our School Age Program Manager Christine Harvey at [christine@bgccranbrook.ca](mailto:christine@bgccranbrook.ca) if you are interested in being added to our interest list.

BGC Cranbrook is also looking at starting a pilot Before-School Program soon and would like to see who is interested in such care monthly. Please email [christine@bgccranbrook.ca](mailto:christine@bgccranbrook.ca) to inform us if you are needing this type of care.

Important Note: the before-school and after-school care will be separate registrations and costs.

We are excited to have some new faces join our BGC programs.



# KNOW THE RULES BEFORE YOU RIDE



*Not all small or electric vehicles are treated the same under the Motor Vehicle Act.*

|                                                                                                               | WHERE CAN I RIDE?                                      | HOW OLD DO I NEED TO BE?                           | HOW FAST CAN I GO?                                        | LICENSE AND INSURANCE?                   | WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <br><b>E-BIKE</b>          | Anywhere where bicycles can ride!                      | 14+ for light e-bikes;<br>16+ for standard e-bikes | Light e-bikes:<br>25 km/h<br>Standard e-bikes:<br>32 km/h | No Drivers License or Insurance required | Must have fully operable pedals      |
| <br><b>E-SCOOTER</b>       | Only in communities participating in the pilot project | 16+                                                | 25 km/h                                                   | No Drivers License or Insurance required | Illegal outside of pilot communities |
| <br><b>MOPED/LSM</b>       | On public roadways only                                | 16+                                                | 70 km/h                                                   | Drivers License and Insurance required   | CMVSS compliance label required      |
| <br><b>E-DIRT BIKE</b>     | Not on roads, sidewalks or bike lanes                  | Not legal at any age on public roads               | Not permitted on public roads                             | Cannot be registered or insured          | Not legal e-bikes or LSMs            |
| <br><b>MINI-MOTORCYCLE</b> | Not on roads, sidewalks or bike lanes                  | Not legal at any age on public roads               | Not permitted on public roads                             | Cannot be registered or insured          | Do not meet safety standards         |



**RIDE SMART. RIDE SAFE. RIDE LEGAL.**

 Know your vehicle type

 Follow the rules

 Wear a helmet

 Stay safe Cranbrook!

**CRANBROOK  
RCMP**



@CranbrookRCMP



Ktunaxa Kinbasket  
Child & Family  
Service Society



# COMMUNITY DINNER

COME TOGETHER AND ENJOY A  
MEAL WITH YOUR NEIGHBOURS.  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME

SEPTEMBER **24** 5:00 PM

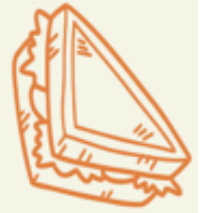
UNTIL FOOD RUNS OUT  
**THIS MONTHS MENU:**

**SPAGHETTI, SALAD, BUNS, DRINKS & DESSERT!**  
(GLUTEN FREE OPTION WILL BE AVAILABLE)

**DOOR PRIZES TO BE WON!**

7AQAM BAND WILL HAVE FIRE SAFETY & HOME ENERGY  
PRESENTATIONS AT THIS EVENT

**DAN JOE MEMORIAL GYM**  
**7500 MISSION ROAD, AQAM**



Hello Grade 5/6 Families,

Welcome back to the new school year! As part of our music program, students in Mr. Catherall and Mrs. Gruggen/Toffolo's classes will be participating in the school band. At the end of last year, I introduced the available instrument choices, and I've revisited these options with students again this week to help them finalize their selection.

**Please complete the form on the second page of this letter and have your child return it to me by Tuesday, September 15th.** My goal is for all students to have their instruments by **Monday, September 21st** so we can begin band. *If your child owns their own instrument, please have them bring it to school on Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.*

Below, you'll find some options for acquiring an instrument for the school year.

- **Borrow one from a relative or friend**
- **Purchase a used instrument (they can be found on Facebook marketplace or Kijiji. Please do not purchase a band instrument off Amazon due to quality issues.**
- **Rent a District Instrument (one of the most popular options)**

The school has a selection of instruments that are available for a fee of \$105 for the school year. I will take care of getting the instrument for your child and will send home the paperwork and payment can be made through School Cash Online when the time comes. This is the most popular option for families.

- **Rent, Rent to Own, or purchase a new or used instrument from Long & McQuade**

Long & McQuade Calgary is School District #5's sponsored Music Store. They outfit most School Band programs in Alberta and have a large selection of quality brand-name instruments. You can go to the rental page ([www.long-mcquade.com/?page=rent\\_school](http://www.long-mcquade.com/?page=rent_school)) and follow the instructions. Make sure that you choose "Calgary Chinook" as your preferred location and "Ship To School" as your method of receiving the instrument (this will avoid shipping charges). Attached is a brochure if you're interested in this method.

- **Purchase an instrument from a local music store like Just Music**

**Instrument Options:**

Flute  
Clarinet  
Alto Sax  
Trumpet  
Trombone  
Baritone

Any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me.

Ms. Toffolo (Arissa)  
Music/Band and Grade 5/6 Teacher  
Steeple Elementary School  
[arissa.toffolo@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:arissa.toffolo@sd5.bc.ca)

***Please return the bottom portion of this page to Ms. Toffolo by Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. If you would prefer to e-mail this form you can send it to [arissa.toffolo@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:arissa.toffolo@sd5.bc.ca)***

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**BAND RESPONSE FORM**

Classroom Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my child, \_\_\_\_\_, to play the \_\_\_\_\_.  
(child's name)

I plan to:

☐ I already own the instrument

☐ I have completed the rental for an instrument online through Long & McQuade – Calgary Chinook

☐ I plan to find an instrument on my own

☐ I would like to rent through the district

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_



Dear Parent/Guardian,

If you require a band instrument rental for the 2026/2027 school year, Long & McQuade has you covered! You can rent your child's instrument by the month or by the school year, whichever works best for you. All of our rental instruments are used, completely sanitized, and have been serviced by our repair technicians, so you have the peace of mind that your student is playing on a great instrument!

We also offer **band instrument rental protection** for \$2 per month, or \$20 per school year. This covers EVERYTHING – loss, theft, or damage. If you have a problem with your rental instrument, we will fix it or exchange it completely free of charge!

Our rental program is offered online through our website so you can rent an instrument for your student without the need for paper contracts! Just go to our [student rental website](#) and follow the steps to sign up. Our new rentals website has simplified the process! All you need to do is enter your details, and we'll take care of the rest.

Your instrument will be shipped or delivered to your school by one of our Education Services Representatives. Please ensure your rental is placed well in advance of your band program starting up!

If you have ANY questions regarding instrument rentals with Long & McQuade, please call our Calgary Chinook location at 403-244-5555, and one of our band sales & rental associates will be more than happy to answer your questions!

[www.long-mcquade.com/?page=rent\\_school](http://www.long-mcquade.com/?page=rent_school)



SCHOOL DISTRICT 5  
SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY

# Register for SchoolCash Online Today

*It's fast, easy, and free. Create your account so you never miss a school fee or activity.*

- **WHY REGISTER?** Shop and pay anytime, anywhere, from your computer, tablet, or phone
- Manage all your children from a single account (up to 8 students)
- No cash needs to be sent to school with your child
- Receive email notifications when new fees and activities are posted
- View your full payment history and print receipts at any time
- Secure, contactless payment; your information is always protected

## HOW TO GET STARTED

STEP

1

### Create Your Account

- Go to <https://southeastkootenay.schoolcashionline.com/> and click Register
- Enter your first name, last name, email address, and create a password
- Select a security question
- Select **Yes** to receive email notifications (you will not receive promotional emails)
- Check your email to confirm your account — check your Spam folder if you don't see it within a few minutes



STEP

2

### Add Your Children

- Sign in and go to **My Account** → **My Students**
- Click to add a child
- Type your school board name and choose your school from the list
- Enter your child's details and click **Confirm**
- Repeat for any additional children — you can add up to 8 students to one account

STEP

3

### Browse and Pay

- Once signed in, you'll see any fees or items assigned to your child
- Select an item and click **Add to Cart**
- When ready, click **Continue** to complete your secure online payment

## NEED HELP?

Visit the SchoolCash Online Help Centre at [schoolcashionline.com/Home/Support](https://schoolcashionline.com/Home/Support)



## Parents and Guardians

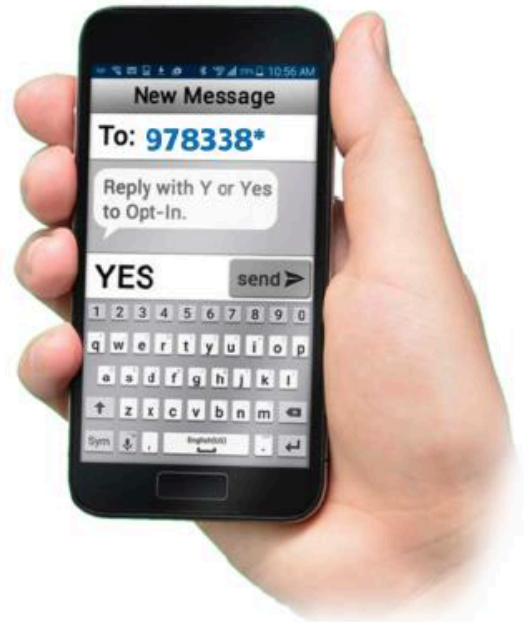
### You can take advantage of our Text Messaging Service

Our district utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more. You can participate in this free service\* just by sending a text message of "Y" or "Yes" to our school's short code number.

For CANADA-BASED numbers: 978338

You can also opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with "Stop".

SchoolMessenger is compliant with the Student Privacy Pledge™, so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone.



\*if your number is Canada-based.

For CANADA-BASED numbers:

**Opt-In from  
your mobile  
now!**



**Just send "Y"  
or "Yes" to  
978338.**

\*Terms and Conditions – Message frequency varies. Standard message and data rates may apply. Reply HELP for help. Text STOP to cancel. Mobile carriers are not liable for delayed or undelivered messages. See [schoolmessenger.com/txt](http://schoolmessenger.com/txt) for more info.



**Information on SMS text messaging and Short Codes:** SMS stands for Short Message Service and is commonly referred to as a "text message". Most cell phones support this type of text messaging. Our notification provider, SchoolMessenger, uses a true SMS protocol developed by the telecommunications industry specifically for mass text messaging, referred to as "short code" texting. This method is fast, secure and highly reliable because it is strictly regulated by the wireless carriers and only allows access to approved providers.

If you've ever sent a text vote for a TV show to a number like 46999, you have used short code texting.

## Frequently Asked Questions



# SafeArrival for Families FAQ

### What is SafeArrival?

SafeArrival is an absence management system that improves student safety and makes it easy for you to let the school know about your child's absence.

You are asked to report your child's absence in advance whenever possible using one of these convenient methods:

#### SchoolMessenger app (free)

1. Get the app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store or from the links at (<https://go.schoolmessenger.com>).
2. Tap **Sign Up** to create your account. Remember to use the email account that the school has on file
3. Select **Attendance** from the menu, and then select **Report an Absence**.

#### Web and Mobile Web: [go.schoolmessenger.com](https://go.schoolmessenger.com)

1. Go to the website.
2. Click **Sign Up** to create your account using the email address the school has on file for you (i.e. the one that is used for school correspondence).
3. Select **Attendance** from the menu, then select **Report an Absence**

#### Interactive Toll-free Phone Number 1-(833)-566-1225

1. Call the toll-free, interactive telephone system.
2. Follow the instructions to report an absence.

Absences can be reported in advance:

- 24 hours/day
- 7 days a week
- For any school day in the school term
- Up to the cut-off time on the day of the absence.

Whenever an absence is reported or updated, you will receive a confirmation notice by email and/or text message (assuming your child's school has your contact information).

If you don't report your child's absence in advance, the automated notification system will try to contact you (using your communication preferences if you have set them up in the SchoolMessenger app). This may include push notifications to the app, email, SMS text messages, or phone calls. You will be asked to provide the reason for your child's absence immediately. You may do so using the phone line, website or mobile app.

If an absence is not explained within approximately 20 minutes of the time that the school starts the notification process, school staff will follow up to make sure that your child is safe. If you try to explain an absence using SafeArrival, but are then told that it is past the cut-off time, please contact the school directly.

***If you don't want to receive notifications when your child is absent, be sure to report your child's absence in advance.***

***If you do receive notifications of your child's absence, be sure to provide the reason as quickly as possible, using one of the methods listed above or during the phone call notification itself.***



### Why do I need a SchoolMessenger app account?

A SchoolMessenger app account is not required to use the toll-free phone line to report absences. However, we strongly recommend you use your email address to set up your SchoolMessenger app account. This allows you to review and update absences, review your contact information and communication preferences and more.

Please see related SchoolMessenger app documentation for setting up your account, resetting your password, reviewing contact information, and specifying communication preferences. Once you have set up your account, choose ATTENDANCE from the menu.

If you cannot set up your account, you do not see the ATTENDANCE option, or you do not see your child(ren) listed in your account, please contact the school directly to check that your **correct email address is associated with your child(ren).**

### How do I use the toll-free phone line? 1-(833) 566-1225

When you call the toll-free phone line, follow the instructions for reporting an absence.

If the phone number you are calling from matches a phone number on file with the school for your student(s), you will hear your student's name(s). If the system doesn't recognize your caller ID, you will be asked to enter the student's home phone number.

If you have difficulty using the toll-free phone line, please consider using the SchoolMessenger mobile app or website. Otherwise, contact the school directly.

Did you know that 5% of your Save-On-Foods grocery bill could be donated straight to our school? It's super easy to help out our kids!

All you have to do is

1. Shop at the Cranbrook Save-On-Foods
2. Mention Steeples Elementary at the till
3. 5% of your bill is donated by the store!

How simple is that? Every little bit helps get our kids better equipment and awesome experiences.

Thanks for your support!

Keep Steeples really rocking!



save on foods



### Steeples Elementary Facebook Page

Parents and guardians, please join our Steeples Elementary School Facebook page. We will be using this page to share information about the great things happening at Steeples!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2163353540497034>

## StrongStart - Cranbrook



### StrongStart is Back!

Opening September 16  
Come play, learn,  
connect & grow  
together!



- A free, parent-accompanied play and learning program for children ages 0-5.
- Snacks provided.
- Play-based and learning activities facilitated by a qualified early childhood educator.

Monday-Thursday  
9:00-11:30 and 12:15-2:45  
\*Follows school calendar\*

Steeples Elementary  
School  
250-426-0620  
[cbal.ngreen@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:cbal.ngreen@sd5.bc.ca)



StrongStartBC



Play  
Connect  
Learn

### STEEPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONTACTS:

Principal - Scott Holt - [scott.holt@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:scott.holt@sd5.bc.ca)

Vice Principal - Lauren Gruggen - [lauren.gruggen@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:lauren.gruggen@sd5.bc.ca)

School Administrative Assistant - Jennifer Ney - [jennifer.ney@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:jennifer.ney@sd5.bc.ca)

Youth Care Worker - Barb Fode - [barbara.fode@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:barbara.fode@sd5.bc.ca)

Youth Care Worker - Keith Young - [keith.young@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:keith.young@sd5.bc.ca)

District Elementary Counsellor - Barb Kaufmann - [barbara.kaufmann@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:barbara.kaufmann@sd5.bc.ca)

Indigenous Education Support Worker - Cyndi Andrew - [cyndi.andrew@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:cyndi.andrew@sd5.bc.ca)

English Language Teacher - Matthew Taylor - [matthew.taylor@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:matthew.taylor@sd5.bc.ca)

### **Student Services**

Melissa Flegel - Learning Services Teacher - [melissa.flegel@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:melissa.flegel@sd5.bc.ca)

Sarah Brooks - Learning Services Teacher - [sarah.brooks@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:sarah.brooks@sd5.bc.ca)

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