



The Black River Bear Weekly



Vol.1.2 September 16th-20th , 2019

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Belonging, Learning & Growing...

This week we took the opportunity to get into all our classrooms to talk with our students about how important it is to show kindness and respect for each other, regardless of their differences; and to help them better understand how we can all work together to ensure our school is a place where everyone feels safe, everyone belongs and everyone is able to learn to learn and grow.

We are a school community that includes children and families from a wide and diverse range of experiences and backgrounds. Some of our families have only recently arrived in our community (or our country) while some can trace the arrival of their people back thousands of years. When you think about that-it's pretty impressive!

In spite of these differences, as Canadians we pride ourselves on valuing our diversity and commitment to equity; knowing all too well that these ideals are fragile components of our national fabric. Our history reveals many examples of discrimination. We recall the exclusionary laws that were aimed at new arrivals (such as the [Chinese Immigration Act](#)) or the severe, colonial practices that were directed towards our [Indigenous](#) children and families across many generations.

Striking out at, or being unkind to those who are different, is a sad aspect of human nature. Striving to be kind, respectful and inclusive is work for all of us- it is actually the most important work we do in our public schools. As a school our goal is to ensure that every child (and every family) feels they belong- and we strive as a community of learners to celebrate our diversity; our cultures and beliefs, our identity or sexual orientation, or how we learn and communicate. Being different doesn't mean that one should not feel that they belong.

Brian Harrison & Christine Smith

The Week Ahead...

Mon. Sept. 16th Day 5	
Tues. Sept. 17th Day 1	8:30- Optional Cross Country Practice
Wed. Sept. 18th Day 2	1:20-2:00- Cross Country Practice
Thurs. Sept. 19th Day 3	1:20-2:00- Cross Country Practice
Fri. Sept. 20th Day 4	

Quick Hits...

Thanks & Appreciation...a big thanks to our students, families and staff for coming out to our Welcome Back community gathering last night. Families were able to meet and visit with our staff, and check out our classrooms and learning spaces. A big thanks to our **School Council** for feeding us, to our **Student Leadership** team for helping with the set up and to our staff for all the work they put into making this event a success!

Pizza Sales...pizza sales are now open! We accept both paper orders and orders through School Cash Online. Orders for the fall are due **Wed. Sept. 25th**.

Yearbook Sales...we are accepting pre-orders for the 2019-20 Black River Yearbook on [School Cash Online](#). Year books will be sold at a cost of \$25 and will be delivered at the end of the school year.

Council Corner...

Council Updates and information...Parents are invited to join our Black River School Council. Council members work together to support student learning and wellness, host events and enhance our school program. The council meets the **first Monday of every month** (our first meeting is **Monday, Oct. 7th at 5:30**). Please follow our [Black River School Council Facebook Page](#) for more information on what we are planning and what is happening in the school.

September @ Black River Public School

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labour Day	3 Day 1 Welcome Back!	4 Day 2	5 Day 3	6 Day 4	7
8	9 Day 5	10 Day 1	11 Day 2	12 Day 3 Meet the Staff Event 6:00-7:00	13 Day 4 School Start Up Forms Due	14
15	16 Day 5	17 Day 1 8:30-Optional Cross Country Practice	18 Day 2	19 Day 3	20 Day 4	21
22	23 PA Day	24 Day 5 8:30-Optional Cross Country Practice	25 Day 1 Intermediate 3 Pitch Fall Pizza Orders due	26 Day 2 Junior 3 Pitch Terry Fox Run	27 Day 3	28 Georgina Island Pow Wow
29 Georgina Island Pow Wow	30 Day 4 Rosh Hashanah Orange Shirt Day	Oct. 1 Day 5 8:30-Optional Cross Country Practice	Oct. 2 Day 1 Area Cross Country Gr. 7 Immunizations	Oct. 3 Day 2 Pizza Lunch	Oct. 4 Day 3	Oct. 5

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