

**École Isabella Dicken Elementary School**

1301 2nd Avenue, Fernie BC

**250-423-4651**



## Principal's Message

Happy New Year! We would like to welcome everyone back from the winter break and hope that you were able to enjoy the time to relax and participate in activities with your family.

School District 5 Southeast Kootenay welcomes all children born between January 1, 2018, and December 31, 2018, and encourages parents to register their children at their catchment area school for September 2023 Kindergarten entry. School District 5 Southeast Kootenay provides a warm, caring learning environment for all students. We offer our Kindergarten students a developmentally appropriate program along with access to computer technology, a Fine Arts program, and student services support. For more information about Kindergarten, please visit our school website.

As always, feel free to contact us with any questions, comments, or good news to share. We value your input and always appreciate hearing from you. If parents wish an interview with a teacher, counsellor, or administrator, please phone, and request that the school arrange a convenient time.

As always, we appreciate your support!

Sincerely,

Laura-Lee Phillips & Janet Kuijt  
Admin Team





## WINTER WEATHER

Now that the cold snowy winter weather 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 everyday. It is our policy to stay outdoors unless the temperature is -20° Celsius or colder. 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. When cold weather persists for several days, we do allow the children to stay in, but will send them out for 15-20 minutes only, just so they get a little fresh air and exercise. We find that students become very restless if they stay in too often.

**With the weather now in full swing, please ensure your child/ren are dressed appropriately.**

When there is inclement weather, dress warmly on cold weather days as school buses may be delayed and your child may be waiting for the bus longer than usual.

During the winter months, inclement weather may cause the disruption of bus transportation and regular school operations. In case of poor weather, the decision to close schools and/or cancel buses is communicated to parents beginning as soon as possible.

It is always a parent's decision whether to send their child to school on inclement weather days.

Since communication is key in alerting families to the status of school operations and busing, we use a variety of methods to communicate this important information including:

### Primary Methods of Communication

- School Messenger
- School District #5 Southeast Kootenay Website <http://www.sd5.bc.ca/Pages/default.aspx>
- EIDES Website [École Isabella Dicken Elementary School \(sd5.bc.ca\)](http://www.sd5.bc.ca/École_Isabella_Dicken_Elementary_School)
- School Facebook Page
- Local radio station, as they are notified when the decision to close schools and/or cancel buses is made.

## 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](mailto:ides.mailing@sd5.bc.ca) **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 come in or have your older child come to the office to sign in/out at the office when you arrive late or leave early\*\***

School Messenger works well for reporting absences and letting us know that your child is expected to be late. We still need you to physically sign the student in when they arrive (students in portables know they can have the teacher call to let us know they arrived safe to class). *Thank you.*







## 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) has introduced 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

## Fair PharmaCare plan - Province of British Columbia

FYI-Fair PharmaCare helps B.C. families pay for eligible prescription drugs, dispensing fees and some medical supplies.

Fair PharmaCare is based on income: the less a family earns, the more help they get.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/health-drug-coverage/pharmacare-for-bc-residents/who-we-cover/fair-pharmacare-plan>

### **ÉIDES IS A “PEANUT & NUT FREE” SCHOOL**

**PLEASE DO NOT** send ANY product to school that contains peanuts or nuts.

**ÉIDES has several children and staff who have a severe life-threatening food allergy (anaphylaxis) to peanuts and nuts, which can cause a severe reaction to specific foods and can result in death within minutes.**

#### **MEDICAL ALERTS**

If your child has a medical condition that requires special attention (i.e. life threatening allergy or carries an epi pen) PLEASE ensure that you inform us. We have a Medical Alert policy and planning forms for parents to sign in order to help us provide any necessary care.



**To all of our volunteers in the Panther's Pantry, we give you a HUUUUUGE THANK YOU** for all your time, energy, and work that you're doing for the school!

We really, really, REALLY appreciate your support!

#### **THANK YOU GEAR HUB!**

They sharpened all our skates for free! It is so appreciated!

If you have any gently used winter boots, jackets, ski pants, toques or mitts we would be grateful for any donations, we would put them to good use.

**Big thanks from your EIDES Family in the Panther's Den!**





## Is your child too sick for school?



### Deciding when your child is too sick for school is not always an easy decision.

Children should not come to school if they are sick and unable to participate fully in routine activities. If you have questions and concerns about your child's health, talk with a qualified healthcare professional.

#### Keep children at home if they have:

- a fever, and keep them home for **24** hours after the fever is gone away without the help of medication.
- vomiting or diarrhea, and keep them home for **24** hours after the last episode.
- a severe sore throat.
- a rash with no known cause.
- a severe cough especially with other symptoms like a runny nose and headache.
- redness, swelling or discharge of the eyes, ears or skin, unless treated.
- been acting unwell and have little energy to join in school activities.

#### For questions about your child's health you can:

1. Dial 811 or go to [HealthLinkBC.ca](http://HealthLinkBC.ca) to speak with a:
  - Registered Nurse 24 hours a day, every day of the year.
  - Registered Dietitian every weekday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. PST.
  - Pharmacist every night from 5 p.m. to 9 a.m. PST every day of the year.
2. Contact an Urgent Care, Walk-in Clinic or Doctor's Office.
  - See the reverse page on when to go to the emergency department.



#### Seasonal Respiratory Illness

As we continue through the fall and winter, we can expect to see more respiratory illness. This is an annual occurrence, but there are measures we all can take to prevent illness and manage symptoms while at home. The most important measures are to get vaccinated, staying home when sick and follow general hygiene measures like hand washing. Here is some information that may be helpful: [It's respiratory illness season.](#)

For more information on specific illnesses see: [A Quick Guide to Common Childhood Diseases](#)



## Is it an Emergency?

Having a sick child can be stressful, but not all illnesses require a visit to the emergency department. Find the right place to go for care.

#### Emergency Department

- Difficulty breathing
- Fever in infants younger than 3 months
- Broken bone
- Serious or severe burn
- Vomiting or diarrhea with dehydration
- Sudden change in mental state
- Complicated or deep cut



Children's Hospital

#### Urgent Care, Walk-in Clinic or Doctor's Office

- Fever or flu
- Cough, cold, sore throat
- Earache
- Rash
- Pink eye
- Sprain or strain
- Referral to specialist



[Information on when to bring your child to the Emergency Department](#)



**DATES TO REMEMBER 2023**

**January - 2023**

Friday, January 20	Assembly 9:30-10 and 11-11:30
Monday, January 23	Maple Man Presentation
Tuesday, January 24	Gr. 3 Programming information-on TEAMS- 6:00 pm
Thursday, January 26	Great Big Buddy Read CBAL
Friday, January 27	No School-school break

**February - 2023**

Friday, February 3	No School- Professional Development
Tuesday, February 14	Book Fair and Bake Sale-PAC
Friday, February 17	No School- School break
Monday, February 20	No School-Stat Holiday
Wednesday, February 22	Pink Shirt Day

**March - 2023**

Tuesday, March 7	Drama production dress rehearsal-school performance
Thursday, March 9	Drama production performance- Aladdin
Friday, March 17	Last day of school before spring break
	March 20 - 31, 2023 - NO SCHOOL

**April - 2023**

Monday, April 3	First day back after spring break
Friday, April 7	No School - Good Friday
Monday, April 10	No School - Easter Monday
Friday, April 21	No School - School break
Monday, April 24	No School - Pro D Day
April 25, 26, 27, 28	Early Dismissal - 2:05 pm

**\*\*Please note the changes that were made to the school Calendar\*\***

**April 2023**

**(Approved-December 13, 2022)**

# School District 5

## 2022-2023 Annual School Calendar

July 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				




February 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

June 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

-  School Breaks
-  Professional Development Days
-  Stat Holidays
-  Administrative Day
-  Second Semester

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

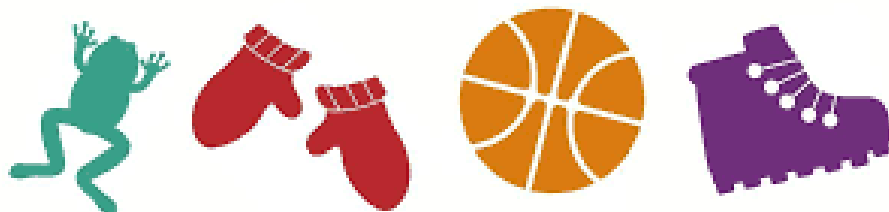
## Lunch Schedule

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 <i>3s allowed on intermediate</i>
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

# LOST & FOUND

Please Check Often and Take What is Yours.



Located on the wall at the entrance to our gym



## Traffic Safety



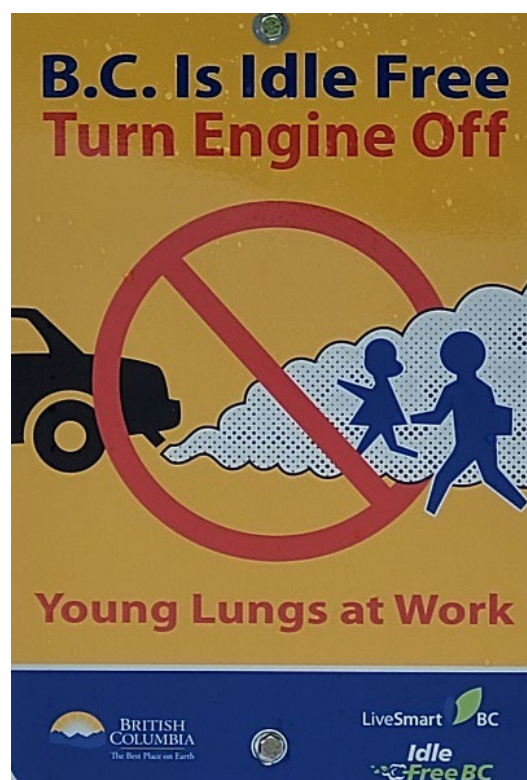
Morning drop-off and after school pick up times are very busy and continue to create safety concerns.

**We have added a crossing guard to help with these busy and dangerous times, say hi, and please listen to their instructions.**

*Please help us keep everybody safe by assisting with the following:*

- Remind your child to use the crosswalk properly and to look both ways before crossing.
- **Please do not stop or block crosswalks with your car.**
- **Please do not block driveways with your car.**
- We ask that you **DO NOT** bring your dog onto the playground.
- **The staff parking lot is for STAFF only; please do not use it as a drop off spot.**
- Please do not linger in drop off/pick up zones during peak times.
- Please respect the no stopping and handicap parking zones.
- 13<sup>th</sup> Street is a bus zone **DO NOT** use it for drop off or pick up.
- Please **NO U-Turns** in School Zones
- Please refrain from smoking on our property.

Please **DO NOT IDLE!** We had a very concerned student named Willow bring a letter to our office reminding us that idling is hurting our environment. She talks about the school yard and drop off zone and said, "it's not a fun place and we don't want that!"





### Courtesy Bus Riders

Due to a bus overloading situation, **we are no longer 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

Great job Runners! We are full swing into winter running season, please ensure that your child comes dressed for the weather with a toque, mitts and 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) regardless of weather, so please remember to run with care. We have had several shoe mix ups recently and are asking you to please put your child's name in their shoes.

***Keep up the great running Panthers!***



The Running Club Team



### EIDES CODING CLUB

We are looking for more adult volunteers.  
**Starting in February, the club runs on Mondays from 3:15 – 4:15.**  
No technical experience necessary!  
Please use the following link to sign up:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094FABA92FA3F9CF8-coding2>







Mr. Fortin's Grade 5/6 class had a great time curling!



Thank you for joining us for our outdoor WINTER SING ALONG EVENT! It was so fun to be gathered outside for some singing fun. Each class worked hard preparing for the concert. We have them to thank for the success but also so many other people: For all that lent us lights for decorations, kept us organized and volunteered to help serve the hot chocolate! Tim Hortons and Save-On-Foods for their donations of hot chocolate, cups and candy canes!



# École Isabella Dicken Elementary School



## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION BLITZ

for the 2023/2024 School year

begins February 1st!

To help with planning for next year, we encourage all parents to register their child for KINDERGARTEN between

February 1st and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Online and in person will be available.

Where: Office at École Isabella Dicken Elementary School  
1301 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Fernie

**Please Bring:** Proof of your child's age (birth certificate)

Proof of your residency (drivers' license, utility bill etc.)  
Your child's BC Care Card



Who: Children who will be five years old on or before December 31, 2023, are invited to join our learning community in Kindergarten for September 2023.

New This Year

**-ONLINE REGISTRATION-**

details available soon on our website





### **Our Reading Incentive Program is looking for help**

This includes collecting reading logs, recording minutes, and announcing all students who have reached the correct number of minutes for their grade. These students then get to come out of class and choose a free book from our book cart as a reward.

This requires a **morning commitment of about 2 - 2.5 hours**. We start right after morning announcements at 9:00 a.m.

Grades K-2 are recorded one week, and then grades 3-6 the following week.

For those who have never done this, I'll meet you at the school first thing and come with you for a bit to show you the process and make sure you don't have any questions. It's super easy, fun and very rewarding

If you have a couple hours on a **Monday morning (Tuesday if NO SCHOOL Monday)**, please check out the link below and sign up for a slot.

Sign Up Genius Link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e44a9af22a0f4c25-reading#/>

Trena Drotar



Enhanced Self-Guided French for Parents Course - Level 1 January 2023 - Canadian Parents for French - Alberta - [ab.cpf.ca](http://ab.cpf.ca)

CPF is proud to offer French classes for Parents, Enhanced Self-Guided French Course – Level 1. This 6-week self-guided course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn French at their own pace, watching the content released weekly when it best suits them.. Throughout the course, students will learn to talk about their personal environment and to interact in various daily-life ...

[ab.cpf.ca](http://ab.cpf.ca)

<https://ab.cpf.ca/en/event/enhanced-self-guided-french-for-parents-course-level-1-january-2023/>



# Block Builders

Tuesdays (Jan. 17 – Mar. 7)  
3:15 – 4:15 pm

Isabella Dicken Elementary



*Learning*  
TOGETHER

FREE parent/child after-school program  
for Kindergarten to grade 2 students  
and their caregiver.

Explore, learn, and have fun with  
LEGO®

Registration is required

To register, [chill@cbal.org](mailto:chill@cbal.org) or  
call 250-946-7257

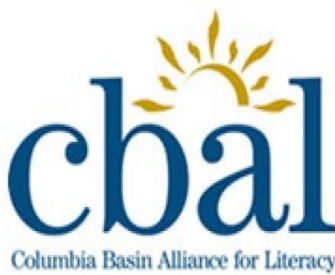
TO REGISTER OR TO LEARN MORE, CONTACT:  
Chry Hill, Community Literacy Coordinator

 [chill@cbal.org](mailto:chill@cbal.org)

 or text 250-946-7257

 [www.cbal.org](http://www.cbal.org)

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Columbia Basin **trust**

  
Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy

  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 5  
SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY

