

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

BRANT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday, August 28, 2020

In our attempt to be environmentally friendly, we will be emailing newsletters home on the 3rd Thursday each month. This is our preferred method of communication for most correspondence throughout the school year, excluding that which requires completion by parents or signatures. We will try our best to keep emails to a minimum throughout the school year but for any communication where an answer is required immediately, email is the easiest and quickest communication tool. If you do not have an email address, please contact the school office at 403-684-3752.

Please see the points below for our school opening and Covid protocols. Please contact the school if you have any questions. As a staff, we are very excited about having our students return. We are confident that Brant Christian will be a very safe school and as we slowly move back to normal, will be a fun place to be.

**** Please keep your children at home if they show signs of illness.**

- **School will start for all grade levels on Wednesday, September 2**
 - All students who travel on a bus will need to wear a face mask while on the bus
 - Students in grades 3 -12 will need a mask when in the hallways
 - In the classroom, students will not need to wear a mask but can do so if they wish
 - Entrance into the school will be staggered. Only one bus at a time can unload students.
 - Students will use hand sanitizer each time they enter the school. Dispensing stations will be located at entrance doors.
 - Once in the school, students must go directly to their homeroom class
 - Recess times will be staggered. Grades K — 4 will be outside together, 5 — 8 together.
 - Students will not be required to wear masks outside. Students will be reminded about maintaining proper distancing from each other
 - Students in K — 8 will be placed in smaller groups (cohorts) This is the group that your child will be working with on a daily basis rather than interacting with the whole class.
 - PE and option classes will run as scheduled although with some adjustments being made in order to comply with Covid protocols.
 - At this time, all sports teams and field trips have been put on hold. We are hoping that this will change later in the year.
 - We are asking that parents not enter the school unless they have an urgent need to see their child or have an appointment with a staff member.
 - Any student who becomes ill during the school day, we will set them aside and call you. It is important that you, or someone you designate, come and pick them up as soon as possible. Students who are ill will not be allowed to get on the bus to go home.
- * Students are required to bring their own water bottles that they can refill. Water fountains cannot be used for drinking.

ALL VISITORS (INCLUDING PARENTS) MUST VISIT THE OFFICE AND SIGN IN PRIOR TO ENTERING THE SCHOOL.

PEANUT/NUT ALLERGY ALERT

Due to severe allergies, Brant Christian School is a **PEANUT and NUT FREE** environment. Please check labels on foods and do not send foods containing traces of peanuts or any nuts to school.

Thank you for your cooperation to ensure the safety of all of our students.

Medications

Palliser policy is that no medications can be administered to students without an "Authorization to Administer Medicine" form on file. Please contact our school office if your child might require school staff to administer prescription medicine at any time during the school year. Thank you.

Important Bussing Information:

PLEASE NOTE: School closures or bus delays will be posted on our website www.brantchristianschool.ca.

For the safety of students and the driver of the bus:

- Students will be required to wear a mask while on the bus.
- Family members must sit together.
- Buses will load from back to front. First students on the bus sit at the back of the bus, last students on the bus sit at the front.
- Only 2 riders per seat.
- Buses will be sanitized daily.
- Students who do not normally ride the bus will not be allowed to take a bus for appointments, sleepovers, etc. at this time. Please make alternative arrangements for transportation.
- Bus students will not be allowed to change buses to accommodate appointments, etc. at this time.

Also:

Please ensure that you arrive early for drop off in the morning as buses are required to keep on schedule. Please also arrive early to pick up your child(ren) at their bus stops in the afternoon or if you will be late, it is parents responsibility to arrange alternative supervision until you can arrive.

Please make sure that you let your bus driver know if your child(ren) will not be on the bus. You can do this by calling Southland Transportation Dispatch at (403) 938-3966 unless your driver has given you their number.

Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather at all times.
If you have any questions or concerns with our bussing program, please contact the school.

Stay tuned for more information regarding contacting parents re: school closures as we start the year.

VOLUNTEERING AT BRANT

More information with regards to the opportunities and requirements of volunteering will come in the future as we move forward into the school year.



Attention music lovers

We have a beautiful upright piano at school that we would love to donate to any family who appreciates a quality built, fantastic sounding piano. We will help you load it on the truck and then it is yours to enjoy. First family to contact the school claims the prize.

VACUUM NEEDED

With the opening of our new high school wing, we are in need of additional equipment for cleaning. If any of you are the proud owner of a vacuum cleaner that will be replaced soon and are looking for a good home for your favourite appliance, we could provide that home for you.

Please let me know if you can donate a good running, relatively light vacuum to our school.

Thank you,
Kevin Bailey



HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

More Information to come in September.



Palliser District School Fees:

In September, please go to the web link here to see fees attached to your child(ren) enrolled at Brant Christian and pay: www.schoolcashionline.com

Technology fees are mandatory for all students grades 1-12. Please pay as soon as possible at the link above.

Optional Fees may include (but are not limited to):

Yearbook - We encourage each family to purchase at least one book. This is a great way to keep memories from each school year. The yearbook fee is attached to every student on school cash online for purchase. Please keep in mind that our cost from the company we order from is based on numbers of books purchased by our students, therefore cost could increase in the future if enough books are not purchased at the cost of \$41.00 per book..

Field Trips – field trip and extra curricular fees will be added as organized.

Hot Lunch – Hot Lunch orders for the following month will be posted on www.schoolcashionline.com within the 3rd week of the current month. The deadline for ordering for a month is the Tuesday prior to the first Thursday. More information regarding hot lunch this year will follow in future newsletters.

All fees on school cash online have a deadline. Please ensure that all fees are paid in a timely manner.

NEW TO SCHOOL CASH ONLINE?

Follow these 3 easy steps below to get started!



Go to the address below or click the *School Cash Online* link on our website.

www.schoolcashionline.com



Take a few minutes to register and add your child to the newly created account.



Review and purchase your child's back to school items using direct online payment.

REPORTING ABSENCES

To report student absences we ask that parents use the SchoolMessenger app for SafeArrival.

Choose on of these three options for using the app:

1. Download the SchoolMessenger app from the Google Play Store
2. Download the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store
3. Open your browser and go to go.schoolmessenger.ca.

Sign up for an account. Use the same email address that the school has on record for you. If you want to use a different one, please contact the school to have them change your email on file. Choose your password; it must contain at least one number, one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter and must be at least 6 characters. Verify your account by following the instructions in the email that is sent to you.

Log in to the app using your email address and password that you created in the above step.

If your email address is associated with at least one child in our school, you will see the ATTENDANCE option on the menu. This is shown at the top of the screen on the website or in the menu that is displayed if you click the menu icon in the top left corner of the mobile apps.

NOTE: If you do not see the attendance menu or your students, please check with the school to make sure you are using the email address that they have on file.

To Report an Absence:

Tap/click the Report an Absence + Button

Be sure to enter your selections for all of the requested items. If the **Send** button is not activated, it means you've missed something.

Tap/click **Send** to report the absence.

If you have not reported your child absent you will be notified. You can then use the mobile app or website to explain your student's absence.

If you would like to receive absence notifications directly to the SchoolMessenger app:

- Go to the **Settings** menu
- Tap **Push Notifications**
- Tap the name of your child's school district (Palliser School Div)
- Tap **Attendance** as a type of message you want to receive

To log out go to Settings in the app or to the right hand corner on the website.



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SEPTEMBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
School Day Begins: 8:20 am School Day Ends: 3:45 pm			First Day of School		Friday ON	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Labor Day Holiday				Friday ON	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
					No School	Highway Clean Up
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Teacher PD No School for Students				Friday ON	
27	28	29	30	Coming up: Oct. 8 – School Pictures Oct. 29 – School Picture Retakes		