Lightning News for January 4th – 8th.

Barnhill does their Best! Better Every Single Time.

The theme for the month of January is “self - discipline.”

“A great way to develop self-discipline is to make it a habit to do things you should be doing when you feel the laziest. Every time you feel lazy, do the opposite of what you feel like doing.” ~Anonymous ~

Welcome back, we hope you had a restful and pleasant holiday. We are certainly looking forward to all the new adventures of 2021 and continue to provide a rigorous, joyful and safe school environment. As we continue to be in the yellow phase of COVID-19 we would like for all students and staff to “mask up!” It is strongly recommended to always wear face masks for the next two weeks, please see the attached letter from Dominic Cardy ~ Minister of Education. We are all back together in the school environment and we appreciate your support as we work with our students, your children on practicing safety protocols. We encourage families to stay connected and informed by following our district website for important information and updates.

We want to thank all families of Barnhill with their generosity regarding the Dodge Hunger Campaign. We spoke with a representative from the West Side Food Bank before the holidays and they were thrilled with our generosity, they asked if they could pick up all the items in January since this is when their supplies are depleted, they will be in this week to receive the boxes of non-perishable food items. Way to go Lightning!

We will continue to organize outside learning activities for our students, so we all can enjoy the fresh air. The outside classroom the “Lightning Dome” continues to be constructed. The next phase is to build a “Geodome Greenhouse.” However, while in the building, the students and staff are working at consistently following the rules: such as washing our hands regularly and sanitizing when we are in different areas of the school, wearing a face mask (please bring a clean one to school daily), following the traffic flow and practicing physical distancing ~ staying and interacting in their own bubble while keeping a physical distance of two meters from other bubbles. We must ensure that our student groupings/ class bubbles are respected during lunches and other movement within the school, this is to continue to keep everyone safe.

**Electronic Devices:** Please be aware that students may use their devices before school, they are to put the device in the protective pocket within their class at 8:20 a.m. If a student does not want to put their device in the pocket, it is best that they do not bring the device to school. They may use the device at lunch – from 12:10 p.m. – 12:50 p.m. There are to be absolutely no pictures/videos/snapchat etc. to be taken at noon – the student may talk/text or play games on their device. The student will get their device at dismissal in order to take the device home. Students are **not** to use their device during instructional time. If you need to contact your child, please call the office at 658-5393 and we will ensure you talk with your child. Thank you.

**Breakfast Program:** The student led breakfast program will be up and running since we are in the yellow phase…every classroom bubble will receive a breakfast basket every morning with packaged healthy food options. This basket will be available during Foundations class.

**Lunch:** We encourage all families to pack healthy lunch options for their child – the students have twenty minutes to eat at lunch, therefore we encourage packing sandwiches or food that can eaten cold, lining up to use the microwave does take time from the eating minutes at lunch. Every Friday we have cheese pizza available for lunch, if you would like your child to have pizza for lunch on Friday, just pre-order on cashless schools.

We also encourage everyone to dress for the weather ~ all students are going outside at lunch. It is probably best to dress in layers. Even though students do keep all their items in the class, they are not to wear their outside clothing in the class bubble. Students are encouraged to bring a sweater or a hoodie to wear during instructional time if they are cold.

**Footwear:** Every student is to have a pair of sneakers to wear during Phys. Ed. Class. These are to be inside shoes only, since the muck and dirt do scratch the wooden gym floor. In order to cut down on the dirt in the hallways and the class bubbles we would like every student to change their footwear when they come into the building. Boots and outside footwear are for while outside; sneakers and other indoor shoes are for inside the building. We are taking every effort to keep our school environment clean and healthy.

**On the horizon…**

We will be resuming the interactive training for “Allergy Awareness” with all our class bubbles, while we are in the yellow phase.

Just so there is no confusion, there is NOT a PL on February 1st. The students do have classes on the 1st of February. We had that PL back in October. Thank you.

**Science Fair:** All students have begun work on their Science Fair projects before the holiday. The due date is Wednesday, February 10th. This year due to COVID -19 restrictions all students will be completing individual projects and will be presenting them in their individual class bubble. Please note …that in addition to the information that was provided to all students by their teachers, there is also information on Microsoft Teams. There are weekly assignments for all students. Good luck to everyone as they work on their projects! Remember to ask your Science teacher questions and the due date is **February 10th.**

**Family Day:** The 2021 Family Day will be Monday, February 15th.

**Pink Shirt Day:** Pink Shirt Day is Wednesday, February 24th. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected us all and shown the importance of helping one another and advocation for those who need it. “Lift each other up” is the slogan for Pink Shirt Day this year. Starting the first week of February we will have pink shirts for sale for our students and staff.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 658-5971 or jill.ferguson@nbed.nb.ca

Thank you.

Ms. Jill Ferguson