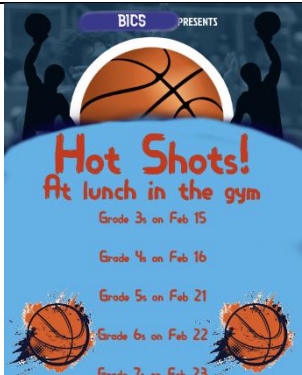


BICS THIS WEEK: February 20-24, 2023

The Week Ahead	
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Family Day; School Not in Session
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">7:45 AM, Girls Basketball Practice12:20 PM, Girls Basketball Practice12:20 PM, Hot Shots, Grade 5sBasketball: Boys at Gleneagles; Girls at BICS
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Pink Shirt Day7:45 AM, Girls Basketball Practice12:20 PM, Hot Shots, Grade 6s12:20 PM, Student Council
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">8-8:30 AM, Grades 4-6 Multisport Open Gym12:20 PM, Hot Shots, Grade 7s
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1:15-2:20 PM, Emergency Student Release Drill

Information, Requests, Reminders	
Hot Shots	<div><p>Grades 3-7 students were invited to participate in Hot Shots, a friendly competition among grades for who can score the most baskets. Last weeks, Grade 3s and 4s participated, and this week, Grades 5-7 will compete. Prizes will be awarded to winners and all will be celebrated for joining the fun. Thank you to our Grade 7 students for making this opportunity available to the school.</p></div> <div></div>
Pink Shirt Day	<p>Sixteen years ago, two students noticed a child wearing a pink shirt at school get insulted for doing so. They organized a rally for others to wear pink shirts to show support for this student. Since that time, Pink Shirt Day is recognized in many countries around the world as children and adults alike wear pink to demonstrate their support for kindness and inclusion and their commitment to stand up against bullying. Students will be participating in learning regarding Pink Shirt Day on Wednesday and all are encouraged to wear pink.</p>
Emergency Student Release Drill	<p>On Friday, families are asked to pick up their children at a designated time to practice for an emergency student release. Please read the memo at the bottom of BICS This Week to learn about what will be occurring during this drill and your role as parent/guardian.</p>
Reminder: Upcoming Dates	<p>There are several dates in February for families to be aware of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Monday, February 20, Family Day, School Not in SessionFriday, February 24, Student Release Drill; early dismissal for families → details here

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sunday, February 26, Children’s Fun Fair: This free event is for families with children 0-5 years old featuring a Drum Circle, the musician Katie Brock, and fun activities and food! A poster for this event is below and further details will be shared with families directly.
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Learning Highlight: Black History Month (Part 2)

Throughout the year, BICS Teachers provide opportunities for students to gain exposure and understanding of diversity and help students build empathy for others. Black History Month is one opportunity among many to do so.

In Ms. Layzell’s Grade 5 class, students have been learning about the difference between *equality* and *equity*, including conversations around “Black Lives Matter” not being the same as “All Lives Matter.” This is important learning for students who often don’t see skin colour as significant to themselves or others. That perspective has some value but can lead to ignoring or minimizing the threats of violence, prejudice, and barriers, that IBPoC (Indigenous, Black, People of Colour) can face.

Representation matters. In Ms. James’ Kindergarten class, students have celebrated the great Canadian Pianist Oscar Peterson and taken extra attention to share stories from black writers and songwriters. In the library, Ms. McKay has a special display of books for Black History Month and has shared many with students. Ms. McKay believes in, and honours, the statement of Malorie Blackman that, “Reading is an exercise in empathy; an exercise of walking someone else’s shoes for a while.”



Help prevent the Spread of Communicable Diseases

[Click here](#) for information from Vancouver Coastal Health about when to keep your child home from school.

[Click here](#) for information about Health Checks including symptoms of illness.

[Click here](#) to access the COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool.

Bus Status Board

[Click here](#) to access the Bus Status Board, which is updated when families are notified of bus disruptions and/or cancellations or the potential of them.

In partnership with Bowen Island Community Recreation, the Bowen Island Library, local preschools and BC Ministry of Education and Childcare. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the province of BC through the Ministry of Education and Childcare









A DAY OF FUN!

CHILDREN'S FAIR

Featuring Children's Musician Katie Brock
Games | Music | Crafts | Snacks | Drumming Circle & much more
Parents, caregivers, and children 0-5 please join us at the
BICS Gym from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
on Sunday, February 26th



We are **setting** the stage to get **ready** to welcome
you into our joyful community of **learners**





To: BICS Parents/Guardians
From: Scott Slater
Date: February 18, 2023

Re: Student Release Drill on Friday, February 24, 2023

BICS will conduct an Emergency Preparedness Student Release drill on Friday, February 24, 2023 from 1:25 PM-2:15 PM.

This drill is intended to familiarize parents and give staff an opportunity to practice BICS’ Emergency Release Procedures.

Students will practice a drop, cover, and hold drill at 1:05 PM, followed by moving to designated parts of the school in preparation for being released to their parents or alternate guardians.

For this drill to run smoothly, parent/guardian cooperation with the following is important:

- 1) Please arrive at BICS during the time your child is to be released. If possible, arriving at the time of your youngest child is helpful. The schedule is as follows:
- Kindergarten and Grade One

1:25-1:45

• Grades Two and Three

1:35-1:55

• Grades Four and Five

1:45-2:05

• Grades Six and Seven

1:55-2:15

• Ideally all students will be released by 2:15 PM. Students not picked up in the above waves of time will be relocated to the library and can be picked up from there.
- 2) With your ID, walk to the gymnasium and enter the gym by the doors near the turf field.
- 3) Complete a yellow *Emergency Release Form* (see below for a sample) *for each child* you will be picking up.
- 4) Stand in the line for which your child’s last name begins. There are three lines designated A-G, H-O, and P-Z.
- 5) When you get to the front of the line, have your photo identification (Driver’s License, Passport, Student Card, etc.) ready to show the staff member at the desk.

Memo

- 6) If you have more than one child to pick up, and the other children have last names that are designated by other lines, you may go to the front of those lines and complete the same procedure as the previous step.
- 7) The staff member will take your yellow form and then give you a sticker for the child, or children, that are authorized to be released to you.
- 8) You will then follow the signs to the designated reception area and wait for your child(ren) to be brought down from their classroom to the reception area.
- 9) Once your child(ren) has/have been reunited with you, you will be checked out by a staff member from the parent reception area and then leave the gym through the exit doors near the turf field.

Important Notes:

- The office will be closed at 12:00 PM to setup for the drill. If you need to sign your child out of school before the drill, please do so prior to 12:00 PM. Otherwise, you will need to wait until the release procedure begin at 1:25 PM.
- Students will **only** be released to their parents or to Alternate Guardians as authorized in the Emergency Release forms. If you are unsure of whom you have authorized as an Alternate Guardian, please call the office before the day of the drill.
- Parents and Guardians must have photo I.D. (Driver’s License, Passport etc.) to prove their identity in order to pick up any child, including their own child.
- As we are expecting that all students will be picked up prior to 2:30 PM, buses will not be running on the afternoon of the drill.

We understand that this drill is inconvenient for parents and that having to provide photo identification to pick up your own child might be frustrating. However, student safety is our school’s paramount concern and the procedures described above are designed to protect students and ensure they are released to the correct individuals in strenuous conditions that could be far more challenging than any conditions presented by a drill. Your patience and cooperation are greatly appreciated.

Sample of Emergency Release Form

EMERGENCY RELEASE FORM

Parent/Alternate Please Complete Lines 1-5 BEFORE Proceeding to Designated Table

(Please Print Clearly)

1. Child’s Name:

Stew Dent

2. Student Released to (Your Name):

Scott Slater

3. First Destination:

Post Office

4. Final Destination:

1234 Bowen Drive.

5. Signature of Parent or Alternate

SA Slater

To be Completed at the Student Release Table by BICS Staff: Photo ID:

Authorized by:

Date and Time of Pick Up:

Notes:

Staff Only

Staff Only