



# MAY 2026 NEWSLETTER



Ki?su?k kyukyit! Bonjour! Hello Panther families!

As we move into May, our school is full of energy, excitement, and many opportunities for students to learn, connect, and celebrate together.

A special highlight this month will be our Drama Club production of *The Reluctant Dragon*. We are incredibly proud of the hard work, creativity, and courage our students have shown as they prepare for this performance. A heartfelt thank-you goes to the many parent volunteers who have consistently given their time and support to help our students and make this production possible. We warmly invite families to join us for the evening presentation on Wednesday, May 13th at 6:30 pm in the ÉIDES gym.

The coming weeks are packed with exciting opportunities for students, including the Kikomun Cross Country Race, Primary Bike Rodeo, school and district track meets, golf programs, hiking, biking, splash park visits, the Grade 6 trip to Blue Lake, and many other field trips and outdoor learning experiences. Many of these opportunities are made possible through the generosity of our Parent Advisory Council, whose ongoing support helps enrich student learning beyond the classroom. We are also looking ahead to our Indigenous Month Kick-Off on June 4th with the Sookinai Singers. Our Indigenous Education Support Worker, Mrs. Gawryluk, is planning meaningful learning experiences throughout the month that will help deepen our understanding, appreciation, and connection.

As we begin planning for next year, we ask families to please review the information in this newsletter regarding class placement and student organization. This is our time for supporting and planning transitions, as we welcome our new Kindergarten students and families into the building for orientation and PlayB4K, while our Grade 6 students and parents begin their transition planning and orientation opportunities with Fernie Secondary School. Thank you for your continued partnership and support in making ÉIDES such a caring, connected, and vibrant school community

Warmly,  
Ms. Neufeld & Mrs. Leeden  
ÉIDES Admin Team

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- |                                                                   |                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>May 12</b> <i>"The Reluctant Dragon"</i> - School Performance  | <b>June 2</b> PAC Meeting - 7:00 pm               |
| <b>May 13</b> <i>"The Reluctant Dragon"</i> - Evening Performance | <b>May 29</b> ProD Day - No School                |
| <b>May 14</b> Kikomun Cross-Country Race                          | <b>June 4</b> Indigenous Month Kick-off           |
| <b>May 15</b> No School                                           | <b>June 5</b> Elk Valley Track & Field Meet       |
| <b>May 18</b> Victoria Day - No School                            | <b>June 8-10</b> Grade 6 Blue Lake Camp           |
| <b>May 20</b> Bike Roadeo K-2 - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm                | <b>June 12</b> No School                          |
| <b>May 20</b> Kindergarten Orientation Day - 1:00 - 3:00 pm       | <b>June 23</b> Year End Assemblies                |
| <b>May 21</b> Class and School Wide Photos                        | <b>June 24</b> Grade 6 Celebration 1:00 - 3:00 pm |
| <b>May 22</b> ÉIDES Track Meet                                    | <b>June 25</b> LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!                |
| <b>May 22</b> PlayB4K in Library - 2:00 - 3:00 pm                 |                                                   |



# First week of May Events

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**Mother's Day Tea**



**Floor Hockey Champs**



**Play B4K**

# ***Grade 6 Drama Production***



***Date: Wednesday, May 13th  
Where: EIDES Gym  
Time: 6:30 pm  
Admission: By Donation***

# Kindergarten Orientation

May 20th

1:15 - 2:45 pm

Our new kindergarten students will rotate through our four kindergarten classrooms while parents meet in the gym to learn about kindergarten, our school and to ask questions.

Please call our office to register your child for Kindergarten Orientation at 250.423.4651 or email [christine.sweet@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:christine.sweet@sd5.bc.ca)



# Kindergarten Orientation

Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026



**Beep, Beep!!**

**If you and your child would like to ride  
the bus to École Isabella Dicken  
Elementary School for Orientation Day:**

**Max Turyk 12:30 pm  
Aquatic Centre 12:40 pm  
Arena 12:45 pm**

**Please contact the school office at  
250.423.4651 and advise of your pick up  
preference 😊**



# How We Organize Classes & Place Students: A Guide For Families



## Our Commitment

At École Isabella Dicken Elementary, we take great care in how we organize classes each year. Our goal is to create balanced, supportive learning environments where every child can succeed academically, socially, and emotionally.

Student placement is a thoughtful, collaborative process guided by **School District No. 5 Administrative Procedure 358 (Classroom Placement)**



## How Our School is Organized

Each spring, we begin planning for the upcoming school year by:

- Reviewing projected enrolment
- Determining the number of classes
- Creating class groupings (including blended classes where needed)
- Assigning teachers

Once this structure is in place, we begin carefully placing students into classes.



## How Students Are Placed

Every child is considered individually and carefully.

When creating classes, we consider:

- Academic strengths and learning needs
- Social and emotional development
- Work habits and learning styles
- Positive peer groupings
- Class balance (gender, diversity, leadership, etc.)
- Input from teachers and support staff

Classes are reviewed several times to ensure they are balanced, inclusive, and supportive for all learners.



## Parent Input

Families can provide input into the class placement process; please refer to **Administrative Procedure 358** for more information.

- This helps us better understand your child
- We consider all input carefully
- Requests for specific teachers cannot be accommodated
- The due date for parent input is May 31.
- Final placement decisions are made by the school, guided by district procedures
- Parents play an important role in supporting their child's success. Speaking positively about your child's class and teacher helps build confidence and sets the tone for a positive start to the year



## A Few Important Things to Know

- Every classroom includes a range of learning levels
- Teachers adjust instruction to meet each student's needs
- Most students adjust quickly and feel comfortable within the first few weeks
- Concerns often resolve as routines and relationships are established



## If You Have Questions

We understand that class placement can feel important.

If you have questions or concerns:

- Start by connecting with your child's teacher
- Reach out to the school if needed

# Understanding Blended Classes

You may find that your child is placed in a blended (multi-grade) classroom. These classes are common in schools across Canada and are created thoughtfully each year as part of the overall school organization.



## Why Blended Classes?

Blended classes allow us to:

- Create balanced and effective class groupings
- Respond to enrolment and staffing realities
- Provide flexible and responsive learning environments

They are not a “second choice,” but rather an intentional and educationally sound structure.



## Benefits for Students

- A strong sense of community and belonging
- Opportunities for leadership and mentorship
- Increased confidence and independence
- A more cooperative, supportive learning environment
- Older students often take on leadership roles, while younger students benefit from peer support and modeling. This creates a “family of learners” within the classroom



## How The BC Curriculum Supports Blended Classrooms

The BC curriculum is designed to be:

- Flexible and skills-based, rather than strictly content-driven
- Focused on core competencies and deep learning
- Built with overlap between grade levels, especially in K-3 and Grades 4-7
- This means teachers can effectively plan for and teach students across grades by focusing on skills, concepts, and individual growth rather than trying to “cover everything” in one year



## What Does Research Tell Us?

Research consistently shows that students in blended (multi-grade) classrooms achieve at least as well as students in single-grade classrooms, with no negative impact on academic outcomes.

In addition, students in these environments often demonstrate:

- Stronger social skills
- Increased confidence and independence
- More positive attitudes toward school and themselves

Blended classrooms also support more individualized and flexible learning, allowing teachers to meet students where they are and promote deeper understanding.

# ***Primary Bike Roadeo***

**Kindergarten - Grade 2**

**Wednesday, May 20th**

**9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

**ÉIDES Parking Lot**

Please note that bikes cannot be transported  
on the school bus.

Please try and arrange to have your child's  
bike brought to school before 9:00 am and  
picked up at the end of the day.

**Don't forget a helmet!**





# Safety Tips

With warmer weather arriving, many students are excited to get outside and ride their bikes. Biking is a great way to stay active, have fun with friends and family, and enjoy the sunshine!

Here are some important bicycle safety reminders for students and families:

## 1. Always Wear a Helmet

A properly fitted helmet is the best way to protect your head in case of a fall or accident. Helmets should sit level on your head and be snug under your chin.

## 2. Check Your Bike Before You Ride

Make sure your tires are full, your brakes work properly, and your chain is in good condition. A quick safety check helps prevent accidents.

## 3. Follow the Rules of the Road

Bicycles must follow the same traffic rules as cars. Ride on the right side, stop at stop signs, look both ways before crossing, and use hand signals when turning.

## 4. Stay Alert This is a big one!

Watch for cars backing out of driveways, pedestrians, and other cyclists. Keep your eyes up and stay focused on where you are going.

## 5. Be Visible Wear bright clothing when riding and use reflectors or bike lights if riding in the evening. Parents can help by reviewing these rules regularly and making sure bikes and helmets fit properly. Happy riding!

-Cst. Jenn Bragger



The sun is shining and that means that everyone is starting to think about their gardens. We can help you get started on your gardens and decorative flowers with our PAC Spring Plant fundraiser. We are selling beautiful, BC grown plants and flowers to help raise money for our wonderful school.

All orders are to be submitted through the website below and payment can be made directly with a Credit Card or by sending an Etransfer to [eidespac@gmail.com](mailto:eidespac@gmail.com). Please use the password Fernie and please include your name in the notes section so that we can match your payment to your order.

**ORDER DEADLINE: Monday, May 11th - 8:00 pm**

**PICK UP (TBC): Tuesday, May 26th from 2:30 pm - 6:30 pm**

**AND**

**Wednesday, May 27th from 8:30 am - 10:00 am**

**Click the button below To Place an Order!**

**[Order now](#)**





# EIDES

# BOOK DRIVE



BOOK COLLECTION



MAY 26-28

JUNE 1-3

THE CLASS WITH THE MOST BOOKS OVERALL  
WILL WIN A CUPCAKE PARTY



GENTLY USED BOOKS OF ALL KINDS  
ACCEPTED (KIDS, TEEN, ADULT)  
(NO MAGAZINES OR USED WORKBOOKS)

THANK YOU FOR ALL WHO DONATED!





# EIDES

## BOOK DRIVE



PRIZES EVERYDAY

THE CLASS WITH THE MOST BOOKS EACH  
DAY WILL WIN



- MAY 26- COOKIES 
- MAY 27- CHIPS 
- MAY 28- GUMMY WORMS 
- JUNE 1- MINI BAGELS 
- JUNE 2- POPCORN 
- JUNE 3- FREEZIES 

THE CLASS WITH THE MOST BOOKS OVERALL  
WILL WIN A CUPCAKE PARTY 







Welcome



# Grade 7 and New Parent/Guardian Information Night

We will be holding an information night for parents/guardians of next year's grade 7 students as well as any other new families. We will cover topics such as grade 7 courses, how our timetable works, services and supports available at FSS and extracurricular activities. School tours will be available and we will have time for a question - answer session.



**DATE**

**JUNE 10, 2026**

**Fernie Secondary School**

Library 6:00pm

250-423-4471



# A Taste of the World

## A Family Cooking Program

For families with school-aged children

Join newcomers to Canada as they share recipes from their home countries!

- Cook dishes from around the world
- Enjoy a meal together
- Discover new cultures and traditions

Registration is required

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**Date:** Thursdays, May 21 – June 11

**Time:** 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** The Salvation Army  
741 2 Ave, Fernie

**To register or learn more contact:**

**Chrisy Hill**  
Community Literacy Outreach Coordinator

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

 or text 250-946-7257

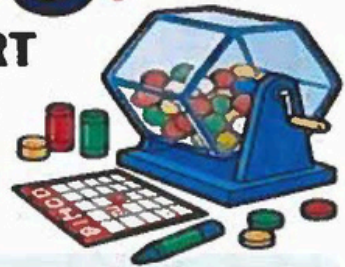
 [cbal.org](http://cbal.org)



FERNIE SECONDARY SCHOOL PRESENTS

# BINGO NIGHT!

A FUN EVENING TO SUPPORT  
OUR STUDENT COUNCIL!



**WHEN: MAY 20th @ 6:00 PM**

**WHERE: TRAYNOR HALL**

102 Fairway Dr, Fernie, BC

**BINGO CARDS BY DONATION!**

PROCEEDS FUND STUDENT

TRIP TO PARLIAMENT!



**PRIZES DONATED BY  
LOCAL BUSINESSES!**



**A CONCESSION  
WILL BE OPEN!**



**SUPPORT  
OUR  
STUDENTS!**





# The 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Cranbrook Firefighter's Fishing Clinic

**When:** Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup> 2026 (Father's Day)  
8:00am - 1:00pm

**Where:** Idlewild Park in Cranbrook

**Who:** All children 15 and under

**Fishing Fun!**

No cost or pre-registration!



Free Burgers  
& Refreshments!

**CHARTERED FISHING TRIP**



for the  
**BIGGEST  
FISH  
CAUGHT!**

**Many More Prizes to be Won!**



Provincial fishing regulations apply. All fish must be caught in the lake!



# 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?
 <b>E-BIKE</b>	Anywhere where bicycles can ride!	14+ for light e-bikes; 16+ for standard e-bikes	Light e-bikes: 25 km/h Standard e-bikes: 32 km/h	No Drivers License or Insurance required	Must have fully operable pedals
 <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
 <b>MOPED/LSM</b>	On public roadways only	16+	70 km/h	Drivers License and Insurance required	CMVSS compliance label required
 <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
 <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