



THE REMINDER

Administrators' Message

And now it's October! We are all starting to get used to the new way of doing things at school, and have never had cleaner hands! Thank you all for diligently completing the Daily Health Checks with your children. The procedure is very clear as to what your response needs to be if the children are not feeling well. It is really important to keep them home if they are sick, to let us know if you are having them tested for Covid, and what the results of your test are. Working together will keep us all safer!

Students are needing reminders that masks should either be worn properly or put away safely to be used if needed. Some students are also not remembering to have a mask at school every day. All masks should be going back and forth every day, and after a day at school, should be washed and dried for their next use. Parents, please help your children with this routine as they all need support in managing this effectively.

We all seem to be getting better at the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up routines. Please remember that drop-off and pick up should only be happening in the designated area, near the school mural. We ask that parents do not drive behind the school for this purpose as we need to keep that area safe for children and buses. If you are driving your child to school in the morning, please plan to drop them off no earlier than 8:30, and be there to pick them up promptly at 2:40.

If you have an appointment in the school, (please ensure you have called to arrange appointments in advance) you need to be aware of the visitor protocols that are necessary to follow. These can be found on our website, here is the link:

<https://raft-river.sd73.bc.ca/en/our-schools-programs/visitor-information.aspx>

If you need to change your child's normal routine in some way (early pick-up for appointments, change in who will be taking children, etc.) please make sure that teachers are aware by putting a note into your child's agenda. This helps us to organise them, and prevents last minute phone calls to the office. Please remember that this year, it is not an option to have children take a different bus than they normally take.

Please stay tuned for emails from the office when there is something new to share. If you do not have your updated email address in our database, you could miss out on something important. Call the office anytime your information changes- phone numbers and email or physical addresses. We need to work together to keep each other safe and healthy. Have a great October everyone!

Student Absences

Thank you parents and guardians for your diligence with checking your students for signs or symptoms of Covid19 each day. As a reminder the key symptoms of illness to look for are: fever, chills, cough or worsening cough, shortness of breath, loss of sense of smell or taste, diarrhea, nausea and vomiting.

If you answer "YES" to one of the questions included under "Key Symptoms of Illness" (excluding fever), you should stay home for 24 hours from when the symptoms started. If the symptom improves, you may return to school when you feel well enough.

If the symptom persists or worsens, seek a health assessment.

If your child is experiencing two or more of the key symptoms of illness, or he or she has a fever, seek a health assessment.

Additionally, there are now three categories in the Safe Arrivals app to choose from when notifying the school of your child's absence due to illness. You will be asked whether the absence is due to a respiratory illness, gastrointestinal illness or the broad category of general illness. Distinguishing between respiratory, gastrointestinal, or general category of illness will provide more accurate data to Interior Health regarding seasonal flus and colds affecting the community. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to either Mrs. Clare or Mrs. Bradstock at Raft River Elementary school. You can also call the Safe Arrival number (1-844-350-2647) to report absences.

Future Newsletters

You will have received this newsletter the old-fashioned way. However, please be advised that future newsletters will be emailed to you. Again, if you think we may not have your correct email address, please contact the office (250-674-2218) and have it updated. All newsletters will be posted on our school website.

Optional Accident Insurance

On the SD73 website you will be able to find a link for families to voluntarily purchase optional student accident insurance through the Family Accident Reimbursement Insurance program, underwritten by Industrial Alliance and Financial Services Inc. This is one option of several to choose from in the Province.

The accident policy that is issued is for “Family Coverage” and benefits an adult, spouse and any number of dependent children under eligibility definitions stated per the attached coverage details and limits. This is blanket coverage and is not restricted or limited to school activities. This insurance is available for any and all family activities.

The cost of the coverage is \$39.95 monthly (for all family members). The product is annually renewed and can be purchased any time of the year for the monthly fee of \$39.95.

Staff

For your information, this is a list of staff at Raft River this year:

Mrs. L. Bradstock	Principal	Mr. M. Scott	Grade ½
Mrs. L. Clare	Vice-Principal	Mrs. S. Endacott	Grade 3
Ms. C. Noble	Head steno (office)	Mrs. L. Shook	Grade 3/4
		Mrs. D. Allan	Grade 4/5
Ms. Tera Carter	Kindergarten	Mr. C. Endacott	Grade 5/6
Ms. Amber Horne	Kindergarten	Ms.T. Harvey	Grade 6/7
Mrs. R. Murray	Grade 1	Mr. R. Wilkes	Grade 6/7
Mr. D. Whelen	LART	Mrs N. McGill	CEA
Mrs. T. Cooke	Teacher/librarian		
Mr. S. Stuttard	Liaison teacher	Ms. T. Thompson	Library tech
		Mrs. C. Gale	Custodian
Mrs. S. Reid	CEA	Mrs. V. Williams	Custodian
Mrs. C. Kjenstad	CEA	Mrs. A. Dhanoa	Custodian
Ms. T. Pigeon	CEA		
Mrs. R. Biagioni	CEA		

Terry Fox

Though we were not able to have a school-wide Terry Fox Run as we have in past years, teachers worked together in cohort groups to continue the tradition. It was great to see the students out running to help raise funds in support of cancer research. Here are a few pictures:



Halloween

The staff will be discussing this year's Halloween plans at our next meeting. Stay tuned for more information when plans are made.

Being Outside

It's starting to cool down as we enter into Autumn. As well, some days are getting wetter and the mornings are crisp. Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed appropriately for the weather. At this time of year, dressing in layers is a good idea as the mornings are cool and the afternoons are warm. Please ensure that your child has proper footwear and a pair of indoor shoes.



If you are bringing your children to school, and arrive before 8:30 am, they will be collected at the drop off spot and taken to line up in the courtyard with the other students. Please use only the designated pick up and drop off location. Thank you.

Bell Schedule

The bookends of our day remain the same with the morning warning bell ringing at 8:35 and the bell to announce the start of the day at 8:40. The school day ends with a bell at 2:40. However, in order to maximize social distancing at recess we have moved to a two recess system. Students in kindergarten to grade 3 (with the exception of the grade 4s in Mrs. Shook's class) will have recess from 10:10 - 10:25. Students in grades 4 - 7 will have recess from 10:30 to 10:45. Lunch starts at 12:05. Students are brought in at 12:35 to wash their hands and have lunch. Lunch ends at 1:02.

DEWRS

From September 29 - October 9 students in grades 4 - 7 will be participating in the DEWRS (District Engagement, Well-being, Resiliency Survey). This survey gives students the opportunity to share information about how they think the school is doing to meet their needs in

a broad range of areas. The feedback we receive from the students is anonymous and helps us to see where we need to make changes and where we are already being successful.

FSA's

Please be advised that Deputy Minister Scott MacDonald has postponed the FSA's for Gr. 4 and 7 students until January 2021.

Upcoming

Monday, October 12	Thanksgiving Holiday
Friday, October 23	Non-Instructional Day- no school for students
Sunday, November 1	Time change - fall back 1 hour
Wednesday, November 11	Remembrance Day Holiday - no school
Monday, December 7	Non-Instructional Day - no school for students
Friday, December 18	Last day of school before winter break
Monday, January 4	School resumes