



Rutland Elementary

620 Webster Rd, Kelowna, BC, 250-870-5126, www.rle.sd23.bc.ca

Principal's Message:

September is a month that always seems to fly by so quickly and this year is no exception. It has been a pleasure to see how quickly students have settled back into their classroom routines and are having fun with their learning and connecting with their peers. The building is breathing its full life again – laughter and smiles are filling our rooms! Thank you to all the families who have donated to the Terry Fox Foundation. Students have been completing a symbolic Terry Fox run throughout this week within their cohorts on the back field. We shared with parents at last night's PAC meeting that we are off to a great start so far and are so appreciative of our parent community and their continued support.

Our teachers have created wonderful safe, learning environments and

engaging learning activities in their classrooms. A lot of handwashing continues to be embedded into our new daily routines along with ensuring we are working within our learning cohorts! The newly established staggered lunch hour and additional morning recess have been working smoothly. Your children are resilient and have embraced the extra bells, hand sanitizer, and other Health and Safety measures with grace.

Parents we need your help! The rush of morning drop off time always brings much excitement – parking woes, walking safely onto school grounds, goodbyes and well wishes to your children for another great day and much more! With the addition of new COVID-19 procedures that we, as a community, need to collectively respect, we would like to connect back with parents to be mindful of their social distancing during morning drop off. We encourage you to find spaces to spread out as to not "overcrowd" one particular area. We appreciate the challenge this presents and are sincerely appreciative of your efforts. We are working hard to adhere by the District Health and Safety protocols to ensure our school remains free of colds/flu and most importantly, COVID-19. Thank you for your continued efforts to support us and your children to follow our protocols.

For those families looking ahead to Halloween this year, all students (K-5) will be given an opportunity to wear costumes. Teachers will be sending out more information to ensure that costumes are safe and manageable in their classrooms. If you decide to send your child in costume on Halloween, please keep in mind that most classrooms only have one adult, making it tricky to manage many costumes. Please leave delicate or 'hard-to-put-on' parts of your child's costume at home for evening Halloween activities. Children should also be able to use the washroom independently with their costumes (this is particularly important for our young primary students). As in all school settings, costumes need to be free of weapons, full face coverings, and have tasteful makeup. School costumes need to be family friendly! Last year was the first year in a very long time that we had Halloween costumes. Thanks to both parents and teachers it went very smoothly. This year, more than ever, we are looking for a fun, safe, Halloween with costumes or black and orange (if you prefer!!)

Sincerely,

Mr. Kirsch and Mrs. Anjos

Dates to know in October:

October 1-2

Parent Teacher Conferences-
Early dismissal

October 8

Photo Day

October 9

Implementation Day – NO
SCHOOL

October 12

Thanksgiving Day – NO SCHOOL

October 21-22

Sexual Health Education
(Gr 4 & 5)

October 23

Non-Instructional Day – NO
SCHOOL

SCHOOL FEES

School fees are \$35 per student. We encourage you to use our online payment system! There is a link on our website, <https://centralokanagan.schoolcashonline.com>. All school fees are due now.

Cold and Flu Season

One of the most important ways to prevent the spread of cold germs is to wash your hands! Thank you in advance for using the Safe Arrival School Messenger system. Using this system saves our clerical staff valuable time.

<http://www.sd23.bc.ca/schoolmessenger/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

Allergy Awareness

More and more children in our care have life-threatening food allergies. For these children, smelling, eating or touching allergy-causing food can trigger a life-threatening allergic reaction (also known as anaphylaxis). If not treated, it could lead to collapse and death. Some anaphylactic reactions can occur within seconds or minutes of contact with the allergy-causing food. Other reactions may take an hour or longer to appear. The only way to prevent this type of reaction is to avoid contact with allergy causing foods.

Rutland Elementary has a school-wide awareness policy on peanuts and tree nuts. Parents are asked to carefully read product labels prior to sending any foods to school to ensure they do not contain peanuts and/or nuts within the ingredients list, teachers may send home a letter outlining the specific nature of the allergy in your child's classroom. As well, please remind your children to not share their lunches.

Orange Shirt Day

September 30th has been declared Orange Shirt Day, in recognition of the harm the residential school system did to children's sense of self-esteem and wellbeing, and as an affirmation of the commitment to ensure that everyone around us matters. "Every child matters."

