



# BLUMENORT SCHOOL

***Bengals' Update 01 - September 2, 2022***

## **Welcome Back!**

Welcome back to a new year at Blumenort School! We hope that you have all had a restful and healthy summer break and are ready for the start of this new school year! At this time we would like to wish all of our new families that have joined our community and especially our new Kindergarten students, a warm welcome to the Blumenort area and our school. At Blumenort School, we believe that it is important to keep the lines of communication open between your home and our school. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at 204-326-1757 or at one of the email addresses listed on the last page. Thank you again for your continued partnership and your patience as we welcome our students back and engage in the resumption of learning and prioritization of safe school environments.

## **2022-2023 Blumenort School Staff**

This year we have a few new additions to our staff lineup that we would like to share with you...Bryanna Berkowski (8B/Science), Heather Messner (5M), Crystal Nordine (EA), Holly Edwards (Asst. Custodian) & Betty Funk (Asst. Custodian). Returning is Brandy Derksen (3D), Kayla Dupont (Literacy Support), Rebecca Friesen (4F) & Amanda Ross (1R). Together we will make Blumenort School a fantastic school where student learning is our number one priority. For a complete list of our staff please see below and for their email addresses, please visit our website.

		<b>2022-2023 BLUMENORT SCHOOL - STAFF LINEUP</b>			
Principal:	Dave Schettler	Grade 5:	Andrea Cuccaro	Educational Asst.:	Mallory Krueger
Vice-Principal:	Corinne Thiessen	Grade 5:	Heather Messner	Educational Asst.:	Dwayne Louis
Admin. Secretary:	Landis Benitez	Grade 6:	Cameron Hiebert	Educational Asst.:	Victoria Main
Secretary:	Holly Reimer	Grade 6:	Mallory Worsnop	Educational Asst.:	Jodi Moorey-Gamaldo
Learning Support:	Pam Barkman	Grade 7/Vis Com:	Scott Hutchinson	Educational Asst.:	Crystal Nordine
Counsellor:	Curtis Brandt	Grade 7/Social:	Michelle Plett	Educational Asst.:	Norine Plett
Literacy Support:	Kayla Dupont	Grade 8/Science:	Bryanna Berkowski	Educational Asst.:	Susan Reimer
Kindergarten:	Elaine Kauenhofen	Grade 8 (AM):	Kristy Shumsky	Head Custodian:	Jason Fehr
Grade 1:	Amanda Ross	Phys. Ed.:	Nathan Giesbrecht	Asst. Custodian:	Holly Edwards
Grade 1:	Emily Walker	Music/Guitar/Drama:	Shannon Sawatzky	Asst. Custodian:	Betty Funk
Grade 2:	Jennifer Penner	French (5-8):	Janessa Roy	Bus Driver #37:	Jackie Goertzen
Grade 2:	Irene Plett	Librarian:	Ellie Friesen	Bus Driver #59:	Mary Ann Lupky
Grade 3:	Brandy Derksen	Educational Asst.:	Carla Burkert	Bus Driver #79:	Leanna Reimer
Grade 3:	Celia Kellett	Educational Asst.:	Jena Carriere	Bus Driver #25:	Marge Reimer-Toews
Grade 4:	Rachel Allard	Educational Asst.:	Rhonda Falk		
Grade 4:	Rebecca Friesen	Educational Asst	Val Konrad		

### **Meet The Teacher - September 6 from 4:00-5:30pm**

Our annual Meet the Teacher Event is set for this Tuesday, September 6th from 4:00-5:30pm. Our students and parents are welcome to stop by the classroom to meet their new teacher and drop off their school supplies. Don't forget to check out the table by our main entrance to enter your name for a chance to win some really cool prizes. The draw will be made at our Welcome Back Assembly on Wednesday morning.

### **Strong Connections - September 16 & 19**

Our annual Strong Connections program is planned for Friday, September 16th and Monday, September 19th. Students will be asked to attend either on the Friday **or** the Monday. With half of our students present, students will then be further divided to allow our homeroom teachers to focus on collecting our students and building relationships. The only assessments that will take place are for the students who did not take the assessments in June. An email will be sent shortly reminding you of the date that your child will attend or you can check the parent portal to view your dates. If you have any questions, please feel free to call our school.

### **Picture Day - September 21**

Please take note that our Picture Day is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21st. In the next little while you will receive a package from our school outlining the various picture options.

### **National Day of Truth and Reconciliation - September 30**

The Manitoba government is once again recognizing the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation as a day of observance to encourage reflection and meaningful discussions about the impacts of residential schools. The day of observation advances reconciliation, allows Manitobans to reflect on residential school experiences of First Nations, Métis and Inuit. Schools will be closed and no classes will be held on that day.

### **Blumenort School Den Teams**

In our year-end report card, you would have noticed that your child was given a Den colour. New for this fall is the Blumenort School Den Team System. All of our students are assigned to one of six dens - Black, White, Grey, Orange, Red or Yellow. The basic principle of our Den System is to promote school spirit through the enjoyment of academic and athletic activities throughout the school year. The emphasis in all Den activities is participation. More information will be shared as this year goes on. For new students, you will receive your Den colour from your teacher.



BLUMENORT SCHOOL  
***DEN TEAMS***

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## **The Lines of Communication**

In an effort to keep track of our students' whereabouts, we ask that parents/guardians continue to communicate with the main office. Here are a few points to keep in mind:

- Please call between 8:30 and 8:50am to speak to someone directly. You can also leave a message at any time. Feel free to email [blumenort@hsd.ca](mailto:blumenort@hsd.ca) to advise the office that your child will be absent or late, or log onto the Parent Portal and put in an absent request.
- If there is an unexplained student absence, we will continue the practice of calling parents after 9:00am and 1:00pm.
- If your children are leaving the building (for appointments or special outings, because of illness, etc.) during the course of the day, we ask that you and/or your children report to the office before departing.
- If your child arrives at school outside the regular times (appointment or illness, returning the same day after having checked out etc.), please make sure that the office knows about their arrival and also to pick up a late slip.

## **HSD Parent Portal**

Stay connected and informed. The HSD Parent Portal is a communications tool designed to enhance and increase parent/guardian involvement in the education of their children. The portal will provide secure online access to your child's student information. With a single username and password, you will be able to access the following data for each of your children attending an HSD school: Student Information, School Fees Account, Report Cards, Attendance Information, Permissions & Consent Forms and School Information. Before creating a Parent Access Account, you will first need to obtain a unique Access ID for each student profile that you want added to your account. Please contact our school office to request account setup information or to provide us with any changes to your existing account. If your account is working, please review all outstanding permissions that need to be updated for this year.

## **Student Fees**

Student fees for supplies and agendas have been charged to the student accounts. Fees for Extra-Curricular Sports, Music and Art will be coming soon. Please log into your Parent Portal account to make payment. Be sure to check the balance before making payment as many accounts had a credit on them from last year. If you are unable to make the payment online please submit a cheque or cash to the office.

## **Religious Exercises and Religious Instruction**

Our Religious Exercises and Religious Instruction will return to normal this year. Religious Exercises will begin the week of Monday, September 12th, while the start date for our Religious Instruction will be shortly after Thanksgiving.

## **Bengals Athletics**

Our extra-curricular sports program is back once again! Stay tuned for updates about our upcoming volleyball and cross-country running seasons!

## **School Safety**

Now that classes are about to start, we again need to pay close attention to the safety concerns that arise as our students make their way to school. We all need to cooperate and follow some basic rules to ensure that we keep our children safe.

- Students will need to be aware as they pass by our staff parking lot.
- A reminder that parent vehicles will need to use the road or the front parking lot if they are picking up their little ones.
- When crossing our bus loop, we ask our students to use either of the two openings in the fence, but be aware of traffic.
- Remember that private vehicles need to avoid using our bus loop.
- Avoid stopping/parking in areas highlighted with bright yellow paint and pylons and be aware of all signage.
- We ask for your patience and awareness as our students make their way across the crosswalk on the PTH 311,
- Bike riders, walkers and those who are being picked up or dropped off always need to be aware of their surroundings. It is best to avoid the bus loop when possible and always remember to use care and caution.
- Our main bike rack is located on the east side of our school, by the Kindergarten doors. Students coming from the north and east will continue to park in this area. Our second bike rack zone for students is located by our old parking lot on the west side. Students coming from the south and west on Park Street will continue to park in this area.
- We would like to remind all parents, relatives and visitors to please check in at the main office when you arrive.

## **The Umbrella Project at Blumenort School**

The students and staff at Blumenort School will be participating in our second year of The Umbrella Project!

The Umbrella Project is a teacher-led curriculum and school based program created to help teachers, students and parents reframe our perception of challenges and strengthen the skills of well-being to positively cope with the everyday stresses of life.

The Umbrella Project is based on a few key pillars:

1. **Knowledge**: Without knowing what the skills of wellbeing are, it is difficult to recognize them in ourselves and others. By giving children and adults the language of wellbeing, we can begin to celebrate the use of these skills and change how we think about ourselves.
2. **Stories**: The Umbrella Project intentionally uses stories to tap into the emotional parts of our brains and make deeper connections to our wellbeing. By looking for and sharing others' stories, students will find examples that resonate and inform their own personal journey.
3. **Role modelling**: Role models have the power to shift and change a child's self-perception. By collecting stories of the Umbrella Skills in action, students will be exposed to many role models that are overcoming obstacles in ways that are improving their lives.
4. **Positive priming**: Obstacles and opportunities are often the same thing. By repeatedly looking for the Umbrella Skills in our environment, we can change what our brains do when faced with obstacles and opportunities of our own. We can learn to first see the tools we have to succeed instead of all of the reasons we may fail.

The Umbrella Project also offers our families a few easy ways to engage. You can Join The Umbrella Project community - Follow us on your favourite social media channel: Facebook, Twitter or Instagram. You can also sign up to receive monthly parenting resources and tips from The Umbrella Project. If you feel like diving deeper, you can join our Umbrella Project Parenting Community or sign up for our Parenting 101 Course. More info will be shared soon with our families.

In the meantime, please check out the following link to The Umbrella Effect, which provides a great overview of the program...<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhhmzhPF0mw>



## **Blumenort School 2022-2023 Calendar**



Our Blumenort School 2022-2023 School Calendar is ready to roll and will be distributed to our families this upcoming week. Thank you to Mr. Hutch and Mrs. Shumsky for putting this all together for us. Thank you also to the local businesses who sponsored us once again. We hope you enjoy!

## **Blumenort School 2022-2023 Calendar of Events**

<b>BLUMENORT SCHOOL 2022-2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS</b>			
SEPTEMBER 6	Admin Day / Meet the Teacher Event	JANUARY 5	Classes Resume
SEPTEMBER 7	First Day of Classes	FEBRUARY 4	Admin/PD Day – No Classes
SEPTEMBER 7-8	Kindergarten Interviews	FEBRUARY 20	Louis Riel Day – No Classes
SEPTEMBER 9&12	Kindergarten Staggered Entry	FEBRUARY 24	HTA PD Day – No Classes
SEPTEMBER 16&19	Strong Connections	MARCH 10	Admin/PD Day – No Classes
SEPTEMBER 21	Picture Day	MARCH 21	Report Cards Issued
SEPTEMBER 30	Truth & Reconciliation Day - No Classes	MARCH 23	Student-Led Conferences
OCTOBER 10	Thanksgiving Day – No Classes	MARCH 24	Last Day before Spring Break
OCTOBER 21	MTS PD Day – No Classes	MARCH 27-31	Spring Break
NOVEMBER 1	Picture Retakes	APRIL 3	Classes Resume
NOVEMBER 11	Remembrance Day - No Classes	APRIL 7	Good Friday – No Classes
NOVEMBER 14	Admin/PD Day – No Classes	APRIL 17	Admin/PD Day – No Classes
NOVEMBER 22	Report Cards Issued	MAY 22	Victoria Day – No Classes
NOVEMBER 24	Parent/Teacher Conferences	JUNE 5	Admin/PD Day – No Classes
NOVEMBER 28	Admin/PD Day – No Classes	JUNE 29	Last Day before Summer Break
DECEMBER 21	Last Day before Christmas Break	JUNE 29	Awards Day
DEC 22-JAN 4	Christmas Break	JUNE 30	Admin Day – No Classes & Report Cards Issued
Please note that not all of our events are listed here, so stay tuned to our upcoming newsletters for more.			



# SEPTEMBER 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>5</b>  <b>Labour Day</b> <b>NO CLASSES</b>	<b>6</b>  <b>Administration Day</b> <b>NO CLASSES</b> <b>Meet the Teacher</b> <b>4:00-5:30pm</b>	<b>7</b>  <b>First Day of Classes</b> <b>Kindergarten</b> <b>Interviews</b>  <i>Day 1</i>	<b>8</b>  <b>Kindergarten</b> <b>Interviews</b>  <i>Day 2</i>	<b>9</b>  <b>Kindergarten</b> <b>Staggered Entry</b>  <i>Day 3</i>
<b>12</b>  <b>Kindergarten</b> <b>Staggered Entry</b>  <i>Day 4</i>	<b>13</b>  <i>Day 5</i>	<b>14</b>  <i>Day 6</i>	<b>15</b>  <i>Day 1</i>	<b>16</b>  <b>Strong Connections</b>  <i>Day 2</i>
<b>19</b>  <b>Strong Connections</b>  <i>Day 3</i>	<b>20</b>  <i>Day 4</i>	<b>21</b>  <b>Picture Day</b>  <i>Day 5</i>	<b>22</b>  <i>Day 6</i>	<b>23</b>  <i>Day 1</i>
<b>26</b>  <i>Day 2</i>	<b>27</b>  <i>Day 3</i>	<b>28</b>  <i>Day 4</i>	<b>29</b>  <i>Day 5</i>	<b>30</b>  <b>National Day</b> <b>of Truth &amp;</b> <b>Reconciliation</b> <b>NO CLASSES</b>