 *Lightning News for September 23rd – 27th.*

 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 for one for the other.”

 ~ Benjamin E. Mays ~

We want to take the opportunity to say “thank you” to our school community; last Thursday night we had our first dance of the school year and it was a huge success due to the support from parents/guardians and the staff. The students had a wonderful time and we had a ton of supervision, which always keeps our students safe, and they were happy having fun!

We also want to take the opportunity to say “thank you” to Kings Valley Church. Representatives from the congregation came to our school on Thursday, September 19, and presented us with a very generous donation. We thought as a staff how this donation could benefit all of our students…we have decided to purchase new gym mats for our physical education program and we are also receiving quotes to have new drapes installed on our stage. Thank you so much!

What a beautiful weekend, we certainly hope you all had an opportunity to go out and enjoy it. Can you imagine, this is already the last full week of September?

This week is a busy one – on Thursday, September 26, we have the grade 7 immunizations happening in the morning in our lunchroom with the Nurses from Horizon Health.

 In the afternoon during 4th period after lunch, we have the Terry Fox Walk, all of the students and staff of Barnhill be out walking and/or running to support Terry. We have been collecting a toonie for Terry to donate to this wonderful cause.

Also on Thursday, September 26,we would like to take the opportunity to encourage our parents and guardians to attend the presentation of *Risky Business.* This presentation is free and it will take place at Bayside Middle School’s auditorium. This presentation is for adults only. Sharon Munn, from the Crown Prosecutor’s Office will be offering parents/guardians of middle school student’s information on social media and electronic devices. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

On Friday, September 27, ten of our grade 8 students will be going to Harbour View High School for an Engagement Day. This engagement day will be covering the curriculum of Science. The ten students will be bringing home a permission slip on Monday, please return to Ms. Ferguson by Thursday.

Starting on Monday, September 30, we will be starting our Intervention program during Foundations class. Every day of the week, we will be concentrating on different curriculum outcomes and we will be working with small groups to help them achieve these skills.

We are planning a job fair in the spring. If you as a parent/guardian would like to have a booth and present during our job fair, please contact Mrs. Muise – liza.muise@nbed.nb.ca or simply call the school at 658-5393 and ask for Mrs. Muise.

 **Student Fee:** If you have not already done so, please take the opportunity to pay your student fee. We are already starting to organize some field trips and these fees help to offset the cost of transportation. Please use Cashless Schools, this is a very convenient service that families can use to pay various school expenses. Please check out our website to register.

 Hot lunch: This program starts on Monday, September 30th.

Please sign up and pay for hot lunches on cashless schools:

Monday – Pasta and vegetables or fruit for $4.00

Wednesday – Baked chicken poppers with parmesan sticks and vegetables or fruit for $4.00

Friday – Cheese Pizza with vegetables/fruit for $3.00

We always have a student lead canteen at lunch with healthy snacks and drinks – everything is a $1.00

Also if you are in a hurry and do not have time to pack lunch or your child has forgotten their lunch, we have pizza available for $2.00 a slice in the Student Lounge at lunch. We never want a child to go hungry thoughout the day.

* We had our first **P.S.S.C. Meeting** last Tuesday and thank you to all of the parents/guardians who attended the meeting. We will be posting the minutes to our website this week. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 15th ~ if you would like to join PSSC, please come to the meeting.

**We are a Restorative School!** What does a restorative school mean? A restorative school is one which takes a restorative approach to resolving conflict and preventing harm…Restorative approaches refer to a range of methods and strategies which can be used to prevent relationship-damaging incidents from happening and to resolve them when they do happen. Being a restorative school has many benefits, including increased attendance, reduced exclusions and improved achievement. We want all of our students and staff to be here and to feel safe.

* **Bus Safety:**

~ When riding the bus, please take your seat promptly and sit properly, facing forward at all times.

~ Place bags and parcels under your seat or on your lap. Keep the aisle of the bus clear at all times.

~ Aways keep your head, hands and arms inside the bus.

~ Talk quietly, the driver needs to concentrate to safely drive the bus. Fighting, shouting, or use of obscene language is not permitted.

~ Do not throw any objects in or around the bus.

~ Eating and drinking is not allowed on any school buses at any time.

~ Smoking/vaping is not permitted on the bus.

~ Always follow the bus driver’s instructions.

 On Tuesday, October 1st starting at 9:30 a.m. we will have a bus safety drill for our grade 7 and 8 students. The grade 6 students already had this drill, the very first day of school. Please always stop for the bus when the red lights are on. Also when dropping off and picking up your child please do so at the drop off/pick up area. Please do not come up to the front of the school. There is a sign posted out in front!

**Athletics and Activities:**

* **Please mark some of the following dates in your calendar…**

~ On October 8th we will have our first meeting for all of our grade 8 students and their parents/guardians, for the students who plan to go on the grade 8 Quebec Trip. This will be a very important meeting since we will be covering the itinerary and fund raising opportunities. The meeting will start at 5:30 p.m. in the gymnasium.

~ As a school we have been invited to Harbour View High School on October 9th for the showing of “Into the Woods” ~ the tickets are $5.00 a student ( this is to paid on cashless schools) and we will be using student fees to pay for the transportation.

~ Members of SRC have an opportunity to attend WE Day Atlantic in Halifax on Wednesday, October 16. Mrs. Blanchard and Madame Arbeau are organizing travel costs and all the details ~ more information will follow.

~ The babysitting course begins on October 16th. If students have not signed up for it, please see Mrs. Muise.

~ All athletic information is posted on the bulletin board in the main foyer, outside the gym.

The girls have a home game tomorrow against Millidgeville North School. Come out and support our team.

Cross Country has a practice on Tuesday until 3:45 p.m.

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

 for the boys soccer team. Contact for Cross Country is Mrs. Graham krista.graham@nbed.nb.ca

~ Please always check out our school website for all updates, daily announcements and news! The website is a wonderful way to stay informed.

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

“Communication is a skill that you can learn. It is like riding a bicycle! If you are willing to work at it, you can rapidly improve the quality of every part of your life.” ~ Brian Tracey ~

Thank you.

Ms. Jill Ferguson