



Belfountain Buzz

Back to School 2017



Principal: Mrs. L. Bristoll
Office Manager: Mrs. B. Smith
Superintendent: Mr. M. Logue
Trustee: Mr. S. Cameron

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Belfountain! My name is Lynn Bristoll and I am the proud principal of Belfountain and have been since last November, so these days are firsts for me at the school. If you are a returning parent welcome back. If you are new to the school I'd like to warmly welcome you and can assure you that you won't regret the move! In June we ended with 113 students and this week we have confirmed 171 young ones! The transition of students from Creditview, and other schools as well, has gone extremely well as I'm sure your son or daughter has already shared.

In terms of communication outside of the classroom, please check our school's website at schools.peelschools/1458 as updates are made regularly, particularly to the school's calendar with upcoming dates, minutes of the council meetings in the School Council tab and any new information in the "What's New" section. As well, I use the email distribution list to send out electronic reminders and information either by email or voice mail. If you are missing any of these messages it could be that you didn't send back the permission form we require to add you to the list. Feel free to call the office so we can include you in our electronic communication.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

We had a wonderful turnout to our first School Council meeting on Wednesday, September 13. I'm happy to report that we have all executive positions filled thanks to the volunteers. Our next meeting is set for Tuesday, October 17 at 6:00. Please remember that **all parents are welcome**. If you are having difficulty making babysitting arrangements or both parents would like to attend, daycare will be provided by students and refreshments will be available.

LUNCHROOM SUPERVISOR NEEDED!

As has been previously communicated, we are desperately looking for anyone who can help us out during one or both of our nutrition breaks. Spread the word and let's see if we can get one more lunchroom supervisor. Please call the office for further details.

Belfountain School Hours

Morning Entry: 8:30 a.m.
First Break begins: 10:50 a.m.
Second Break begins: 12:50 p.m.
Afternoon dismissal: 2:50 p.m.

Please call **1-855-209-6155** if your child will be absent from or late to school.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept. 19

Terry Fox Kick-off Assembly

Sept. 22

Grade 4/5 & 6 wetlands trip to Terra Cotta Conservation Area

September 26

Reorganization Day (No School for Students)

Sept. 28

Terry Fox Event

Oct. 3

Author Visit - Susan Aguilo

Oct. 4

Picture Day

Oct. 5

Open House

Oct. 17

School Council Meeting 6:00 pm

Oct. 27

Character Recognition Assembly

Learning for head, heart, and hands in our local built and natural environments.

<http://schools.peelschools.org/1458>

REVISED SCHOOL HOURS

Our school times remain the same as last year, except our first nutrition break now starts later to optimize learning. Our current schedule is as follows:

- 8:15 Students start to disembark bus
- 8:25 Bell rings to enter
- 8:30 Instructional Day Begins
- 8:30 National Anthem & Announcements
- 8:35 DPA
- 8:50 Period 1 Begins
- 10:50-11:10 Nutrition Break #1 (lunch)
- 11:10-11:30 Nutrition Break #1 (recess)
- 12:50-1:10 Nutrition Break #2 (lunch)
- 1:10-1:30 Nutrition Break #2 (recess)
- 2:50 Dismissal

BOOMERANG LUNCHES

This year, in keeping with our Eco focus, we are encouraging students to bring their food in reusable containers as much as possible. They will also be bringing all food items home (uneaten and eaten), as well as all packaging. This allows children to sort and make use of their home compost for food scraps, recycling bins and garbage for waste. This also affords parents/guardians the opportunity to monitor their son/daughter's eating habits to plan for future lunches.

CASHLESS SCHOOLS

Thank you to the majority of you who signed up for our Cashless School system. This makes a difference to the communication, workload and efficiency in financial transactions. If you have not done so already, please consider doing so, as we are aiming for 100%, in preparation for future events/excursions and hot lunches. If you need a reminder of the steps involved, go to the school's website (schools.peelschools.org/1458) and click on the icon on the right-hand side of the main page. If you require any assistance during the process feel free to call the company directly at 1-866-961-1803. Thank you in advance.



BUSING

Busing is arranged through the Board's transportation contractor, not the school. Student Transportation of Peel Region (STOPR) has a website at <http://businfo.stopr.ca> Parents can access important information about their child's transportation for the school year on this site, including any delays on a daily basis. You will need your child's OEN # (found on their report card). It is critical that parents communicate any changes to personal information such as home address, daycare arrangements, etc. to the school as this data is used by STOPR to arrange transportation. Students must be on the driver's roster in order to ride on the bus for security and safety reasons so please keep us informed to avoid delays and disappointment.

STAFF LIST

A warm welcome is extended to all our new staff members. We have almost doubled the number of adults in our building from last year. There have also been changes to the assignments for some staff that were previously here. As of now this is who works in the building:

Ms. Brooker	Kindergarten
Mrs. Kinsella	Kindergarten ECE
Ms. Haines	Kindergarten
Miss Dowling	Kindergarten ECE
Mr. Loughnane	Grade 1
Mrs. Vallance	Grade 2
Mrs. McCarthy	Grade 3
Ms. Broersma	Grade 3/4
Mrs. Kerr	Grade 4/5
Mrs. Rohde	Grade 6
Mr. Mattson	Music (half time)
Mrs. Laidlaw	French (half time)
Mrs. Caesar	Teacher Librarian (half time)
Miss Singh	Phys-ed (half time)
Mrs. Windrim	Special Education (part time)
Ms. Slack	Teaching Assistant
Ms. Kittle	Teaching Assistant(half time)
Mrs. Smith	Office Manager
Mrs. Martin	Head Custodian
Mrs. Bristoll	Principal

Learning for head, heart, and hands in our local built and natural environments.

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CHANGING BUSES

Because driver's need to abide by their list of riders and because of the time required in tracking alternative arrangements, we cannot accept changes to children's bus routines in order to go on a friend's bus home.

STOPR arranges pick up and drop offs to students' home address or babysitter address (within the school's boundary). This needs to be a consistent daily schedule. In an emergency situation we do have a form that can be filled in for a one-time change in bus stop (ideally with 24 hours notice).

If your child normally rides the bus and instead one day you come to pick him/her up from school, it is necessary to sign your child out in the office, even if it is at the end of the school day. Please send in a note to the classroom teacher so he/she is aware of the arrangement.

HEALTH INFORMATION

Medical information must be updated annually. Should your child require medication of any type during school hours, including EpiPens for students with anaphylaxis or puffers for asthma, a Peel District School Board Medication Form must be completed and signed by your Physician. Forms were sent home in June with some students and are available from the school office or on our website under "Forms".

Students may **not** have medication **of any kind** (including Aspirin, Midol, Tylenol, etc.) at school without this signed paperwork. If the form is signed by a Doctor, all medication is kept in the office. Students are not to keep **any** medication, prescription or over-the-counter, with them or in their personal possession (with the exception of an EpiPen or inhalers) at any time.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO.

It is essential that the school have current emergency information for your child. Please inform the office as soon as possible when your telephone number at home or at work changes. If there is a change in daycare provider or emergency contact, please notify the office or send a note with your child. A verification of information form (OSOR sheet) will be sent home shortly for you to review.



REORGANIZATION

At the end of the last school year it was emphasized that the class your child is currently in is TENTATIVE and changes may be made next week based on Ministry caps and Board averages.

- Reorganization Day is taking place on September 26th
- Students remain at home while staff engage in transition planning
- Based on student numbers during the first weeks of school, changes may be made to individuals, classes and staff.
- We have a student population of 171, and were projected for 167, with growth in Grade 6 and fewer students in Grade 4 & 5 than anticipated so it is a real possibility we may need to move your child to a different class.
- You will be notified prior to September 25th if this pertains to your son or daughter and would ask for your patience and support during any necessary transitions.
- If you have any information pertaining to your child that is important for us to know during this process (e.g., separating siblings, same teacher for 3 years in a row), please send a note or email Mrs. Bristoll at lynn.bristoll@peelsb.com
- Please note that requests for specific teachers will not be considered
- We will do everything to plan for a smooth transition for everyone if reorganization does occur

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NUT CONSCIOUS

Please discuss with your child the importance of not sharing snacks and washing their hands before their meals for health reasons. Any uneaten food will be sent back in a child's lunch bag for family monitoring.

If your child has anaphylaxis or any other severe health condition (e.g., seizures, asthma), it is important for you to inform the office. Information can then be exchanged and the necessary emergency precautions and plans put in place.

It is board policy that all students with anaphylaxis allergies wear their Epi-pen on them at all times. Please call Lynn Bristoll, principal, if you would like to discuss this further.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

In the event of a sudden emergency, such as a fire, threatening the safety or welfare of students and staff, everyone will evacuate the building using our Fire Drill procedures. If the conditions are such that the building cannot be re-entered, the students will walk to Belfountain Village Church. Students will remain there until the teachers release them to parents or persons designated by the parents.

We will be holding 3 fire drills this fall to remain in compliance and to ensure students are familiar with our Fire Drill procedures. We will also hold 1 lock-down practice during this time.

HOT LUNCHES RETURN

Great news! We have volunteers willing to oversee and run our hot lunch program. Look out for details to follow but in the interim, please set up a Cash Online account so that you are ready to order once it is ready to start!

RYAN'S LAW - ASTHMA

As you may be aware, *Ryan's Law*, passed a couple of years ago by the Ontario Legislature. This piece of legislation is an important step to support the well-being of students with asthma in Ontario schools.

If your child has asthma, we ask that you contact the main office of your school to provide information about your child's asthma medication. With permission, your child will be allowed to carry their medication with them.

The Ministry of Education website has resources on asthma that can be found at:
<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/healthyschools/anaphylaxis.html>

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

A reminder that the school bell rings at 8:25 to enter the school and students are marked late if they arrive after 8:30. Should your child be arriving late or will be absent, please call the attendance line prior to a call home.

Letters to parents are sent from the Principal for students that are absent or late for 10 or more days. A second letter will indicate your child has missed 15 or more days so we ask you to ensure your child's regular and prompt attendance.

Should you be picking up your child early, please record that in their agenda or send in a note so that they can be excused from class at the time indicated and wait in the health room until your arrival to sign them out.

KEEP INFORMED!

This is the only newsletter that will be offered to families in print. In keeping with our eco focus, and current practice, all communication will be via voice mail, email and through our school website. You can receive automatic updates indicating something has been added to our website by going to the site at schools.peelschools.org/1458 and clicking the tab on the left-hand side that says "subscribe".

INFORMATION LETTER
Re: Partnering for Change

Dear Parents / Guardians:

Our school is receiving occupational therapist (OT) services, in partnership with the Central West Local Health Integration Network (CW LHIN). The Partnering for Change model was studied and developed by CanChild, a research centre at McMaster University.

OTs are health professionals who work with children in many different settings and have expertise in the areas of fine motor (e.g. printing and writing, cutting with scissors, opening juice boxes, and doing up zippers, assistive technology for written productivity, organizational skills in the classroom), gross motor (e.g. jumping, climbing stairs, running), and sensory regulation (calming/alerting strategies, self-regulation, and sensory processing skills to help with classroom participation, etc.) skill development.

Starting in September, the OT will be in our school one day every two weeks. The OT will be a part of our school team and will spend time in our classrooms, gym, and playground. The OT will collaborate with teachers to provide support to groups of students in the classroom setting and develop general goals such as sensory processing skills, fine motor development (like printing,) or gross motor development (like ball skills). Group supports do not require informed consent as these groups will work on general goals and provide general recommendations.

If a student requires more individualized support, the school OT may work with students on an individual basis. In this case, you will be contacted by a member of the school team. The school OT will contact you afterward, as informed consent from parents/guardians is required for one-on-one services. Educational sessions will be offered for parents as well – watch our school newsletter for details.

Please let the classroom teacher know if you have concerns about your child's ability to do motor-based activities at home and feel free to contact me if you have questions about the service.

Lynn Bristoll
Belfountain P.S.
519-927-5212

For more information, you can also contact the Pediatric Intake Care Coordinator at the CW LHIN by phone 905-796-0040 or Toll Free at 1-888-733-1177, ext.7765

