



The Black River Bear Weekly



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Little Feet, Big Steps...

Next **Friday, January 17th** we will begin to welcome our newest, youngest learners at Kindergarten registration. One of the best parts of the job we have is meeting our new parents and students, or having the younger siblings of current students arrive at the school for registration. The experience is both fun and informative. Some of our newest learners know the school well; from their time in our child care program, through visits with brothers and sisters or participation in school events.

Often they march into the school with confidence and a level of comfort that assures parents (and us) that they are eager to get started. Others approach with more reluctance; hiding behind a coat or reaching up for a safety snuggle from mom or dad. We look forward to each interaction as a chance to say hello and do our best to let them know that we are just regular folks (it's probably reassuring for the parents to see that too).

Starting school is an important landmark in a child's young life. When parents register their children for Kindergarten it marks the beginning of a long partnership they will have with our public school system. During this partnership parents hope and trust that the adults in their child's school will be caring, compassionate, creative and collaborative. As educators, in return, we hope and believe that the parents of our students will provide support and guidance; along with a willingness to work with us and trust the integrity of our intentions.

Parents send the best kids they have to us; we are proud of, and treasure the strengths and needs of each student and appreciate the contribution that each family makes to our community of learners-see you next week!

Brian Harrison & Christine Smith

The Week Ahead...

Mon. Jan. 13th	Day 1	
Tues. Jan. 14th	Day 2	Planetarium Presentations- Kindergarten to Gr. 7
Wed. Jan. 15th	Day 3	
Thurs. Jan. 16th	Day 4	Pizza Lunch French Immersion Parent Information Night- 7:00 @ Keswick Public School (for parents of SK students only)
Fri. Jan. 17th Day	PA	PA Day- no classes for students Kindergarten Registration Opens @ 9:00

Quick Hits...

Mental Health Awareness...During the month of January (leading up to [Bell Let's Talk Day](#) on January 29th) we will be exploring issues and ideas related to children's mental health in age appropriate ways across the school. Our goal is to raise awareness and reduce stigma to support all our students to understand their own mental health and well-being and help us all feel safe, accepted and included in our school community.

Our Bears Don't Hibernate in Winter...Parents are reminded to ensure their children are dressed for the winter weather every day as we do make sure we get our students outside every day. In cases where cold temperatures are extreme we will modify or shorten outdoor time. Parents of students who are eligible for bus transportation are reminded to tune into local media outlets or check online at [School Bus City](#) to confirm bus service on inclement weather days.

Council Corner...

Playground Update...We are thrilled to share the news that the **Town of Georgina** will be replacing our current playground with a brand new, accessible structure during the summer months. Along with our partners at St. Bernadette's, our School Council members have been keen and positive advocates for a new structure. We are all excited about this new addition to our facility and we are truly grateful for our School Council's advocacy and the Town of Georgina.

Council Updates and information...Our next school council meeting is scheduled for **Monday, February 3rd @ 5:30** in the staff room, parents and new members are always welcome and child minding is provided. Please follow our [Black River School Council Facebook Page](#) for current information on what we are planning and what is happening in the school or; contact us at blackriverschoolcouncil@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to get involved!

January @ Black River Public School

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec. 29	Dec. 30 Winter Break	Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Winter Break	1 New Year's Day Winter Break	2 Winter Break	3 Winter Break	4
5 Booster Juice orders due @ 12:00 on Lunch Box Orders	6 Day 1 Epiphany (Christian) Classes Resume School Council @ 5:30	7 Day 2 Christmas (Eastern)	8 Day 3 Booster Juice	9 Day 4 Pizza Lunch	10 Day 5	11
12	13 Day 1 Monday Lunches Lunch Box Orders	14 Day 2 Planetarium Presentations (K-Gr.7)	15 Day 3	16 Day 4 Pizza Lunch Keswick P.S. French Immersion Info Night (SK only)	17 PA Day Kindergarten Registration @ 9:00	18 Epiphany (Eastern)
19 Booster Juice orders due @ 12:00 on Lunch Box Orders	20 Day 5 Monday Lunches Lunch Box Orders	21 Day 1 Area Robotics Competition @ BRPS	22 Day 2 Jr. Girls Volleyball Tournament @ KHS Booster Juice	23 Day 3 Pizza Lunch	24 Day 4	25 Lunar New Year
26	27 Day 5 Monday Lunches Lunch Box Orders	28 Day 1	29 Day 2	30 Day 2 Pizza Lunch	31 PA Day	Feb. 1

Please remember to check our school [website](#) calendar for current updates and details on school events.