



Lightning News for September 3rd – 6th.
Barnhill does their Best! Better Every Single Time.

The theme for the month of September is communication.

“Honest communication is built on truth and integrity and upon respect of the one for the other.”
~ Benjamin E. Mayes ~

Grade 6 students start on Tuesday, September 3rd with an opening assembly in our gym at 8:25 a.m. Parents/guardians are certainly welcome to attend this assembly.

Wednesday, September 4th is the first day for our grade 7 and 8 students and the second day for our grade 6 students.

We want to welcome you the parents/guardians and students to Barnhill Memorial School. We are looking forward to working with you and your child on this path of learning in 2019/2020. We feel it is important to have an open line of communication between home and school. Therefore, please if there is an issue or concern; call and arrange a meeting with your child’s teacher and administration. We look forward to helping everyone move forward in a positive direction. It can be discouraging and difficult to address when individuals decide to take their concerns to their various forms of social media. This type of communication sets barriers between you, your child and the school. We look forward to helping resolve any concerns with an in person discussion. We are all here to work together for all of our students, your children’s education.

In keeping with our open and transparent communication we have all homeroom teachers reaching out to their students to welcome them to Barnhill Memorial School. A lot of work has gone into the class compositions and we are unable to make changes to the classes. This year our numbers are higher than other years and we are doing our best to accommodate as many students as possible. Our teachers have participated in a collaborative process to develop the best class compositions based on last year’s transition notes and any alterations made will affect multiple students and classes. We as educators, look to you the parents/guardians to help your child to understand this process. It is wonderful when we all speak with the same voice. Let’s make this school year the best ever for your child.

The school day starts at 8:20 a.m. Supervision in the school yard begins at 7:50 a.m.

Dismissal is 2:55 p.m.

Please remember we are a closed campus. Students are not permitted to go to stores and fast food establishments unless they are signed out in the office and accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Please ensure you take the opportunity to review your data sheet. It is very important that we have updated phone numbers and email addresses in order to communicate with families. If there are any changes, please indicate this on the data sheet. Please sign and return the form to the homeroom teacher by Friday, September 6th.

If there have been any changes to any part of your child's Policy 704 plan, please contact the school by Friday, September 6th so we can update the information for our records and keep your child safe.

We work very diligently to keep our school environment safe for everyone. Please remind your child if they are having a problem at school to either talk to a teacher or an administrator in private. It is always best to use your words in order to work out any conflicts. We cannot have students hitting each other, even in self-defense. There will be consequences for this kind of behavior; therefore we strongly suggest that students and parents/guardians work with the staff to ensure the safety of everyone.

Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (RTIPPA) – All students will have a copy of this form in their welcome package, please ensure you return this consent form with your signature to the homeroom teacher.

Student Fee and Lockers: A student fee of \$35.00 is requested to help cover the cost of co-curricular events, presentations, supplies for special projects and transportation for field trips. Please make your payment on cashless schools. All students who attend Barnhill Memorial School are to use a school issued lock on their locker. Please encourage your child not to share their combination, lockers are for the students to keep their personal belongings. All grade 6 and new to the school students will be issued a school lock with the student fee. All other students are to have their lock in order to lock their locker and keep their belongings safe. If a student does not have their lock; it \$7.00 to get a new lock.

~ **Communication with Staff:** All staff members attempt to be accommodating and as accessible as possible. There are times in which both administrators and teachers are not available to speak to you immediately. First thing in the morning is usually very busy and not an opportune time to speak. We ask that you call the school to book an appointment, main office is 658-5393.

Ms. Ferguson 658-5971

Madame Carleton 658-5972

Another option is to email the staff member in which you would like to speak with. All of this information is on our website.

~ **Attendance Matters:** Being present and on time impacts positively on learning. Good attendance helps to build habits that will last a lifetime and transfer to life beyond public education. We want your children here so they can learn.

~ **We are a Scent Free School:** We are asking all families to be sensitive to the fact that both students and staff are affected by strong scents. These scents can trigger a severe allergic reaction. Students and staff are not to wear cologne, perfume, hair products, cream, etc. that emit a strong scent. We do not want anyone having an allergic reaction because of someone having and/or using a strong scent.

~ **We are also Nut Free:** We have students and staff who are severely allergic to nuts and nut products. Barnhill Memorial School will attempt to make the school as allergy safe as possible, however, we need your help! Please do not send these foods to school.

~ **Bolt:** Barnhill Memorial School will continue with our Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) called BOLT. Each of the letters in BOLT are components of this plan.

B = Being respectful

O = Owning your learning

L = Living safely

T = Taking responsibility

Students will be reminded of the expectations in our school community. We want to focus on the positive with our students and catch them doing the right thing. Students will be given Bolt Ballots by the staff and have the opportunity to win prizes on a weekly basis.

ASD-S Safe Arrivals Program

Report your child's absence by using any of these easy methods:

- Call toll free: 1-833-219-9065
 - Website: <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>
 - Mobile app: SchoolMessenger
- ~ For more information visit: www.asd-s.nbed.nb.ca

Picture Day ~ Smile ~ all students and staff will have the opportunity to have their picture taken on Wednesday, **September 18th** retakes will be in October. We are using Harvey's Studios for our pictures and our year book.

Hot lunch: Please pack a lunch for school until September 30th. In accordance with Policy 711 the provincial policy regarding healthy eating habits at school we will be organizing our hot lunch program. The hot lunch program will be available for Monday, Wednesday and Friday. To purchase hot lunch, cashless school will be the only method utilized. There will be no exchanging of cash.

~ **Cashless schools:** Barnhill Memorial School is a cashless school for many expenses that families incur during the school year. Payments will be made electronically for hot lunches, school fees, athletic fees, Barnhill swag such as shirts and hoodies, school trips, etc. We encourage parents/guardians to register at <https://asds.schoolcashionline.com/>

* **Grade 7 Immunization:** All students in grade 7 will be offered a vaccine that protects against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough), and human papillomavirus (HPV) – the grade 7 students will bring the forms home the first week of school to be filled out and signed by a parent/guardian. Thank you.

- The first **P.S.S.C. Meeting** will be on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in Room 28, our new meeting room.

Athletics and Activities:

~ Our Open House is on Thursday, September 5th from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. We will have student council representatives here to be tour guides and to serve our pastries. Thank you SRC.

~ The first girls soccer tryout will be on September 9th after school from 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. The first boys soccer tryout will be on September 10th after school from 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Please ensure your child has a way home at 4:30 p.m.

Any questions or concerns contact Madame Vansteeg kaitlin.vansteeg@nbed.nb.ca for the girls team and Mr. Kyle tom.kyle@nbed.nb.ca for the boys team.

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

“You are a citizen, and citizenship carries responsibilities.” ~ Paul Collier ~