



Newsletter September 2025

Prespatou Elementary-Secondary School

22113 Triad Rd, Prespatou, BC V0C 2S0

Phone: (250) 630-2241 Website: <https://prespatou.prn.bc.ca>

Mrs. Margaret Wiebe - Principal - margaretwiebe@prn.bc.ca

Mr. Bryan Barranti - Vice-Principal - bbarranti@prn.bc.ca

Office/Ms. Judy - prespatou@prn.bc.ca

Welcome Back!

The 2025/2026 school year is officially underway, and it has been wonderful to see students and staff settling into routines. Our classrooms are already buzzing with energy, creativity, and curiosity. We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead, filled with learning, growth, and opportunities to celebrate student success together.

Start Time & Dismissal

School begins at 8:58 AM for Secondary and 9:05 AM for Elementary. School ends for ALL students @ 3:10 pm.

The bell schedule can be found on the school website.

Office Contact

If you need to reach the school office, please be aware that Ms. Judy's lunch break is from **1:00–1:30 p.m.** We kindly ask that you avoid calling during this time unless it is an emergency. Thank you for helping us keep communication smooth and respectful of office hours.

Attendance

Parents are reminded to contact the school if your child will be absent. Please **call** the office (**no texting**) to inform Ms. Judy. If your child is late, he or she must check in at the office before going to class. For early pick-ups, please ensure the teacher or office has been informed, and that your child checks out at the office before leaving.

Cell Phones & Personal Electronics Policy

We continue to follow a "bell-to-bell" policy for all personal electronic devices. This means that for all secondary students, **cell phones and other personal electronics — such as laptops, smart watches, and gaming devices — are not permitted in classrooms during instructional time.** This policy helps reduce distractions, encourages face-to-face interactions, and supports a focused and engaged learning environment.

For elementary students, personal electronic devices (including cell phones, laptops, smart watches, and gaming devices) are **not permitted at school at any time.**

Staffing

We extend a big Prespatou welcome to our new staff members:

- ★ Mr. Bryan Barranti (Vice Principal)
- ★ Miss Asha Thomas (3/4)
- ★ Miss Rajwinder Kaur (Sec)

Welcome back to our returning staff:

- ★ Mrs. Margaret Wiebe (Principal)
- ★ Ms. Tara Oubrik "Ms O" (K)
- ★ Ms Qiana Henderson "Ms Q" (K/1)
- ★ Miss Sue MacKay (1/2)
- ★ Mr. Richard McWhinnie (2/3)
- ★ Mrs. Justina Klassen & Mrs. Barbara Froese (3)
- ★ Mrs. Verna Wiebe (3/4)
- ★ Mrs. Julia Bueckert (4/5)
- ★ Mrs. Ginette Morrison (6/7)
- ★ Ms. Tara Middleton (LA)
- ★ Ms. Stephanie Wiebe (Sec)
- ★ Mr. Allan Wiebe (Sec)
- ★ Mr. Kevin Wollen (Sec)
- ★ Ms. Jessica Dmytruk (Sec)
- ★ Ms. Kerri Richards (Library & Sec)
- ★ Ms. Kate Wiebe (ELL)
- ★ Mrs. Tracy Froese (EA)
- ★ Mrs. Heather Loewen (EA)
- ★ Ms. Martha Bueckert (EA)
- ★ Ms. Rachel Geisbrecht (EA)
- ★ Mrs. Susan Klassan (EA)
- ★ Mrs. Anna Wiebe (Strongstart)
- ★ Ms. Judy Wiebe (Secretary)
- ★ Mr. Tony Wiebe (Custodian)
- ★ Mrs. Barbara Fehr (Custodian)
- ★ Ms. Emily Fehr (Custodian)
- ★ Mrs. Betty Reimer (Canteen)
- ★ Mrs. Anna Loewen (Bus Driver)
- ★ Mr. Willy Klassen (Bus Driver)
- ★ Mrs. Marie Wiebe (Bus Driver)
- ★ Mr. Pete Froese (Bus Driver)
- ★ Ms. Janet Wendland (Bus Driver)

Teacher Contact

If you need to reach your child's teacher, please do so by email or by calling the school. We kindly ask that you avoid using text messages for school communication. Thank you for helping us keep communication clear and consistent so we can best support your child.

Picture Day

Pictures will be taken on Monday, **September 15**. Retakes and group photos will be on **October 6** and Grad photo day will be **October 9**.

Kindergarten & Strongstart

First day of Kindergarten is September 8th for Group #1. Strongstart first day will be September 10th. First class is from 9:00 - 11:30 and second class is from 12:30 - 3:00. Here is the startup schedule:

 Kindergarten Calendar Sept 2025/26 FOR PARENTS

Website

We are working hard to keep our school website current and informative. The website will be used to update families regarding important information, such as upcoming events and important dates. The calendar can be found under News & Events. This site is a good way for people outside of our area to know about us... especially when we are hiring.

The website can be found here: <https://prespatou.prn.bc.ca/>.

Students driving to school

All students driving to school must have a driver's license and an insured vehicle.

Water bottles

All of the drinking fountains have been **removed** from the classrooms. Please send a water bottle with your child.

Medications

If your child requires medication to be administered on a consistent basis during the school day, please contact Ms. Judy to set up a meeting with administration to develop a safety plan. This ensures that medications are handled properly and that the safety and well-being of all students are maintained.

Terry Fox Run

The Terry Fox Run will take place on Thursday, Sept. 25th (time to be confirmed). More information to come. Please ensure that your child/children are wearing appropriate clothing.

Lunch Program/Canteen

We are fortunate enough to have the wonderful Mrs. Betty Reimer back working with us in the canteen this year. Below, you will find menu details and prices.

** Note that there are no microwaves for elementary students to use.*

September Menu

11th - Hotdogs (\$3)

25th - Hotdogs (\$3)

October Menu

9th - Hotdogs (\$3)

Canteen Prices

Water _____	\$1.00
Juice Box _____	\$1.00
Ice Tea _____	\$1.50
Lg Sub _____	\$5.00
Sm Sub _____	\$2.50
Pizza Pop _____	\$1.50
Kraft Dinner _____	\$2.50
Jerky _____	\$1.75
Eatmore Bar _____	\$1.75
Chips _____	\$1.50
Pretzels _____	\$1.50
Ice Cream Sandwich _____	\$1.00
Revol _____	\$1.00

Bussing

With bus routes very full this year, we kindly ask that students ride only their assigned bus. Please do not request changes to a different route unless it is an emergency.

Clothing

We ask that all students have indoor shoes to help keep our school clean, including those in secondary grades. As we move into Fall, elementary students will continue to spend breaks outside, so please make sure your child has clothing suitable for the changing weather. To ensure student safety and comfort, appropriate outdoor clothing is also required for bus travel.

Criminal Record Checks

We encourage parents to help with field trips and various classroom activities; however, in order to volunteer, you must have a completed Criminal Record Check on file with the board office. CRCs are good for five years. Contact Ms. Judy for more information.

Yearbook

We have handed out last year's yearbooks to everyone who has paid. If your child hasn't brought one home already and you pre-ordered one please send payment to Miss Judy in the office. The price is \$25.00 per book.

Prespatou Elementary-Secondary School Code of Conduct

Purpose:

To provide a framework of expectations for members of the Prespatou school community to use at school or school-related activities.

Prespatou promotes the values expressed in BC Human Rights code respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law. Prespatou will treat seriously, behaviour or communication that discriminates based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, gender, sexual orientation, or age (prohibited grounds set out in the BC Human Rights Code).

Expectations:

- We will show respect for others, all property and ourselves.
- We will be responsible for our behaviour to maintain a safe, caring and inclusive environment.
- We will cooperate with others.
- We will put forth our best effort at all times.
- We will use technology in a positive and responsible manner.

Unacceptable Conduct:

Acknowledging the needs of the individual, the following are examples of behaviours which are deemed unacceptable.

- Any and all behaviours which interfere with the learning environment or create unsafe conditions.
- Any and all acts of bullying, harassment or intimidation.
- Any and all illegal acts.

Rising Expectations:

As students progress through successive grades, it is expected they will take on an increased level of personal responsibility and self-discipline.

Consequences:

- Acknowledging the needs of the individual, disciplinary action, wherever possible, is preventative and restorative, rather than merely punitive.
- Students are encouraged to participate in the development of meaningful consequences for violations of the established Code of Conduct.
- Students will be limited or removed from using school technology if deemed necessary.

Notification:

School officials will notify other parties of serious breaches of the Code of Conduct (e.g. parents of offenders, victims, school district officials, law enforcement and/or other agencies) as required.

Retaliation Prevention:

School officials will take all reasonable steps to prevent retaliation against any student who has reported a Code of Conduct violation.

Restrictions on Student Use of Personal Internet-Connected Devices:

Prespatou Elementary-Secondary School expects a learning environment with limited distractions and the responsible use of digital technology. It recognizes the research that shows that frequent cell phone interruptions in the classroom, social media platforms with addictive algorithms and an increasing level of cyberbullying and online exploitation of young people, are having a negative impact on instruction, learning, and student mental health.

Definition:

"*Personal Internet-Connected Devices*" include, but are not limited to, cell phones, tablet computers, smartwatches, and portable video game systems.

Guidelines/Principles:

- Students will have access to school/district-owned technology at an age-appropriate level that supports learning and the development of digital technology skills and digital citizenship.
- As outlined in an Individual Education Plan (IEP), Learning Support Plan (LSP), or health plan, schools will exempt specific students from restrictions on the use of personal internet-connected devices when they are needed for full inclusion in a specific learning activity.
- At the elementary school level, the use of and access to personal internet-connected devices will not be permitted at any time during the school day.
- At a minimum, access to and the use of, personal internet-connected devices at the middle and secondary levels will not be permitted during instructional time. At the teacher's discretion, an exemption may be made when the use of such devices supports a specific curricular objective and is part of instructional planning.
- The security and storage of personal internet-connected devices is the sole responsibility of the owner/user. The District assumes no responsibility for the safety, security, loss, repair or replacement of such devices.