

**Killarney School**3008 33 Street SW, Calgary, AB T3E 2T8 t | 403-777-8360 f | 403-777-8362 <http://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/Killarney>Principal: Bonnie Caldwell bcaldwell@cbe.ab.caAssistant Principal: Christine McCrory cnmccrory@cbe.ab.ca**FEBRUARY 2018 SCHOOL MESSAGE****Important Dates****February 2018**

- 1 – KPC - Spread the Love
- 2 – Inglewood Bird Sanctuary
Fieldtrip – AM Kindergarten
- 2 – Killarney Connects
12:00 – 12:30 pm
- 5 – Energy for All – Upper EI
- 5 – Student Council 12:10
- 8 – Fun Lunch
- 8 – Discovery Open House
6:00 – 7:30 pm
- 9 – Fun Fit Friday
12:00 – 12:30 pm
- 13 – Gr 6's to AE Cross
9:30 – 11:30 am
- 14 – Spirit Day – Olympics
- 15 – Teachers Convention
No school for students
- 16 – Teachers Convention
No school for students
- 19 – Family Day
No school for students
- 20 – School Council Meeting
6:30 pm
- 21 – Water Wonders, 8A
- 22 – Water Wonders, 8P
- 21 – Jump Rope for Heart
9:30 am
- 22 – Calgary Opera in School
10:00 am
- 23 – Showcase
11:30 – 12:30 pm

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we move into the second month of the New Year we have many wonderful learning opportunities ahead. Maria Montessori was a huge advocate for taking learning beyond the classroom and at Killarney School, we align our practices with Dr. Montessori. We continue to provide students the chance to connect in many clubs currently being run by students, parents, and staff. Clubs are a wonderful way to encourage involvement in a fun and educational environment and offer students the chance to meet others with similar interests. If you have a something you are passionate about and would like to organize a club but would like some guidance, please come see us!

We greatly appreciate all the students who arrive for school on time. It is important for them to start their day on a positive note as the teachers give them information about the day's expectations and help them to organize their day for the work period. When a child is 15 minutes late, every day, they are missing 2,745 minutes or 45.75 hours of instruction. Even missing 5 minutes of instructional time every day adds up to a loss of 915 minutes or 15.25 hours over the course of the year. That is a significant loss of learning time! Alberta Education mandates all elementary students receive 950 hours of instruction and unfortunately, children are disadvantaged when they miss large amounts of time. Please help your child to ready themselves and get to school on time. We hope with your support, we can significantly decrease the number of students arriving late each morning.

We encourage outdoor experiences as part of our Montessori beliefs in connecting with our environment but we have to love Calgary weather and the fact we live in a climate notorious for unpredictable changes! We would like to remind student to be prepared for the sudden changes in weather by having a warm coat, hat, mitts, and boots with them when they come to school. When temperatures reach -20 Celsius or colder including the wind-chill factor, students will be kept inside for recess or lunch breaks. The -20 Celsius guideline is comparable to other school jurisdictions in Alberta and across Canada.

This month brings an Olympic Spirit to Killarney! With support from our Killarney Parent Council we will be learning about some of the participating countries and then hosting our own "Olympic day" on Feb. 14th. The Olympics highlight not only excellence in sport but important values such as perseverance, resilience, and sportsmanship. These key tenets of Olympians are what we encourage in our students and hope some important connections will be made as we celebrate this great event.

From January to the end of February, Alberta Education will be conducting the annual Accountability Pillar Survey. In January, parents of students in grades 4, 7, and 10 will receive a survey from Alberta Education. In February, students in grades 4, 7, and 10, and all teachers will be completing their surveys online at school.

All surveys are anonymous and ask questions about experiences with the school. If you would prefer to respond to the survey in another language, please let us know and a copy will be sent to you.

It is very important that parents/guardians of our Grade 4 students complete the survey and return it to Alberta Education. Alberta Education and the public use the results of the

Accountability Pillar Survey to assess satisfaction with the quality of education in our schools. In addition, the Calgary Board of Education uses the information to improve teaching and learning for your children.

If you “Don’t Know” the answer to a particular question, please skip that question and go to the next one, unless you want your response to count as a negative one.

Your voice matters. Your participation in the survey helps provide important information on the quality of education your child is receiving. Alberta Education and the Calgary Board of Education thank you for returning the parent Accountability Pillar Survey promptly. If you have questions, please contact us at the school.

We look forward to a month connecting kindness, Olympic spirit and values, and learning! You can keep up to date with our weekly updates sent via school messenger!

With kindness and gratitude,

Bonnie Caldwell and Christine McCrory

SCHOOL EVENTS TO CELEBRATE

FROM THE CLASSROOMS

ROOM 10

This month, we went outside with our Upper Elementary buddies as part of our science unit on Hot and Cold Temperatures to measure and record the temperature of the snow. We learned about eight biomes around our world, including Tropical and Temperate Forests, Polar Region, Grassland, Wetland, Mountains and Desert and illustrated each biome in our Visual Journals. All Lower Elementary students participated in an in-school field trip to learn more about different countries around the world. We examined artifacts from India, Peru, Tunisia, and Ukraine, tried speaking different languages and listened to stories from around the world.

– Mary, Ava and Baylor - Room 10



ROOM 3

In room 3 the children have been learning about four countries - Tunisia, Ukraine, India and Peru. We learned that in Ukraine they paint eggs called Pysanka! One of the things we have also been learning about is Tunisia. Did you know that they decorate masks and then wear them! We have also been writing about snow globes and even got to make a snow globe! In math we have been working on numbers 1-1000. In grade 2, we are working on odd and even numbers. In grade 3 long division test tubes is one of our new favourite Montessori materials.

- Mrs. Honing, Room 3

ROOM 3 AND 14 BUDDIES

As a buddy class we have been designing games for our mobile playground. We're making 4 games with tree cookies and wooden letters. To make our materials we have been sanding tree cookies, cutting pictures and gluing them on the wooden letters. We are putting mod podge on the letter and varnishing the tree cookies to make them look shiny. We also have been doing challenges such as when we had to make a platform with spaghetti so the marshmallow can stay on top.

- Mrs. Honing, Room 3



ROOM 14

In room 14, the children have been practicing their operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers and decimal numbers. We have also been learning how to measure length, area and volume. For writing, we made our own coat of arms and have written a paragraph for each section. In Science, we learned about the properties of air which we discovered is important to why we have wind and weather. We also researched a planet and presented our information as if we were selling the planet to another galaxy. In Social Studies, we continue our journey across Canada and are now learning about the geography, Indigenous People, notable Canadians and explorers of the Canadian Shield.

- Ms. Thiessen, Room 14



WALDEN TRIO / UPPER ELEMENTARY

Some of our Upper Elementary students had the privilege of working with the Walden Trio of Calgary Pro Musica to create and perform a story through music. This talented trio spent the morning with the students connecting language, math, and fine arts. The students were highly engaged in this creative process and learned many valuable skills in collaborating and creating. Thank you to Samantha Whelan-Kotkas, Walden Trio, and Mrs. Harvie, for this invaluable experience!



MAPSS

Our MAPSS (Montessori Alternative Public School Society) held their AGM meeting on Thursday, January 25th. They shared the benefits and beauty of our Montessori program and how their efforts continue to ensure our classrooms have the beautiful Montessori materials. MAPSS looks forward to future events and invite all parents to meetings and conversations. They also are seeking volunteers for some executive positions. For more information please email: events@mapss.ca or president@mapss.ca

CRAZY HAIR DAY

Students' Council organized a fun spirit day- Crazy Hair Day. A little friendly competition between staff and students promoted all to wear their hair in the craziest styles! From Mrs. Laing-Chan's giant, fluffy hair to one of our Kindergarten student's donut-inspired style, a great time was had by all! Our next spirit day will be Feb. 14th – Olympic spirit; wear your national pride!



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

It is that time of year when Kindergarten-age students are eligible to be registered for the 2018-19 school year. Killarney School is an Alternative Program and we accept registrations from a variety of communities in Calgary's SW, SE and NE quadrants. Our priority registrations are those families in our walk zone, then siblings to our current students, and then other families who choose a public Montessori learning environment for their child. Registration begins January 22nd. For more information please refer to: <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/news-centre/Pages/come-learn-with-us.aspx>

STUDENT CLUBS

We continue to have many clubs running throughout the year. If you are interested in sharing your talents and passions through a club, please see Mrs. Caldwell for more information.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

SCHOOL FEES

School Fees may be paid online by going to My CBE Account via our webpage: <http://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/Killarney>

If you are having trouble with your payment, please contact Bonnie Caldwell to discuss your payment options.

SCHOOL HOURS

Grades 1-6

Monday-Thursday: 9:10 am – 3:50 pm (lunch from 12:10 – 1:10 pm)

Friday (early dismissal): 9:10 am – 12:30 pm

Morning Kindergarten

Monday – Thursday: 9:10 am – 12:00 pm

Every other Friday: 9:10 am – 12:30 pm (starting Sept. 29, alternating each Friday afterwards- not including Non-Instructional Days)

Afternoon Kindergarten

Monday-Thursday: 1:00 pm to 3:50 pm

Every other Friday: 9:10 am – 12:30 pm (starting Sept. 15, alternating each Friday afterwards- not including Non-Instructional Days)

The school office is open from 8:05 am until 4:05 pm. Monday through Thursday and 8:05 am until 12:30 pm on Friday. An answering machine is available to take messages at all other times.

SUPERVISION

Supervision is available at 8:55 am. Please ensure the supervisor is on duty before leaving your child at school.

ATTENDANCE

Regular and prompt attendance is important for all students. If your child is going to be absent or late please contact the school office at 403-777-8360, ext.1, before 9:30 am to let us know. If your child is ill, please leave a message advising us.

If the school is not contacted, we will phone you as soon as possible after attendance is taken in the morning and the afternoon to confirm the safety of your child.

PICKING UP YOUR CHILD

Sometimes parents wish to take children out of the lunchroom or from school for a special occasion or appointment. It is important that we are informed so that we know where your child is. A sign-out binder is kept on a table outside the main office. Parents are asked to inform the office and sign out their child. Please also help us to be aware of any custody agreements that may dictate who your child is permitted to leave the school with.

If you are picking your child up early for appointments or arrive late for pickup, please come to the main office. In the interest of safety, children are not to stand alone outside. Children will be directed to go to the office if you are late or have not picked up your child immediately after school.

SECURITY

All parents and visitors are required to sign in at the office. Please be aware that all adults who are working with children in the school are required to complete a police security screening as described in our Volunteer Program section below.

CBE VOLUNTEER SECURITY CLEARANCE PROCEDURES

In 2014, Calgary Police Service changed the process in which volunteers will obtain police information checks. Under the new system:

1. Volunteers will report to the school to **register to become a volunteer**. (must complete school volunteer letter annually – same procedure as before)
2. School administration will verify the potential volunteer's identity. (volunteer must provide 2 pieces of gov't issued id to school administration in order to verify identity, one of which must be photo id)
3. Using the Online Volunteer Security Clearance Process Website, school administration will enter the name of the potential volunteer into the CBE database.
4. After entering the potential volunteer's information, school administration will obtain a volunteer letter from the CBE database.
5. School administration will give or email this letter to the potential volunteer, who can then apply for their own police check using the online **ePIC system**. As well as the ePIC letter, a "takeaway instructions" are given to the potential volunteer explaining what they need to do to obtain their security clearance. (They can enter online or they can visit Calgary Police district office)

The takeaway letter to the volunteer states:

1. Before beginning this process, you (the volunteer) should scan or take a picture of the letter provided to you by the CBE, which includes the Volunteer Organization Authorization Number (VOAN). You should also scan or take pictures of 2 pieces of valid government issued ID, with at least one being a piece of photo ID. **Pictures or scans of both sides of the identification are required.** Acceptable forms of non-photo gov't issued id are: birth cert, health care card, immigration document, marriage certificate, social insurance card. Acceptable forms of photo gov't issued id are: driver's license, citizenship card, firearms card, military id, native status card, passport, provincial photo id card, permanent residency card, Nexus card.
2. You will need to upload copies of these files to the Police Information Check (PIC) system for identification verification purposes using the following URL: <http://www.calgary.ca/cps/Pages> You should now be taken to the PIC system.
3. Click the 'Police Information Check' button on the right side of the screen. CPS has online documentation for applicants posted on their web page. ** If a volunteer has chosen to use DDE (Direct Data Entry) at a Calgary Police district office, or has had to report for fingerprinting, their PIC status will not be updated automatically. The volunteer will be given a letter from CPS and will bring it in to the school. When the volunteer brings in the letter school administration will update a volunteer's application status in the ePIC system. **

At this time, only volunteers who reside in Calgary are able to volunteer with the CBE according to the new system (unless you were approved previously and your clearance has not yet expired).



QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR “NUT SENSITIVE” POLICY

We have children at our school who are allergic to nuts and related nut products. The specifics and the severity are different for each individual. At Killarney School we discourage the consumption of these nut products at recess and during the lunch hour. Parents must indicate any special health concerns on the school registration for their child and are encouraged to ensure classroom teachers are also aware of health issues.

Please note that should your child come to school with a product that includes nuts, we will offer them a comfortable place to eat that food. A friendly reminder notice will be sent home with the child to remind families to avoid packing these types of products.

We sincerely thank you for your continued support with our desire to keep all students healthy and safe.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Our new early dismissal on Fridays allows us time to get together as a staff and participate in collaborative professional learning. Staff at Killarney are working towards enhancing student achievement in Math and Literacy which are both focuses of our School Development Plan. Our Montessori lens is what guides us as we seek to improve student learning and we will be embedding a design thinking process to support our students in building the ability to inquire, take risks in their learning, and problem solve. We hope to foster the best in the world and the best for the world.

FROM YOUR SCHOOL COUNCIL

THE 2017-2018 KILLARNEY SCHOOL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

- **Chair:** Greg Macijuk
- **Vice Chair:** Amy Wong
- **Treasurer:** VACANT
- **Secretary:** Becky Lynn
- **Casino Administrator:** VACANT
- **Communications Chair:** Miranda Shannon
- **Key Communications:** Peter Jamieson
- **Casino Coordinator:** Tracy Loewen
- **Volunteer Coordinator:** VACANT
- **Special Events Chair:** Andrea Purdy
- **Special Events Chair:** Joanna Anagnostakos
- **MAPPS Liason:** Shan Rahim
- **Fundraising Campaign Chair:** Amy Wong
- **Gardens Maintenance Chair:** Darren Wolski
- **Gardens Maintenance Chair:** Peter Jamieson
- **Assistant to the Gardens Maintenance Chair:** Maurice Doll
- **Website Maintenance:** Miranda Shannon



Supporting Welcoming, Caring and Safe School Environments

This month, many schools and school boards across Canada will participate in bullying awareness initiatives. While some of these activities take place just once a year, I wanted to highlight the very important work that happens in our schools and system to prevent bullying each and every day.

We know that students are more successful when they feel safe, included and welcome at school, and I am proud of the way our students, parents and staff come together throughout the year to create healthy, inclusive learning environments.

Recently I visited one of our large elementary schools. The staff talked about the ways in which they collaborate to meet each student's needs. Their shared pride in the ways they have nurtured a community in which each child is valued and able to learn, is inspiring. And when I meet with our students and hear about their plans and goals to create a world that is more accepting and more inclusive, I can't help but feel our future is in good hands. I hope that our students inspire you, too.

David Stevenson
Chief Superintendent of Schools

Instructional Calendars

The system instructional calendars for the 2018-19 school year have been approved and can be viewed online at cbe.ab.ca.

The calendars establish common system-wide non-instructional days, holidays and important dates such as the first day of class.

Calendars for future years up to 2021-22 are also available online.

Please note that schools may identify additional non-instructional days, late entries or early dismissal days. Please check with your school for more information.

Kindergarten Registration

If you are looking to register your child in a CBE school, you'll find everything you need to know to get started on our website.

Kindergarten registration for the 2018-19 school year began on Monday, Jan. 22, 2018. If you are interested in registering your child in a program that is anticipating a lottery, the registration deadline is noon on Feb. 13, 2018. If you have questions, please call your school office.

We look forward to welcoming your child to one of our schools!

Pink Shirt Day

Pink Shirt Day is an opportunity for everyone to wear something pink to symbolize that as a society we will not tolerate bullying. Bullying in any form is unacceptable and everyone has a role to play in promoting healthy relationships and preventing bullying.

On Wednesday, Feb. 28, you can show your support for welcoming, caring, respectful, safe, and inclusive school communities by wearing a pink shirt. If you use twitter, tweet a photo of yourself using #pinkshirtday hashtag.

Budget Comment Form

Budget season is drawing closer, and we'd like to hear your thoughts and comments on what is important to you. A budget comment form is available on our website at cbe.ab.ca/budget.

Providing your name and email address are optional, but encouraged in cases where you may wish for a response from our team. Some of your questions and comments may be anonymously posted on our Dollars & Sense web page, where Brad Grundy, our chief financial officer, provides a public response.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 KPC – Spread the Love	2 Inglewood Bird Sanctuary – AM Kindergarten, rm 8A 9:30 am Killarney Connects 12:00 – 12:30
5 Energy for All Workshop (Upper EI) Dance Club UE 12:20 – 1:10 (music room) Coding Club, rm 17 Student Council 12:10	6 Cooking Club	7 Skip Rope Club 8:45 – 9:10 am Hot Wheels Club	8 Fun Lunch – Edo Japan Dance Club LE 12:10 – 12:45 pm Discovery Open House 6:00 – 7:30 pm	9 Fun Fit Friday 12:00 – 12:30 pm
12 Dance Club UE 12:20 – 1:10 (music room) Coding Club, rm 17	13 Gr. 6's to AE Cross 9:30 – 11:30 am Cooking Club	14 Skip Rope Club 8:45 – 9:10 am Hot Wheels Club Craft Club 12:30 – 1:10 pm KPC – Olympics event Spirit Days – Olympics	15 TEACHERS No school for students	16 CONVENTION No school for students
19 FAMILY DAY No school for students	20 Cooking Club Killarney School Council meeting 6:30 pm	21 Winter Wonders, rm 8A Skip Rope Club 8:45 – 9:10 am Craft Club 12:20 – 1:10 pm Jump Rope for Heart Assembly 9:30 am	22 Winter Wonders, rm 8P Calgary Opera in School 10:00 am Dance Club LE 12:30 – 1:10 pm	23 Showcase 11:30 – 12:30 (Featuring: rm 3, 4, 6 & 8A)
26 Dance Club UE 12:20 – 1:10 pm Coding Club, rm 17	27 Cooking Club	28 Last Skip Rope Club 8:45 – 9:10 am Craft Club 12:20 – 1:10 pm		