



GIANT'S HEAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Working together to create a respectful, safe place to learn

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to Giant's Head School for the 2016-2017 School year. As with all school years, this one promises to be an exciting and busy one!

My name is Kelly Jones and I am the new principal here at Giant's Head School. I am very excited to be here and looking forward to a great year.

It is a little bit of a homecoming and full circle for me as I started grade 6 at Giant's Head School in 1974/1975, the first year that it opened! It was a much smaller school at that time but still a great one. I then went on to graduate from SSS in 1982 before going on to university in Victoria. My teaching and administration career has led me to Fort Nelson in the north and then the beautiful Creston Valley. Before finally settling in neighboring Penticton 14 years ago with my wife and 5 children. I have been a Principal or Vice Principal for the past 25 years and look forward to bringing that experience to Giant's Head School.

We have a lot of very exciting plans for the year and I hope you will come out and be a part of all of them. The school and grounds are looking great. Please come in and meet me and our new staff members this month as we get everyone back into the swing of another school year.

So enjoy the newsletter, keep the calendar on the fridge, come and meet everyone and take part in another great year here at Giant's Head.

BELL SCHEDULE

8:40	1 ST Bell
8:45	Classes Begin
10:20 - 10:35	Recess
12:15- 12:30	Lunch
12:30 - 1:00	Outside
2:40	Dismissal



NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS

Professional Dev. Day	Sept.30
Thanksgiving Day	Oct.10
Professional Dev. Day	Oct.21
Curriculum Impl Day	Nov. 10
Remembrance Day	Nov.11
Last Day of classes before Winter Break	Dec.16
Schools Reopen	Jan.3
Family Day	Feb.13
Professional Dev. Day	Feb.17
Spring Break	Mar.17
Schools Reopen	Apr. 3
Professional Dev. Day	Apr. 13
Good Friday	Apr. 14
Easter Monday	Apr. 17
Professional Dev. Day	May 15
Victoria Day (school closed)	May 22
Last day of classes	June 29

VERIFICATION FORMS

Verification forms will be sent out next week. Please read the form carefully and make any corrections or changes to your child's information. It is very important that the information we have for your child is accurate and up to date. Thank you for reviewing, making changes and returning signed forms promptly to the classroom teacher.

SAFE ARRIVAL

Thank you for calling/emailing if your child is going to be away: 250-770-7671 (Press 0 or local 6232) or email your child's teacher or cbird@summer.com OR kjones@summer.com

VOLUNTEERS

With fieldtrip and volunteer opportunities coming up we thought it would be timely to remind everyone that if you would like to volunteer in our school, you must have a Criminal Record Check done. Simply follow the online link: <https://justice.gov.bc.ca/CRC/> (go to bottom of page to sign in)
Access Code : TNJP25P6CL

Once you have completed this, it is good for the entire time your child is at Giant's Head School. If you would like to volunteer in your child's school, the following is a list of programs that you might be interested in helping with:

BREAKFAST CLUB - Contact Valerie Wright
250-494-8567

PAC Pres. Angela Vandewater
(eg. Pizza Tues. Hot Lunch)
prest_angela@hotmail.com

READ TO ME &
ONE TO ONE Contact Sally Gfeller
sgfeller@summer.com

PAC MEETING

Thursday September 15, 6:45 in the school library.

If you have any questions, please email our PAC President, Angela Vandewater
prest_angela@hotmail.com

Bring a **SMILE** on photo day!

STUDENT PORTRAITS WILL BE TAKEN OCTOBER 12th

We will be visiting your school tomorrow (or the next regular school day) to take student photographs.

When completed, colour proofs from the photo session will be sent home with your child. You can then choose your favourite pose as well as your background. Portrait packages at special prices will be available only through your school. Upon receiving your order envelope, please note the "Due Date" on the envelope and ensure that your order is returned to the school by that date.



For best results on photo day **DO NOT WEAR GREEN COLOURED CLOTHING**, clothing that has **GREEN COLOURED PATTERNS** in it or **SOLID WHITE**. Attention to hair and grooming also contributes to great looking photographs!

Thank you! *Your Mountain West Studios Photographer.*



GREEN SCREEN PHOTOGRAPHY IS HERE!

Your child will be photographed on a green coloured background. After the photo session, we will replace the green background with one of your choice. A wide variety of background choices will be available when you order. Visit mountainwest.ca to see more than 50 background choices and coordinate your child's clothing with your favourite one!

Note: Background choices available for your school may differ from ones shown.

DO NOT WEAR GREEN OR SOLID WHITE ON PHOTO DAY!

Breakfast for Learning

BREAKFAST FOR LEARNING STARTS TUES SEPT 13

7:45 – 8:40am

All children are welcome!

The program offers a nutritious breakfast to students who for whatever reason may not have eaten before school. “Not one child should go without breakfast.” Caring seniors, parents and secondary student volunteers offer friendship to ensure that children know they are cared for. Aside from the nutritional importance of breakfast, we strive to build a child’s relationship with an adult or teenager, which is key to personal growth and self-esteem. It allows for development of new community relationships. The benefits are evidenced by those children who eat a well-balanced breakfast. They start the day with energy and enthusiasm that equips them to learn and have a brighter future. Nesters Market has offered our ‘Breakfast for Learning’ the opportunity to gather points to purchase food. If you would like to donate your points please tell the cashier at check out.

Contributions can be made by cheque to Giant’s Head Breakfast for Learning and presented to Valerie Wright (coordinator). A receipt will be given by Mrs. Bird, school secretary. Thank-you for caring for the children of Summerland.



Valerie Wright, Program Coordinator

Indoor Running Shoes

Please remember to send a pair of indoor running shoes with your child this month. These will be for inside use only and should remain at the school all year long. Please put your child’s name on the inside of their shoes. Thanks!

Student Planners

Children from grades 1-5 will once again be receiving a school planner (agenda). PAC helps to fund the planners, so the cost is only \$7 per student and can be paid at school. The planners are very important tools for home/school communication. Please make sure you check and sign your child’s planner each night for notices and messages from the teacher.



NO SMOKING

Please note that Giant's Head School and grounds is a **no smoking** area: we ask that you do not smoke anywhere on our school grounds or in our parking lot. Thank you for your co-operation!

FOOD AT SCHOOL

We are asking again this year that you do not send pop or candy to school with your child(ren). Likewise, please ensure that they do not go to the store on their way to school in the morning and load up on "junk food". It is very important for your child to have a healthy breakfast in the morning followed by a nutritious snack and lunch. Pop and candy will only make it harder for your child to concentrate and focus while working in the class. We appreciate your co-operation.

SLEEP
SLEEP



Just a reminder, that as we get back to school and back into our school routines, it is very important that our children are getting enough sleep each and every night. Research has shown us that one of the leading causes of poor behavior in our children is a lack of sleep each night. Students in grades K-5 should be getting between **9.5 and 10** hours of sleep each and every night. Please make sure that your bedtime routines are set up and include 20 to 30 minutes of reading/down time as well. This will certainly help your child to be more successful the next day at school.

Giant's Head Staff 2016 – 2017

<u>ADMINISTRATION</u>				Local
Mr. Kelly Jones	Principal			6000
Mrs. Nancy Lomax	Vice-Principal			6089
<u>TEACHERS</u>				
Ms. Darcy Fedorak	Div. 1	Port 22	Grade 5	6542
Mrs. Meredith Stewart Heal	Div. 2	Rm 17	Grade 5	6348
Mrs. Nicki Skinner	Div. 3	Port 23	Grade 4/5	6552
Ms. Carol Barton	Div. 4	Rm 18	Grade 4	6587
Ms. Jandi Doyle	Div. 5	Rm 19	Grade 3/4	6112
Mrs. Donna Tracy	Div. 6	Rm 08	Grade 3	6567
Mrs. Collette Shanner	Div. 7	Rm 06	Grade 3	6585
Mrs. Kendall Schuster	Div. 8	Rm 23	Grade 2/3	6494
Mrs. Chris McIntosh	Div. 9	Rm 09	Grade 2	6580
Mrs. Dana Balfour	Div.10	Rm 07	Grade 2	6449
Mrs. Tiffany Zral	Div. 11	Rm 22	Grade 1/2	6127
Ms. Edna Dyck	Div. 12	Rm 21	Grade 1	6254
Mrs. Jennifer Fotschuk	Div. 13	Rm 20	Grade 1	6160
Mrs. Anita Berekoff	Div. 14	Rm 05	Kindergarten	6250
Mrs. Dena Knowles	Div. 15	Rm 11	Kindergarten	6191
Mrs. Cathy Brickenden	Div. 16	Rm 10	Kindergarten	6463
Mrs. Kim Robb	LAT	Rm 16		6583
Mrs. Jocelyn Beckingham	Librarian			6184
Mrs. Nancy Lomax	ELI	Rm 12		6089

<u>SUPPORT STAFF</u>		Local		
Mrs. Janette Grant	6573	Speech	Tue/Thur/Fri	
Mrs. Shayna Marshall		Psychologist		
Ms. Peter Evans	6063	Counsellor	Mon/Thur/Fri	
Mrs. Sally Gfeller	6535	Spec Ed.	Tues / Weds/ Thurs	
Mrs. Suzanne Lauzon		Occ. Therapist		
Mrs. Vicki Rogall		Ab. Ed.	Mon/Tue/Wed	
Mrs. Louise Watt	6629	Strong Start		
Mrs. Heather Greiner		Education Assistant		
Mrs. Gaby Moyls		Education Assistant		
Mrs. Anne Morgan		Education Assistant		
Mrs. Patti Parker		Education Assistant		
Mrs. Tammy Carter		Education Assistant		
Ms. Shawna Fylshtan		Education Assistant		
Ms. Selena MacDonald		Education Assistant		
Ms. Carling Van Gurp		Education Assistant		
Mrs. Jessica Crawford		ASD EA		
Ms. Leslie Ross		BIS		
Mr. Brad Reimer		BIS		
Mrs. Michelle Cole		BIS		
Mrs. Berle Sands	(T/ W / Th) am	Library Assistant		
Mrs. Cheryl Bird	6232	Secretary		
Mr. Dean Brotto		Custodian		
Mr. Ritchie King		Custodian		



School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha) **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM**

Wanted: Host families to share their home, family, and culture with international students!

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.67 is looking for prospective homestay families in Penticton and Summerland to host international students for one year, one semester, three months, one month and/or on a short term (respite) basis.

ABOUT THE STUDENTS

We have both male and female students arriving from Germany, Japan, Mexico, Spain, China, Brazil, Japan and Korea who will be attending one of our local middle or secondary schools during the 2016-2017 school year.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Host families must be English-speaking and have a desire to welcome the student into their home as part of the family. Close proximity to a middle or secondary school is an asset.

School District No.67 will provide:

- support and guidance by a homestay coordinator who will monitor the student/homestay experience;
- monthly compensation of \$750 for the homestay family;
- temporary placement/respite homes for host families if required for holidays and emergencies.

HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested in this great opportunity to exchange cultural experiences with an international student, please complete the Homestay Application form. Paper copies are available at the School Board Office, 425 Jermyn Ave. Penticton or on the School District website.

<http://www.sd67internationalprogram.com/forms.html>

Submit to Brenda Kotzian at bkotzian@summer.com, or Gina Rogers at grogers@summer.com, or drop off at the School Board Office.

ABOUT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

You have time and space to share with an international student for one year, one semester, three months, one month and/or on a short term (respite) basis.

You can provide a separate bedroom (not shared) for the student.

You can provide a clean, safe, caring, environment conducive to student studies.

You provide the opportunity to participate in Canadian family life.

You are able to facilitate transportation as needed (drop off & pick up from activities).

You will provide three meals per day (including lunches for school) and healthy snacks.

You are willing to submit to a criminal record check and an interview/home inspection by one of our homestay coordinators.

Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance

Our school board is offering you the opportunity to voluntarily purchase student accident insurance through the Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance program, underwritten by Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc.

Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance provides protection against unexpected costs arising from accidental injuries. The program is especially valuable for families who:

- do not have medical or dental plans,
- have limited plans, as it may help supplement health and dental benefits, or
- have active children who enjoy sports and outdoor activities.

Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance has a selection of plans to suit most budgets. Benefits include coverage for:

- The full school year (September to September), 24 hours a day, while at home and in school;
- Expenses that are often limited or not covered by private or group insurance plans, or Provincial Health Insurance Plans, such as ambulance, physiotherapy, private tutoring, counselling, and much more;
- Injury-related dental treatment (including future dental treatment up to age 26);
- Out-of-province or country emergency medical expenses.

If your address changes during the school year, your Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance plan is transferable from school to school, anywhere in Canada.

Insurance premiums for children are \$14.50 or \$33.50 per year, depending on the plan selected. A discount is available for families with 3 or more children. Adults age 20 to 64 can also be insured for \$32.00 per year.

For more information or to apply online, please visit kidsplus.ca, or speak with a Kids Plus™ Client Service Administrator at 1-800-556-7411.



iA Financial Group is a business name and trademark of Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc.

Open House

Please come out and join us for a meet the teacher night at Giant's Head School on Thursday Sept 29th from 5 – 6:30pm. We will have an informal pizza and juice dinner in the gym and then your child can show you around the school and their classroom. Please come out and meet everyone. More info will follow shortly.



September

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 <i>First day of school</i>	8	9	10
11	12	13 <i>Breakfast Club starts 7:45am</i>	14 <i>First day full kindergarten</i>	15 <i>PAC Meeting 6:45pm in Library</i>	16	17
18	19 <i>Brown bag lunch program starts</i>	20	21	22	23	24
225	26	27	28 <i>Terry Fox Run</i>	29 <i>Open House 5-6:30pm (Pizza)</i>	30 <i>Pro D - Day No School</i>	

Welcome Back 😊