



September 2018

PRINCIPAL: Ms. Kim Hart

VICE-PRINCIPAL: Mr. Marc Daneault

<https://br.schools.sd68.bc.ca/>

FROM THE OFFICE

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Welcome to a new school year to all students, staff and parents! I hope that you all had a wonderful summer filled with all of the people and places that bring you joy. A special welcome to our new kindergarten kids and their families. You have joined a very special school with an amazing PAC, staff, kids and family.

I am excited to be starting my first full year at Brechin Elementary School. The teachers, staff and PAC have been busy planning an enriching school year. Reading continues to be our focus, with writing and math not far behind. Thank you for setting aside time every day for your child to read independently or with you.

Joining the Brechin family this year are: Marc Daneault (Vice Principal), Wendy Robertson (librarian), Jodi Crawford (student support teacher), Brianne Anderson (student support teacher), Carey Mark (English Language Learner Teacher), Jen Silvey (Education Assistant), Katie Lonsdale (Div. 1 Co-teacher), Lindsay Rose (Student Support/ELL Teacher), Jamie Brennan (Education Assistant). Welcome back, Jen Work to Div 8.

Many great things are in the works for your children this year at Brechin thanks to our amazing PAC volunteers, our students and families, our staff and our community supporters. I can't encourage you enough to attend one of the monthly PAC meetings, it is a great time for kids to play with their friends, eat pizza, and there is a draw for the parents. Come help make your school awesome and meet other parents & guardians!

We look forward to a new year working with you to support your child's growth and progress. On that note, it is **critical** that you work with your child to make sure they are at school every day and on time. Being late or absent creates a lot of stress and anxiety, affecting your child's self esteem, their friendships and their learning. Let Michelle or Ms. Norgan know if you would like some help planning for this.

Please ensure you are on our new email list serve. You must register yourself to this list serve.

https://www.ssd68.bc.ca/Parent_Subscription/brechin.htm

Our newsletters are sent out via email. By signing up here, you are giving your consent. If you don't receive a confirmation email, look in your Spam or Junk folder. You can unsubscribe from this service at any time.

Yours truly,

Ms. Kim Hart (Principal)

COUNTRY GROCER RECEIPTS –

Country Grocer reimburses PAC 10% of all of your groceries. There is a purple gift box in the office or the PAC mailbox where you can hand in your receipts. Thank you for sharing this information with your friends and family and collecting and returning receipts to the school.

ENVIRONMENT PRESENTATION

Jackie Hildering will be making a presentation in Nanaimo at VIU on September 25th, hosted by **VIU Environment and Sustainability** and the **Georgia Strait Alliance**. Click [here](#) to learn more.

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS HAMPER PROGRAM

For many years the schools in School District 68 have been a major contributor to the Christmas Hamper Program known as "Hamperville". Without the schools' involvement, it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to collect the volume of non-perishable food needed. Click [here](#) for further information.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2018-2019

<http://bit.ly/brechincalendar>

- Monday Morning Beemer Assemblies
- September 14 at 10:45 am - Terry Fox Run
- September 14 at 1:00 pm - Intermediate Swim
- September 24 - Come Read with Me
- September 27 – PACnic @ 5:30
- September 27 - 6:30 Parent Teacher Interviews
- September 28 – Orange Shirt Day
- October 1 – PAC Meeting
- October 2 – PHOTO DAY
- October 4 – 5 PRO D DAYS, no classes

BELL SCHEDULE 2018-2019

Below is a summary of our bell schedule for the upcoming school year.

Morning Session	8:35
Short Recess	10:15 – 10:30
Long Recess	11:44 – 12:20
Eat Lunch	12:20 – 12:35
Dismissal Tuesday to Friday	2:30
Early Dismissal EVERY MONDAY	1:30

PLANNERS (GRADES K-7):

All students in Grades K through 7 receive and use a planner. These planners are important planning and communication tools. Students learn to set goals and organize their homework assignments and commitments. Ask to see and sign your child's planner daily and use this to ask about their day. Read over the school expectations together with your child.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Group supplies have been ordered for all our students. Cost is \$30 to cover supplies (plus the cost of the planner, \$5) for a total of \$35. Cheques can be made payable to School District 68.

INSIDE OUT FOR AUTISM

AutismBC has been supporting families across the province since 1975. AutismBC is British Columbia's entry point and knowledge resource for all things autism. They empower those on the spectrum and their advocates, with the information and pathways to education, to help those affected achieve their fullest potential. Learn more [here](#). Click [here](#) for a Fundraising Guide and [here](#) for participation and registration information.
[Inside Out for Autism Workplace Poster](#)

KIM BARTHEL WORKSHOP

Practical understanding and application of sensory interventions in daily living and learning: eating, classroom and behavioural strategies. For more information, click [here](#).

THE MEMORY PROJECT

Commemorate a century of remembrance with your classroom or community group by hosting a free [Memory Project Speaker](#). Learn about Canada's role in the [Second World War](#), [Korean War](#) or [peacekeeping](#) around the world. Click [here](#) for more details!

BRECHIN Teaching Staff

Here is our current class organization. A shift of a few students from one age level to another can have an impact on the structure of several classes, but at this time we are hopeful that minimal if any changes will need to be made. We thank you for your support.

Kindie/Grade 1	Ms. Marissa Bradley
Kindergarten	Ms. Lisa Brett
Grade 1	Ms. Kelly Clark
Grade 2	Ms. Jen Work
Grade 2/3	Ms. Laurie Mathieson
Grade 3/4	Ms. Kyla Johnson
Grade 4/5	Ms. Twila Konyonenbelt
Grade 4/5	Mr. Neil Varner
Grade 5/6	Mr. Drown/Ms. Erhart
Grade 5/6	Mr. Jon Schaffer
Grade 7	Mr. Daneault/Lonsdale

Student Support Teachers	Ms. Jodi Crawford Ms. Brienne Anderson
Counsellor	Ms. Trina Norgan
English as a second dialect	Ms. Carey Mark
English as a second language	Ms. Lindsay Rose
Literacy Lead	Ms. Jessica Dewarle
Teacher Librarian	Mrs. Wendy Robertson
Performing Arts	Ms. Jenna Erhart
Speech/Language	Ms. Janet Mansbridge
School Psychologist	Ms. Emily Baker

BRECHIN Support Staff

Secretary	Ms. Beverly Lundine
Child & Youth Care Worker	Ms. Michelle Gagnon
Education Assistants	Ms. Wendy Macdonald, Ms. Jane Bourke, Ms. Kellie Gamble, Ms. Tanja Rummig, Ms. Sherry Tucker, Ms. Sierra Spracklin, Ms. Jamie Brennan, Ms. Teagan Medves and Ms. Jen Silvey
Custodians	Ms. Dawn Stevenson & Mr. Dan Wicks
Aboriginal E.A.	Mr. Tony Elliott
Library Clerk	Ms. Beverley Raynor

PHOTO DAY



On Tuesday, October 2, we will be taking individual student photos starting in the morning. The proof envelopes arrive about two weeks after photo day, then go home with students. Parents have a week to decide on a purchase and then return the envelope to the school. Parents can also order online and photo packages arrive about two weeks later.

BC FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM/MILK PROGRAM

We continue to be a part of this program. As part of this program our school receives fruits, vegetables and milk that is distributed to classes periodically. In addition to this we also provide a fruit bin to classes, generally daily, that offers a number of healthy choices.

GRAB & GO CAFÉ



The Grab & Go Café has begun thanks to our partners at Nanaimo Ladysmith Schools Foundation and Nanaimo Foodshare. Breakfast is yogurt, fruit & a boiled egg. Lunch snack is a wholesome sandwich and a piece of fruit. Cost is **\$5 per week** payable to School District 68 at the beginning of every month (\$20/month).

RISK/THREAT ASSESSMENT

SD 68 takes all threats seriously. What do parents and students need to know? Students and parents need to be aware of the steps the school district will take in responding to a threat:

- Any threats must be reported to the school principal, counselor, or some other responsible adult
- Nanaimo-Ladysmith schools will follow up on every reported threat.
- Follow-up may involve the police
- Interviews will be held with the threat-maker and any other students who may have information about the threat.
- Threatening behaviour may result in discipline for a student
- Intervention plans may be developed for the student making the threat and a support plan developed for any students who are the target of threats

STUDENT DRESS CODE

It is expected students will dress in a manner that is appropriate and conducive to a positive and safe learning environment. Appropriate dress is safe: free of references to alcohol, drugs, gangs, hate, obscenity, profanity, discrimination, sex and/or

violence; is not disturbing or distracting to others.

ADMINISTERING MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

Some students must take medication while attending school. Parents need to fill out a **Request for Administration of Physician Prescribed Medication** (available at the office). All medication must be locked up in the office area and administered by staff.

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT ALL GRADES



Our K-7 meet the teacher night is scheduled for **Thursday, Sept. 27 at 6:30pm**. Please drop in to meet your child's teacher.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Our parent teacher conferences will take place from **Monday Oct. 15 to Thursday Oct. 18**. More information will be coming prior to the sessions, **but please be aware students will be dismissed at 1:30pm Monday and 1:10pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays on these days** in order to facilitate the conferences. Sign up for these days will take place during meet the teacher night on **Thursday, Sept. 27 at 6:30pm**.

STUDENT INFORMATION FORMS

Look for these important forms coming home. We ask that you complete these and return them to school as quickly as possible so we have the necessary safety contacts and medical information on file for your child.

PAC

We have an active PAC at Brechin, and they are actively looking for YOU! The more hands the lighter the work. We have new playground equipment in the works, for example. I would encourage parents to get involved in the goings on at PAC. Many programs in and around the school are run and facilitated by members of PAC. PAC meeting dates are listed under the dates for the school year on the first page of this newsletter. Our upcoming **PICNIC** as well as the **Brechin Sport & Ski Swap** are two of our largest fundraisers. Invite your family and friends to join us at our picnic or come shopping at the sport and ski swap. PAC meetings are well attended, and it is an excellent time for kids to come and play with a friend and share some pizza. Meetings are held once a month and there is a draw prize at every meeting.

Join the Facebook conversation

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/brechinpac/>

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

The Boys & Girls Club of Vancouver Island is pleased to offer a weekly support group for parents/caregivers who want to improve communications and relationships with their teens. Check out the [booklet](#) or visit the [website](#) to find out more.

TIPS & TRICKS for SUCCESS –

[6 tricks to getting out the door faster](#)

[7 bedtime rituals](#)