

QUESNEL  
JUNIOR  
SCHOOL

# QJS News

LOCATED ON THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF THE LHTAKO DENE, WHERE WE LIVE, LAUGH AND LEARN THE WAY OF OUR NATIONS WITH RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, COOPERATION, AND KINDNESS.

## WHAT IS UP QJS

Happy New Year to all families from QJS staff. Let's work to make 2026 a year of positive growth and learning



## JANUARY NEWSLETTER



### QJS - CONTACT US

Do you know about something going on? Please let us know. We work with families and students to resolve issues.

Principal: Mr. Morrow 250-255-3031,

Vice-Principal: Mrs. Dawson  
Office 250-747-2103

<https://qjs.sd28.bc.ca/>

WE HOPE YOU ALL  
HAD A SAFE &  
HEALTHY HOLIDAY  
SEASON! WE  
WELCOME BACK  
STAFF AND STUDENTS  
TO A NEW TERM AND  
A NEW CALENDAR  
YEAR, 2026. WE  
LOOK FORWARD TO  
WORKING WITH YOU  
TO MAKE IT A GREAT  
ONE.



# **HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS AND CELEBRATIONS**

## **FINE ARTS AND APPLIED DESIGN SKILLS AND TECHNOLOGY COURSES (ELECTIVES)**

Our 'elective' courses are semester-based, and the first of two rounds of elective classes will be coming to a close near the end of January. Students will receive their marks upon completion and begin their second elective class, which will continue through until June.

## **PAC**

Our PAC meets in the library on the second Wednesday evening of each month at 6:30. Our next meeting will be on January 14<sup>th</sup>. All parents are welcome to attend.

## **WHO LOVES PARKING LOT ISSUES? ...DIDN'T THINK SO.**

As many of you are aware, our parking lot has difficulty accommodating a large number of buses at the end of the day, as well as parent vehicles during pick-ups. The parking lot continues to be over-stuffed with cars, creating gridlock and prohibiting staff and parents from leaving, which would, in turn, free up parking spaces. It also prevents anyone from entering. By delaying your pickup by 10-15 minutes after school, you can avoid the crowds, frustration, and buses. The bonus is that you will likely turn a 15-minute pickup into a two-minute pickup and not have to test your sanity and patience each day. Thank you for your consideration in making our parking lots less congested!

## **STUDENT SUPPLIES: ITS A GREAT TIME OF THE YEAR TO SEND SOME MORE PENCILS, DRY ERASE MARKERS, GLUE STICKS AND OTHER SUPPLIES THAT ARE RUNNING LOW.**

## **DID YOU KNOW...**

- THERE HAS BEEN NEW INFORMATION FROM THE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT ABOUT BEHAVIOUR, SAFETY AND BUS SUSPENSIONS?
  - PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL AND THE DISTRICT WEBSITE.
- MRS. DAWSON, OUR VP, IS ACTING PRINCIPAL WHILE MR. MORROW IS TEMPORARILY AWAY ON MEDICAL LEAVE.
- OUR SCHOOL PROVIDES FREE SNACKS (EGGS, CHEESE, FROZEN YOGURT TUBES, TOAST, FRUIT...) IN THE MORNING AND BETWEEN CLASSES THROUGHOUT THE DAY TO KEEP STUDENTS ENERGIZED AND NOURISHED.

# EVENTS



WE HAVE APPROXIMATELY 90 SPOTS TO TAKE STUDENTS TO TROLL SKI RESORT FOR AN OUT-OF-SCHOOL LEARNING EXPERIENCE. A MEETING WAS HELD THIS WEEK AT LUNCH AND FORMS WERE DISTRIBUTED TO INTERESTED STUDENTS. PLEASE ENSURE THAT THE PAPERWORK IS COMPLETED FULLY AND ACCURATELY, AND RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL BEFORE THE DEADLINE.

THE QJS BASKETBALL TEAMS WILL BE HOSTING SOME UPCOMING HOME TOURNAMENTS IN JANUARY. PLEASE COME AND CHEER THEM ON!

JAN 16/17 : GR. 9 GIRLS

JAN 23/24: GR. 8 BOYS

JAN 30/31: GR. 9 BOYS



## SCENT-FREE SCHOOL



WE HAVE SEVERAL STAFF AND STUDENTS WHO ARE ALLERGIC AND VERY SENSITIVE TO SCENTS. STUDENTS WILL BE SENT HOME IF THEY COME TO SCHOOL OR USE SCENTS AT SCHOOL. THEIR PERFUME / SPRAYS WILL BE HELD UNTIL THE END OF THE DAY PLEASE REMEMBER THAT SD #28 IS SCENT-FREE PER POLICY 335.

# Check-in Time

**Absent? Arriving late? Leaving early?**

**Please call, email or use our online form at  
<https://qjs.sd28.bc.ca/absence-late/qjs>  
for early dismissal, lates or absences**

**To make things easy please call the  
school and we will have them dismissed.**



## PHONE REMINDERS

**MANY STUDENTS ABIDE BY OUR PHONE EXPECTATIONS AND RULES EVERY DAY; HOWEVER, MANY CONTINUE TO CARRY PHONES IN THEIR BINDERS, POCKETS AND BACKPACKS. ALTHOUGH THIS DOESN'T SEEM LIKE AN ISSUE, IT LEADS TO STUDENTS LEAVING CLASS TO BE ON THEIR PHONES, TAKING EXTENDED BATHROOM BREAKS, WHICH CAUSES A LACK OF BATHROOM AVAILABILITY FOR OTHERS AND LEADS TO CONFLICT WITH ADULTS WHEN PHONES ARE OUT IN CLASS. IT IS EXPECTED THAT PHONES ARE IN LOCKERS DURING INSTRUCTIONAL TIME, OR THEY WILL BE CONFISCATED AND SAFELY STORED FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE DAY.**

# SPORTS

## BASKETBALL

Basketball season is up and running with practices and games being scheduled. Please see the practice schedule below. Students are not permitted to remain at the school while they wait for a 5pm practice. **Please have alternate plans in place if your child isn't able to return home before practice.**

### GYM

PRACTICE TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3:30- 5p.m.	Gr 8 girls basketball Coach: Meghan Wollen	Gr 8 boys basketball Coach: Nathan Erickson	Gr 8 girls basketball Coach: Meghan Wollen	Gr 8 boys basketball Coach: Nathan Erickson	Gr 8 boys Basketball Teacher sponsor: Jeff Morris
5-6:30 p.m.	Grade 9 boys basketball Coach: Joshua Nutley	Gr 9 girls basketball Coach: Kevin Fralick	Grade 9 boys basketball. Coach: Joshua Nutley	Gr 9 girls basketball Coach: Kevin Fralick	Gr 9 girls basketball Coach: Kevin Fralick

## QJS/Correlieu Ski and Snowboard team

Practices continue to be on Saturdays, starting at 10 am at Troll Ski Resort.

Zones Competition in Smithers @ Hudson Bay Resort January 29th and 30<sup>th</sup> 2026

Provincials @ Mount Washington on Vancouver Island on February 23,24,25

## Mountain Biking Team at QJS

In case you haven't heard, Quesnel is hosting the 2026 high school mountain biking provincials on May 21-22, 2026. The Gold Rush Cycling Club is hosting the event. There will be two days of racing, the first cross country and the second enduro. There will be three classes divided into male and female: bantam - grade 8, junior - grades 9 & 10, and senior - grades 11 & 12. Get stoked, grab your bike and join the TEAM to represent QJS.



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# January

- 5 - FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
- 14 - PAC MEETING IN THE LIBRARY
- 16/17 - GR 9 GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
- 23/24 - GR 8 BOYS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
- 30/31 - GR 9 BOYS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
- 26 - SEMESTER 2 ELECTIVE BEGINS
- 30 - NO SCHOOL - NI DAY

# February

- 3 & 4 - TROLL SKIING (ONLY THOSE WHO SIGNED UP)
- 16 - BC FAMILY DAY - NO SCHOOL

# 2026/2027 DISTRICT CATCHMENT CHANGES



## CATCHMENT INFORMATION SESSION #1

📅 Wednesday, January 14, 2026

⌚ 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

📍 School District Office

If you have questions or would like to learn more about the changes to elementary school catchment boundaries, please feel free to attend.

\*Virtual option is also available.



### Memo



December 18, 2025

**TO:** All staff and community  
**FROM:** Board of Education  
**RE:** Catchment Boundary Changes and Registration Process

At the December 17, 2025 Open Board Meeting, the Board of Education adopted the revised catchment boundaries and registration process for the 2026-27 school year. Our staff has worked diligently to ensure these changes align with the needs of our community and the long-term goals of the district. Throughout this process, we have engaged in thoughtful discussions and collaboration with staff, and we are confident in the direction we are taking.

We understand that the process for registration is as important, if not more important, than the catchment boundaries themselves. We have developed a process that will allow the district to:

- increase enrollment at the new Carson Elementary
- allow for much needed space in elementary schools
- provide opportunity for students/families to remain at their current schools to maintain the important connections they have made

Communication in the coming months will be critical. We have a plan to ensure ongoing engagement and information sharing with parents and the community. We recognize the importance of supporting families through these changes, including completing necessary forms and navigating new processes. To assist, we are committed to hosting bi-monthly information sessions as well as school-specific meetings at those sites most impacted.

Communication and planning with staff are also a top priority. We have already begun working with both QDTA and CUPE executives to ensure clear processes to accommodate a range of staffing related changes that will occur. We are not looking to reduce staffing through this process and will be continuing to work with our union partners to ensure staff are supported with any changes that may occur.

Any change can be challenging; however, we are confident that these adjustments will create more flexible learning environments, improve transportation efficiency, and position our system to better support our community for years to come.

## Bus Behaviour Expectations – Winter Reset

As we return from winter break, School District 28 is taking time to reset and refresh our student bus behaviour expectations. Our goal is to ensure every child enjoys a safe, respectful, and predictable ride to and from school.

We deeply value our partnership with parents and guardians. When expectations are reinforced at home, and supported on our buses, students feel secure, behaviour is more consistent, and everyone benefits. Supporting these expectations also helps our bus drivers stay focused on the road—where their full attention is needed to keep all students safe.

Transportation is a privilege for students, and it is a privilege we are happy to provide. By working together, we can keep the bus environment positive, safe, and welcoming for everyone.

### Bus Behaviour Expectations

Sit safely at all times while the bus is moving.

Speak respectfully, using an appropriate volume and language.

Respect other riders, the bus, and the driver.

Follow the driver's directions the first time.

Keep all food and drinks off the bus.

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## What Happens If Expectations Aren't Followed?

**1** VERBAL REMINDER FROM THE BUS DRIVER

**2** SECOND REMINDER, WITH THE DRIVER LETTING THE STUDENT KNOW THEY WILL RECEIVE A "WHITE, PINK, OR YELLOW SLIP."

### Understanding the Slips

#### **Reminder Only**

- Several reminders were needed and behaviour did not stop.
- Manager logs the incident, informs the Principal, and emails the parent.
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#### **Step 1: First Written Warning**

- Behaviour continued after reminders.
- Manager calls parents; Principal may be notified.

#### **Step 2: Suspension from Bus**

- Ongoing or serious behaviours (e.g., fighting, vaping, unsafe actions).
- Manager calls parents and the Principal; a 5-day suspension is issued. A meeting may be required before returning.
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- Thank you for supporting a safe and respectful transportation system. Please take a few minutes to review these expectations with your child before Monday, January 12, 2026. By working together, we help keep our buses safe and our drivers focused—ensuring a smooth and positive ride for all students.

Ref: Policy No. 820 – Bus Safety – Student Conduct