



Back To School NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026

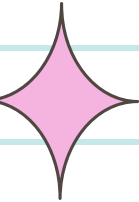
Welcome!



Welcome to a brand-new school year! We are thrilled to have your child and your family here in this school community!

School-wide information will be sent out monthly through these newsletters. Please take the time to read them, as they usually include answers to your questions.

Attendance/Late



Families that are new to our school as well as returning families, just a reminder that you must notify the office when your child is absent. It's okay to let your child's teacher know, but it's most important and expected that you will notify the office.



Phone: 250-383-7152
attendance line

Email: jamesbay@sd61.bc.ca

Attendance Expectation

We will always be welcoming when your child arrives, but please note that they are missing key learning time when they are away or late.

Important Dates

- Sept 14th – First Full Day for Kindies
- Sept 21st – Professional

Development Day – NO SCHOOL

- Sept 23rd – 5pm to 5:30pm

Meet the Teacher

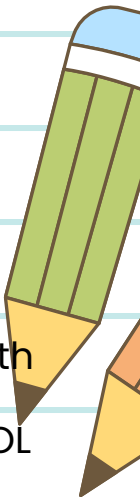
and... Hot Dog Picnic 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

- Sept 25th – Terry Fox Run 1:00 p.m.

- Sept 28th – Celebration of

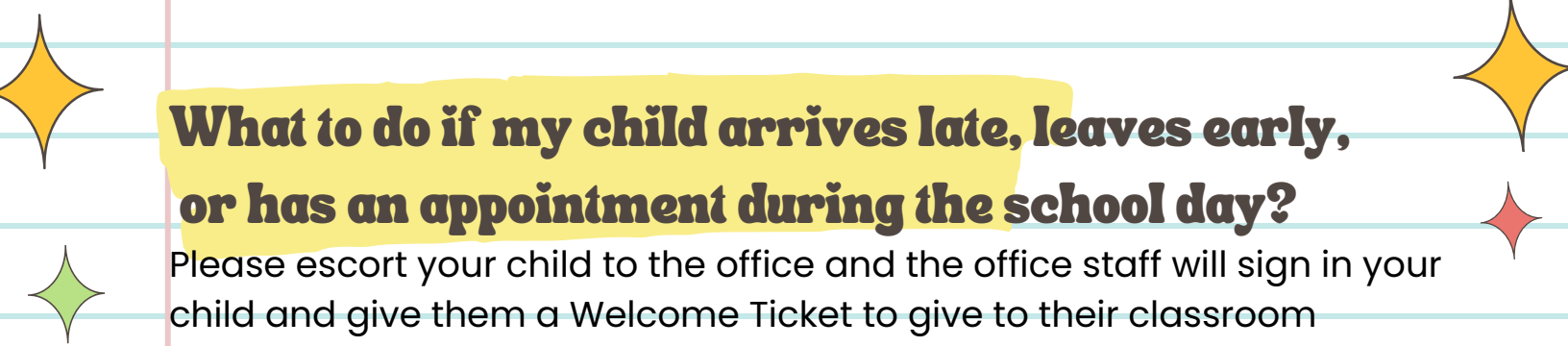
Learning Assembly 10:45 a.m.

- Sept 29th – Orange Shirt Day at James Bay Community School

- Sept 30th – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – NO SCHOOL
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What to do if my child arrives late, leaves early, or has an appointment during the school day?

Please escort your child to the office and the office staff will sign in your child and give them a Welcome Ticket to give to their classroom teacher. If your child needs to leave early, please come to the office and the office staff will call your child's classroom, and sign your child out.

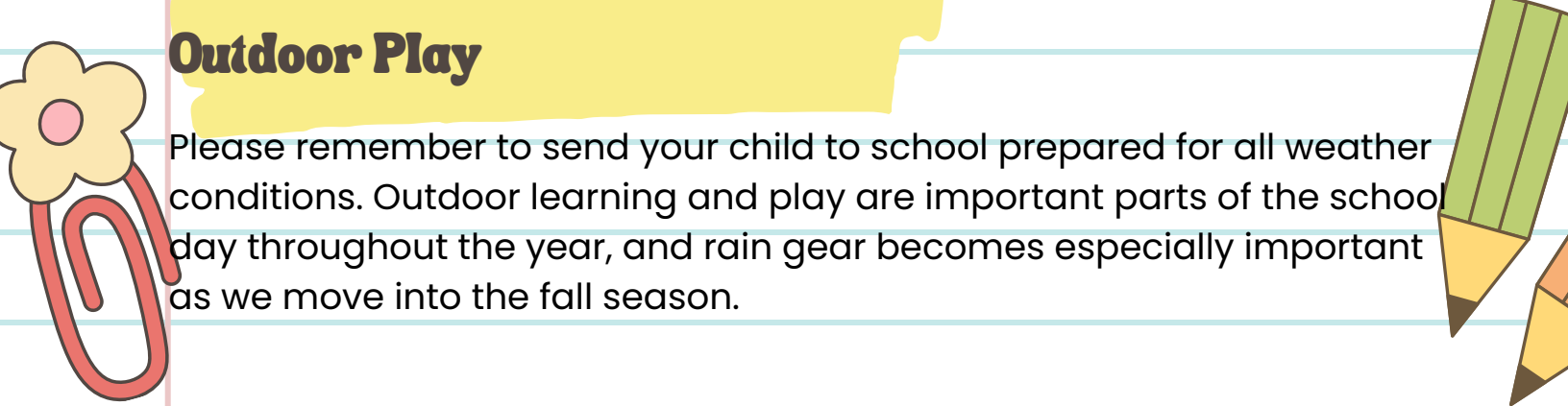
What are the current health and safety expectations?

Families are asked to monitor their child's health daily, keep children home when they are ill, and refer to the BC Self-Assessment Tool if symptoms are present. Should a child become ill at school, families will be contacted to pick up their child.



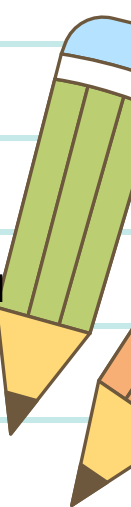
How do parents and guardians visit the school?

We warmly welcome families and visitors. All visitors must first check in at the main office before entering the school during instructional hours. If you coming to see us during the school day, please let us know your purpose. We do not have people visiting classrooms etc., without prior permission from staff.



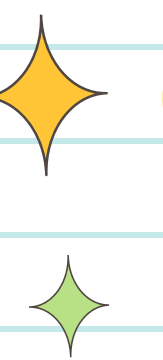
Outdoor Play

Please remember to send your child to school prepared for all weather conditions. Outdoor learning and play are important parts of the school day throughout the year, and rain gear becomes especially important as we move into the fall season.





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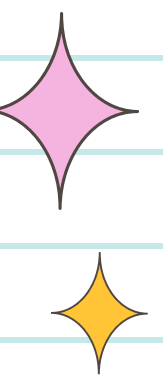
Out of School Care

OSC is up and running! OSC for Grades 1 to 5 started on Sept 9th with leaders coming to classrooms. OSC for Kindies begins Mon, Sept 14th. If you have questions please connect with Megan Simpson OSC coordinator at osc@jamesbaycentre.ca



Pack In/Pack Out

All students bringing lunches from home need to pack in and pack out their lunch. All garbage and containers that come to school need to be taken home and disposed of at home. Thank you for your help in this matter!



School Meals

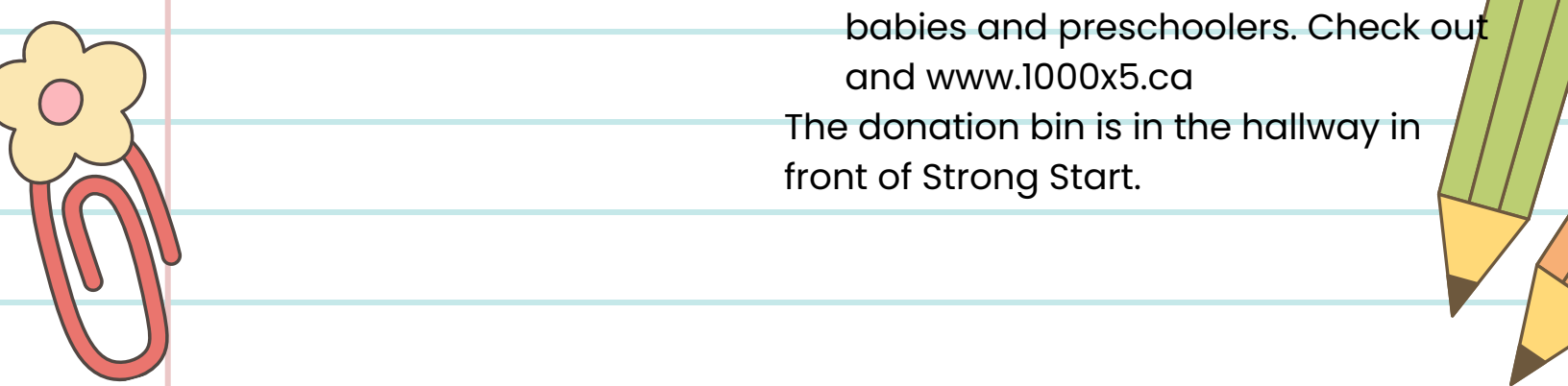
School Meal Program will be up and running starting Wednesday, Sept 16th. You can order online at jamesbaycentre.ca/smp. Financial support is available for families who need it.



1000 X 5 Book Recycling Project

- Books in the home for babies and preschoolers are 70% more effective at predicting school success than is the parents' educational level.
- Books in the home are more effective than literacy outreach programs.
- Over 14 years 1000X5, with your help, has donated 365,000 books for babies and preschoolers. Check out and www.1000x5.ca

The donation bin is in the hallway in front of Strong Start.



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Meet the People In Our School Office



Ms. Margetts

School Principal



Cheryl Claibourne

Administrative Assistant



Allison McNeill

School Assistant



Tracey Gibson

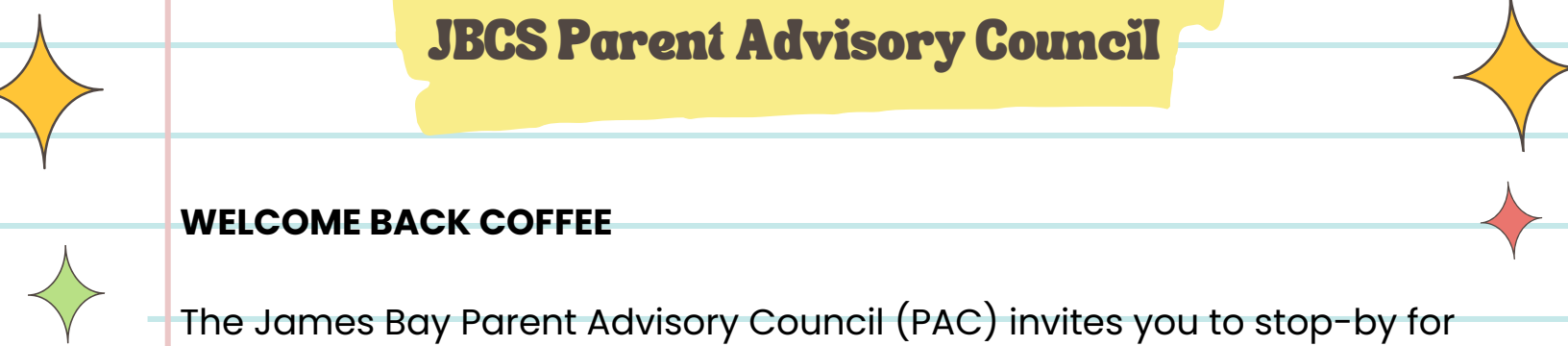
James Bay Community
School Centre Executive
Director



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JBCS Parent Advisory Council



WELCOME BACK COFFEE

The James Bay Parent Advisory Council (PAC) invites you to stop-by for a free welcome back coffee at classroom drop-off on Monday, Sept 14, between 8:15-9am, near the Simcoe Street entrance. It's a chance to socialize, meet some parent volunteers, caffeinate for the day, and hear about a few events we're planning.

SHAPE OUR SCHOOL YEAR - PARENT MEET-UP

Come join us on Wed, Sept. 16 from 6:30-7:30pm in the school library to meet other parents/guardians and share your ideas for the year ahead. All James Bay student families are welcome. For the kids (school age only), there will be a dragon themed activity down the hall, including a dragon egg craft. To sign kids up for the activity you must, [Pre-Register Here](#). What to expect: an update from the principal on happenings around the school; a short "PAC101" and input into our budget; and news of an exciting legacy project led by the PAC.

