

April 2023

École Isabella Dicken Elementary School

1301 2nd Avenue, Fernie BC

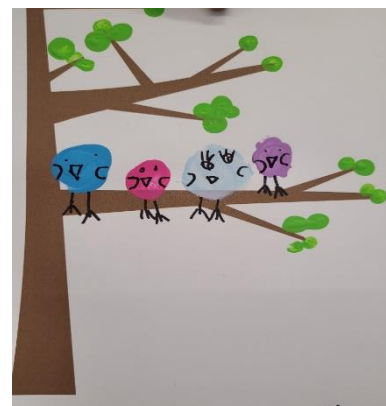
250-423-4651



We are grateful for our parent community!

Thank you, our wonderful parent community, for our Staff Appreciation Luncheon. Thank you, PAC for organizing.

"It takes a village to raise a child." This beautiful quote reminds us that an entire community of people must provide for, and interact positively, with children, for those children to experience and grow in a safe and healthy environment. At EIDES, we see this every day. We also feel that our whole community helps us to 'raise up' our school community!



One of the many examples of this happened on Friday April 14th when we celebrated World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD). WDSD is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012. It is celebrated on March 21st but at EIDES, we gathered together on Friday, April 14th, wearing mismatched or colourful socks! (#lotsofsocks) Why do people wear mismatched or colourful socks for Down syndrome? In 2013, the theme of Wearing Odd Socks was initiated to raise awareness. The idea was created because chromosomes are shaped "like socks" and people with Down syndrome have an extra chromosome.

We had an assembly and students rocked their socks. We watched a video on Down Syndrome and some videos from our own students. For our finale, students and staff enjoyed a spot dance to end our assembly that included prizes for all our students from the [Canadian Down Syndrome Society](#).

From all of us at École Isabella Dicken Elementary School.

Here is a Slide show about Down Syndrome from the Canadian Down Syndrome Society:

<https://cdss.ca/about-down-syndrome-3/>

Canadian Down Syndrome Society: Short videos of questions answered by people with Down Syndrome

<https://cdss.ca/awareness/down-syndrome-answers/>

Just Like You (for older students):

Full version (13 min) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5M--xOyGUX4&t=0s>

My Friend, Isabelle (for younger students):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IEB2bk29AMQ>

April 2023						
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30						

May 2023						
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June 2023						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	



School Breaks



Professional Development Days



Stat Holidays



Administrative Day



Second Semester

DATES TO REMEMBER 2023



May - 2023

May 1st and 2nd
 Tuesday May 2nd
 Wednesday, May 3rd

 Friday, May 5
 Friday, May 12
 Wednesday, May 17
 Thursday, May 18
 Friday, May 19
 Monday, May 22
 Wednesday, May 24
 Thursday, May 25
 Friday, May 26

Rump Rope For Heart
 PAC Meeting 7pm-Library
 Ready Set Learn Day 1:15- 2:15
 Earth Rangers Presentation K-4
 No school-Professional Development Day
 Kikomun Run- Kikomun Creek Provincial Park
 Volunteer Luncheon
 K-2 Bike "Roadeo"
 No School- School Break
 No School-Victoria Day
 Class Picture Day
 Kindergarten Orientation 1:15-2:45
 School Track Meet- Grades 3-6

June - 2023

Friday, June 2
 Mon-Wed June 12-14
 Tuesday, June 27
 Wednesday, June 28

No School-Pro D
 Grade 6 Blue Lake Camp
 Year End Assembly
 Grade 6 Graduation Ceremony



Colin Harris (Founder and Executive Director of **Take Me Outside**) was here this week to speak to us, took us outside, and joined us for running club!



**We honoured
World Down Syndrome Day
with a
ROCK YOUR SOCKS DAY
on April 14th,
we celebrated all things
that make us unique!**



**We just heard that we are the recipients of the
2023 Nutrients for Life School Garden Grant
We will receive \$500 for our outdoor garden!
Congratulations Ms. Barras, on our winning entry.**



**HEALTHY | BC
SCHOOLS**



We all want what is best for all our students. Setting them up for a successful day includes a healthy breakfast, lunch, snacks, and water to drink.

Please do not send your children to school with energy drinks, or similar beverages.

Some concerns have been raised that many said drinks are marketed to youth and contain harmful amounts of caffeine.

We appreciate your help with this.



École Isabella Dicken Elementary is excited to announce plans for our 2023 Ready Set Learn! The **Ready Set Learn Bus** will be coming to a stop near you!

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

1:15 pm ~ 2:15 pm



Jump on the bus and come to school!

Please call 250-423-4651 to register your child for Ready Set Learn.



Ready Set Learn is intended for families and their three to five-year-old children. Ready Set Learn is all about fostering positive connections between families, the school system and local community agencies. Families who attend Ready Set Learn take part in play-based activities while learning about early learning programs and services, our school, and our community.

Parents/caregivers with children can meet the bus at the predetermined stops (see below) to ride the school bus to École Isabella Dicken Elementary School. We will do our best to stay on schedule BUT please remember that bus arrival times are estimates!

There will be 2 school buses and you will be picked up at the following locations and times:

12:35 Max Turyk School OR Ridgemont Park

12:40 Fernie Heritage Library OR Aquatic Centre

12:45 Arena OR Annex Playground Park (12th St. & 10th Ave)

Children will take part in play-based activities while parents learn about early learning programs and services, and our school. At 2:15 the bus departs the school.

For more info: ides.mailing@sd5.bc.ca

250-423-4651



Kindergarten Orientation will be Thursday, May 25

SPRING IS HERE!!!

It's a good time to remind students to dress appropriately for the weather as we still embrace the outdoors for mornings, recess and lunch throughout the spring. Rainy days also don't stop us from going outside, so please make sure your child has rain and waterproof boots. Of course, monsoon rains and the wind chill factor will be taken into consideration and keeping students indoors will be at the discretion of the Principal.

May and June can still bring snow.... sorry, in Fernie we get every type of weather event, please ensure your child/ren are dressed appropriately.



Reminders From the Office

ABSENCES

If you know your child will be absent or late from school, please use the School-Messenger app to report, you may also call the office at 250-423-4651 and leave a message or email ides.mailing@sd5.bc.ca (preferably before 9:00 am). Your help with this will save our secretaries a lot of time as a call goes home for every unreported absence to ensure the child is safe.

PLEASE have your child sign in/out at the office when you arrive late or leave early.

(Even when you've used the School Messenger app to report it)

Also, a gentle reminder not to drive or park in the new bus loop off second avenue or the staff parking lot. It's such a busy place and believe us we know how limited parking is.... our priority is keeping our kiddos safe.

Thanks for your attention to these items.

COURTESY BUS RIDERS

Due to a bus overloading situation, we are not able to allow courtesy bus riders to be transported on school buses from ÉIDES. Safety for our students is our utmost concern and an accurate passenger list is essential. Only students registered with the bus department will be allowed to ride our buses. If you have any questions, you can call the bus department at:250-423-5885 EXT 1.

EIDES Marathon Running Club

**The much-anticipated Kikomun Cross Country District Race is happening soon!
Race-day is May 12th,**

We are getting so excited. Congratulations runners, we wish you luck! We have had a lot of completed marathons and have over 100 runners attending the event. Look for your permission forms and information letter coming soon.

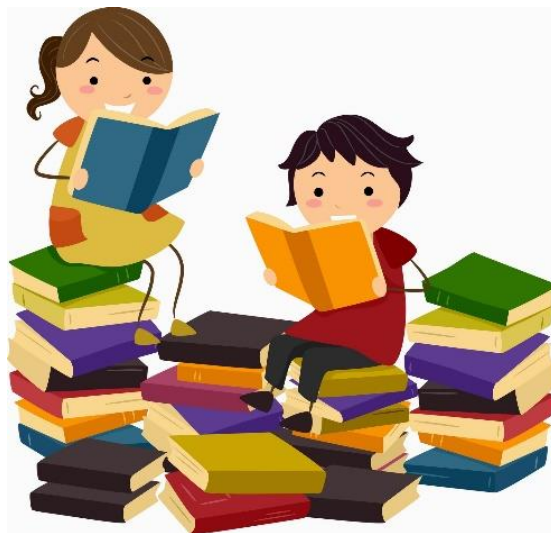
We are still looking forward to some great spring running on running club days. Please ensure that your child comes dressed for the weather with running shoes (no boots). Parents who are joining us, please check the school Facebook page for cancellations due to adverse weather conditions. We run most days (*Mondays and Wednesdays at lunch*) regardless of weather, and please remember to run with care.

Keep up the great running Panthers!



To all of our volunteers in the Panther's Pantry, we give you so many thanks for all your time, energy, and work that you're doing for the school!

We REALLY appreciate your help and couldn't do it without you!
As always big thanks from your EIDES Family in the Panther's Den!



Our PAC volunteered reading incentive program is looking for donations of gently used books you may like to donate for reuse.

They appreciate all books but are often asked for graphic novels and are low on books focused to our primary readers.



Many Thanks to the amazing PAC Reading Incentive Program Volunteers

École Isabella Dicken Elementary School

Daily Bell Schedule

8:20 - 8:50 am	Morning Supervision #1
8:50 am	Welcome Bell / Students Enter
8:55 am	Classes in Session

Recess

10:15 - 10:30 am	Kindergarten & Gr. 1 on the primary playground Grade 5 – 6 on the intermediate playground
10:30 - 10:45 am	Grade 1/2 – 2 on the primary playground Grade 3 – primary or intermediate Grade 3/4 -4/5 on the intermediate playground

12:15 - 1:05 pm	Lunch
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Lunch Schedule

Gr K- 1 and 1/2	12:15-12:40 pm	Outside primary playground
	12:40-1:05 pm	Lunch
Gr 2 - 3	12:15-12:40 pm	Lunch
	12:40-1:05 pm	Outside primary playground 3s allowed on intermediate
Gr 3/4 and 4/5	12:15-12:40 pm	Lunch
	12:40-1:05 pm	Outside intermediate playground
Gr 5 - 6	12:15-12:40 pm	Outside
	12:40-1:05 pm	Lunch

1:00 pm	Welcome Bell
1:05 - 3:05 pm	Classes in Session



Our school is proud to be a URStrong school. This is a curriculum taught through all the grades that aims to empower kids with relational skills. We know that friendships are important to our students and that this part of their life can be tricky. URStrong uses language to help students understand what is normal in a friendship as well as how to gauge if their friendship is healthy or unhealthy, an important measure when deciding who to spend time with.

There is an emphasis to move away from the term 'bully' or 'bullied' (a very serious concern) which can often be misused by kids and parents. Bullying is defined by repeated, aggressive, targeted mean-on-purpose behaviour with a real or perceived power imbalance. Many of the behaviours we see at the elementary age are students with self-regulation challenges, mean-on-purpose behaviour, or uncomfortable/hurt feelings that occur in the friendship. Through the program kids are taught conflict resolution (expressing emotions, perspectives, and putting out a friendship fire) and how to stand up when others are mean-on-purpose (quick comeback).

Your child may have had these lessons this year or in the past, however, as a parent we encourage you to know the language to help coach your child with friendships. The parent subscription is free and you are able to do the lessons at home with your child(ren). Here is the link: <https://urstrong.com/parents/>







SchoolMessenger SafeArrival

One of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely to school every day. To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay) is introducing a new, more efficient student absence reporting system called **SafeArrival**. This new system will reduce the time it takes to verify student attendance, making it easy for you to report your child's absence and easy for staff to respond to unreported student absences.

It is also used to contact parents and guardians when a child is absent (if the absence was not reported in advance). The automated notification system will attempt to contact parents/guardians at multiple contact points until a reason is submitted for the absence. If our system is unable to reach the designated contacts, office staff will follow up.

If you report your child's absence in advance using the SafeArrival [toll-free number](#), [website](#) or [mobile app](#), you will NOT receive these notifications.

With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these **3 convenient methods**:

-  Using your mobile device, download and install the [SchoolMessenger app](#) from the [Apple App Store](#) or the [Google Play Store](#). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
-  Use the [SafeArrival website](#). The first time you use the website, select [Sign Up](#) to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
-  Call the toll-free number **1-(833) 566-1225** to report an absence using the automated phone system.
-  Contact your child's school directly to report an absence.

The SafeArrival options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time up to a maximum of 10 consecutive days. It is important to note that when setting up your account, **you must register using the email address and phone number associated with your child's MyEducation BC account.**

SchoolMessenger SMS

Opt In





**if your number is Canada-based.*

You will receive a text message requesting you to opt into your school or School District 5 text message alert service. This number was provided through your contact information in MyEducation BC.

If you would like to continue receiving messages from your school or district you must reply affirmatively with one of the opt-in key words. Simply reply to the original message (or send a text message to 978338 in Canada) with either the words "opt in" or "subscribe".

If you do not receive a text message, you still can participate in SchoolMessenger SMS (Short Message Service), known as "text messages" from your cell phone by texting "Y" or "Yes" to 978338. Standard message and data rates may apply.

-  For help information, text HELP, INFO, AIDE to 978338.
-  To opt out at any time, text STOP, END, CANCEL, QUIT, UNSUBSCRIBE, ARRET to 978338.

Participating carriers: Rogers Wireless, MTS, Bell, Sasktel Mobility, Telus Mobility



"A safe place to truly belong is vital to every child. Providing that as families heal and hopefully reunite is the most rewarding part of being a foster caregiver to a child who needs it."

MEGHAN, FOSTER CAREGIVER

If becoming a foster caregiver has been on your mind, please reach out to Halina Wloka at 250-423-9718.





Welcome an international student

Rocky Mountain International Student Program (RMISP) welcomes **14 to 18 year olds** from around the world for **5 or 10 month** stays.

**NEW HOST FAMILIES NEEDED NOW FOR
September
2023**



More information
Please contact your local Homestay Coordinator, Sophia Yang:
sophia.yang@sd6.bc.ca
(250) 423-1760

NEW FOR SEPTEMBER 2023
FERNIE HOST FAMILIES WILL RECEIVE
\$1,400
PER STUDENT, PER MONTH

 www.rminternational.ca/homestay