
TELKWA SCHOOL NEWS

Hankin Ave., Telkwa, BC V0J 2X0

Telephone: 846-5851

Grizzly Growl

September 5, 2025

Welcome back to school! We have had a busy start up this week and it has been wonderful to meet all our students after the summer break. As your new Principal I would like to also welcome you – Telkwa is an amazing school and I am so grateful to be here! As you may have noticed, renovations continued over the summer and our school now has all new windows and siding! Our maintenance crew was busy prepping the basement for our Hydro upgrade for more power, and was successfully completed a few weeks before school. The basement will remain closed off to students as work continues. Newsletters will go out the first Friday of each month and we will also be emailing parents from time to time with other information pertaining to school. I would also like to remind parents that we do have a Telkwa Elementary FB page where a variety of school and community information gets posted. Please look there for our new Hot Lunch Menu.

Mr. Hersee

Meet the Teacher

We invite all parents to come and meet your children’s teachers. This event will take place on **Wed., Sept. 17 from 6:00 – 7:00**. We hope to see you all there.



Telkwa Elementary Staff

Mr. Dustin Hersee, Principal	Ms. Dash, Secretary
Ms. Lester, Grade 6/7	Ms. Hamelin, Special Education Assistant
Mr. Rode, Grade 5/6	Ms. Peters, Special Education Assistant
Ms. Klassen, Grade 3/4	Ms. Koudelkova, Special Education Assistant
Ms. Bowman, Grade 2/3	Ms. Johnson, Special Education Assistant
Ms. Kluss, Grade 1/2	Ms. N. Rousseau, Indigenous Support Worker
Ms. Jakubec, Grade K	Ms. Mellroy, Food Service Worker
Mr. Hennig, Learner Support	Ms. T. Rousseau, Custodian
Mr. Anderson, Music	

Contact Information If any of your contact information has changed (address, phone numbers, emergency contacts, e-mail address) please let the school office know so that we can update our student information system. You can email the details to teloffice@sd54.bc.ca or call us at (250) 846-5851.

Safe Arrival

Regular, consistent attendance is important for your child’s learning. However, if your child is ill, it is important they stay home until they are feeling better as we do not want to spread around sicknesses.

To assist with our Safe Arrival procedures, parents have three ways to report your children’s absence by downloading the School Messenger App, calling toll free at 1-833-829-5808, or by using the web version by scanning the QR code provided.



Supervision

Morning supervision begins at 8:05am and afterschool supervision of the playground ends at 3:30pm. At this time the supervisor will be asking remaining students to head home or they will be brought to the office to wait for parent pick up.

After School Time

Last year we experienced numerous issues after the students were dismissed at the end of the day. I would like to remind families that students should be going straight home after school. Bus students, of course may hang around until the bus bell and they need to be within sight of the supervisors – playing in the trees on the hill or being in the undercover area is not permitted. Students are welcome to come back after 4:00 when they have gotten home safely and checked in with their parents.

School Supply Fees

The school supply fee for all students this year is \$40. You can either send in the funds with your child or pay at the office. Payments can be made by cheque (made out to Telkwa Elementary School), debit or cash.

Terry Fox Hike-Tuesday September 23rd

Get your hiking boots ready as we will once again be climbing Hudson Bay Mountain to Crater Lake in order to raise money for cancer. Our goal this year is to raise \$1600 and Ms. J is confident we can do it as we almost met that amount last year. The link to donate is <https://schools.terryfox.ca/TelkwaElementary> so please share and encourage your family and friends to support your child's effort in accomplishing the hike. We will also have a Terry Fox jar at the office if you would rather donate that way. We are doing the hike much earlier this year so we don't run into snow again. If you can, please join us as we could really use your support in helping to supervise and support our students in this goal. Please let your child's teacher know if you are able to help out. We will need a Criminal Record Check filled out in the office for all volunteers who have not yet completed one from last year. Please send appropriate clothing/shoes for all weather conditions and prepare your child for a full hike!



Student Photo Day

Students will have their photos taken on **Tuesday, Sept. 16th**. Retakes will occur but we do not yet have a confirmed date.

Bus Students

If your child is a bus student, please ensure you have checked on the district website at www.sd54.bc.ca for pick up and drop off times of your child's bus. Please be at the bus stops at least 5 minutes before the pick-up time and drop off time. There is also a bus status app that you can use for updates & current info on your child's bus. Students riding the bus 23 need to go straight to the bus stop after school and all other bus students must go to the bus stop right after the bus bell so we can ensure students load onto the correct buses and are accounted for.

Dressing for the Weather

Please ensure your child comes to school with appropriate clothing for various types of weather as we know the weather can change throughout the day. A change of clothes in their backpack or stored in the classroom would be beneficial. Please ensure all clothing and footwear is labeled with your child's name. If they do not yet have a pair, all students will need a pair of indoor runners with non-marking soles.

Volunteer Coaches or Clubs

As a small school we often have difficulties finding coaches and running extracurricular clubs (knitting, crafting, chess, board games, etc.). We are particularly looking for a soccer coach for our intermediate students (district soccer tournament is set for Thursday September 25th from 12:00-6pm) and a volleyball coach for some time later in the year. If you think coaching or leading some kind of club during lunch is something you could help us with, please contact the office. If you are unable but know someone who may be interested, please encourage them to contact the office.

Music

Mr. Anderson is excited about another year of music at Telkwa Elementary. Our school has recently inherited a handful of beautiful analogue synthesizers (Moog, Korg, Roland, Oberheim, Hydrasynth and Dave Smith instruments that will make TES a world class destination for synthesizer enthusiasts! - no exaggeration). A big thank you to the estate of Bruce Forsyth via his sons and daughter-in-laws Ben & Sarah from Telkwa and Brett & Danie from Guelph who have generously given TES students an opportunity to play some pretty obscure and sought after keyboards. Wow! This said, Mr Anderson is looking for some parents to help facilitate an extra-curricular "synth club" to dig deeper into some endlessly interesting and complex machines. We have also acquired more Yamaha 'Reface' synths over the summer from the grant cycle last year, so the music room is bursting at the seams with musical gear. On top of this we were given a full drum kit and a pair of congas from local Telkwa community members. We live in an incredible place where people want to help your kids to find passion in sound and connect through music.

Also, Mr. Anderson is seeking parent Piano support in his classroom. If you play piano and would like to share some of that literacy with students, please contact him at brennan.anderson@sd54.bc.ca (mailto:brennan.anderson@sd54.bc.ca) or at the school.

Finally, choir will be starting up in late September with a district wide effort from Mr. Anderson again to create a large multi school choir for Remembrance Day. This year students will be singing the iconic and hauntingly beautiful melody from Dvorak's 9th symphony (2nd movement). If you could play this at home for your kids to hear that would be great. Any parents interested in helping with choir would be useful as well.

Gently Used Toys

Mrs. J is looking for gently used toys and stuffies that are appropriate for 4-6-year-olds. If you have anything that you would like to donate, please give directly to Mrs. J.

News from the PAC

The Telkwa PAC is looking forward to the 2025/2026 school year and we have many big plans in store. We are excited to see all of our existing members and hopefully some new faces at **our first meeting at 12:15pm on September 15th in the multipurpose room at the school.** Younger children are always welcome! There are no huge time commitments if you come out to join PAC just share your input and get the inside scoop on what is going on at the school! If you have any questions, you can reach PAC President Nicole Murray at 250-876-8664

Hot Lunch Program

The PAC has generously donated lunches this year to begin next week Monday’s and Wednesdays! School lunch will continue on Tuesday’s as usual with Ms. Mellroy. Ms. Dash will be posting each week’s lunch menu on Facebook the Friday before so parents can plan ahead. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Strong Start

Strong Start classes will begin Oct. 1. Please watch for posts on the Telkwa Strong Start Facebook Page.

Upcoming Important Dates

Sept. 11	Assembly/Pep Rally @ 1:10pm
Sept. 16	Picture Day (9:00 am)
Sept. 17	Meet the Teacher (6:00-7:00 pm)
Sept. 23	Terry Fox – Hike to Crater Lake
Sept. 25	AM Fire drill **Muheim Soccer – Mr. Hersee and Ms. Utz to coach
Sept. 29	Orange Shirt Day
Sept. 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation *** No School ***

