



1337 Lark Avenue, Quesnel BC V2J 4K5  
Phone: 250-992-2613 Email: VOY@sd28.bc.ca  
FAX:250-992-2623 WEBSITE: voyageur.sd28.bc.ca



## MARCH 2026 NEWSLETTER

Dear Families,

As we head into March, there is much to celebrate and a few important reminders to share.

Our basketball season is coming to an end, and we are incredibly proud of our boys' and girls' teams. Their hard work, dedication, and commitment throughout the season have been outstanding. A sincere thank you to our coaches Mathew Hender and Ms. D for the time, energy, and leadership they have given to support our students.

We are also excited to share that three teams from Mrs. Matheson's Grade 6/7 class attended the Skills Canada Wind Turbine Competition in Prince George. We are thrilled to announce that two of our teams placed 1st and 2nd. Way to go! We are so proud of your innovation, teamwork, and perseverance.

A few important reminders:

- As per School District 28 policy, all visitors must sign in at the office. This is an important safety measure to ensure the well-being of everyone in our building.
- **If your catchment has changed, you must register at your new catchment school by March 31. Please contact the office if you need any support with this process.**
- We are looking for volunteers to help cook and serve pancakes on March 13. If you are available to help, please call the office. We would greatly appreciate your support.
- Spring Break will take place from March 16–27. We hope all of our families enjoy a restful and enjoyable break.
- As we move toward spring, please remember to send your children dressed for the changing weather conditions.
- For everyone's safety, please do not park in the staff parking lot during pick-up and drop-off times. Additionally, do not stop in the parking lot to pick up your child, as this disrupts the flow of traffic. Please use only the designated student pick-up areas.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a safe, positive, and engaging learning environment for all students.

Sincerely,  
*Sonia Pannu-Baidwan*  
Principal, Voyageur Elementary School

### STUDENT ABSENCES

For student safety, it is **very important** to contact the school in the event a student will be absent or late. Student absences can be reported three ways: call the school 250-992-2613, email the school at [voy@sd28.bc.ca](mailto:voy@sd28.bc.ca), or visit our website to complete the online form at: <https://voyageur.sd28.bc.ca/absence-late/voy>

*If you are picking up your student early PLEASE check them out at the office before leaving.*

### **Morning Supervision**

**Outdoor supervision does not begin until 8:10 am.**

Students are welcome to come into the Gym for breakfast club at 8:00 am.  
*There is no cost for this program.*

# March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <b>PAC MEETING</b> 5:00 in Library	3	4	5	6	7
8 <b>Daylight Savings</b> <b>Time begins permanently in BC</b>	9	10	11 Learning Updates Home	12	13 PJ Day and last day before Spring Break	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
S P R I N G B R E A K						
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
S P R I N G B R E A K						
29	30 <i>Welcome Back!</i>	31	April 1	April 2	April 3 <b>Good Friday</b> <b>No School</b>	

## Provincial Student Learning Survey Information for parents/guardians of students in Grades 4 and 7

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size, and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective. The Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in Grades 4 and 7, their parents/guardians/caregivers, and all school staff. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus on improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/student-learning-survey>. Any computer or mobile device with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link and by clicking on Take the Survey. On the login page, click on the Parents icon, and then select the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the Results section. The e-survey site will be open until May 1, 2026. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

### Parking and Student Drop off/Pick up



We ask that parents do not park in staff parking as there are not enough spots. Pick up and drop off are along the fence by the playground area.

Please do not use the bus lane or the handicapped spots for pick up and drop off as it causes congestion and is dangerous.

Thank you for your cooperation!



### Bell Schedule

- 8:25 First Bell Rings
- 8:30 **Morning Classes Begin**
- 10:15 Recess:15 mins (all students)
- 12:00 **Primary outside;**  
**Intermediate eat**
- 12:20 **Primary eat;**  
**Intermediate outside**
- 12:45 Afternoon classes begin
- 2:23 Dismissal

# School Registration for 2026/27

## 2-Step Guide for Families



### Register at Your Catchment School

1

For all new students, including Kindergarten students and students currently attending a school that is **NOT** their designated catchment school for 2026/27.

#### What does this mean for you?

- ✓ Check your updated 2026/27 catchment school at [www.sd28.bc.ca](http://www.sd28.bc.ca)
- ✓ Submit your child's registration to their catchment school for September 2026 at your catchment school starting February 2, 2026

### \*Optional\* Request to Attend a Different School

2

If you want your child to attend a non-catchment school you must complete an [Out-of-Catchment Request Form](#).

- Opens: February 2, 2026 (forms available at all schools)
- Closes: March 31, 2026
- Submit the form during this window if you prefer a school other than your child's designated catchment school.

#### Important Notes

- ✓ Submitting a request does not guarantee placement.
- ✓ Placement decisions are based on available space.
- ✓ Placement decisions will begin in April 2026

#### Exception: Elementary French Immersion

Students registered or registering in elementary French Immersion Do NOT need to register at their catchment school or complete an Out-of-Catchment Request form. (No change from past practice.)

#### Kindergarten Registration for September 2026

To be eligible, children must turn five years of age on or before December 31, 2026. For more information, please contact your catchment school.

#### Required registration documents:

- Student's Proof of Age and Guardianship: Long Form Canadian Birth Certificate
- Proof of Health Insurance: BC Services Card
- Proof of Residency in Quesnel (2 pieces) showing your current address

## Head lice

### What are head lice?

Head lice are tiny, sesame seed-sized, greyish-brown, wingless insects that live on the scalp, feeding on blood. They lay eggs (nits) on hair close to the scalp that may look like dandruff. These nits hatch into baby lice (nymphs) in 9 to 10 days. Nymphs become adult lice in 9 to 12 days. Adult lice can live for up to 30 days on a person's head. A female louse can lay 5 to 6 eggs per day.

### Do head lice cause illness or spread disease?

No, head lice do not cause illness or spread disease. However, they can be irritating because they cause discomfort and spread easily from person to person.

### How are head lice spread?

Anyone who has hair can get head lice. Having head lice does not mean a person has poor personal hygiene or lives in an unclean environment.

Head lice are commonly spread among children and adults who have close head-to-head contact. Head lice cannot jump or fly from one person to another. They are most commonly spread through head-to-head contact by crawling from one hair to another. There is a very small chance of head lice spreading indirectly through shared pillowcases, hair accessories, hats, brushes and combs.

### How do I prevent the spread of head lice?

The best way to prevent the spread of head lice is to encourage children to avoid head-to-head contact. Teach them not to share hats, combs, hair accessories or hairbrushes. If your child has long hair, tie it up or put it in a braid.

Having head lice once does not prevent someone from getting them again. Regular checks for head lice can be part of a family's hygiene routine.

### What are the symptoms of head lice?

Often people who have head lice will have no symptoms.

Symptoms of head lice may include:

- Crawling or tickling sensation on the scalp
- Itchy scalp due to a sensitive reaction caused by the bites
- Scratch marks or small red bumps like a rash

### How can I tell if my child has head lice?

To check for head lice, use the wet combing method:

- Wash and rinse the hair. Apply enough conditioner to cover the whole scalp. The conditioner stops the lice from moving, making them easier to find
- Sit your child under a bright light; a magnifying glass may help you see
- Divide hair into 4 sections and check each section one at a time with a fine-toothed comb. You must check the entire head
- After each stroke, wipe the comb on a paper towel and check for lice

Lice move very fast. Lice are usually found very close to the scalp, at the bottom of the neck and behind the ears.

If your child has an itchy scalp or was exposed to head lice, check their hair right away and look close to the scalp. Check again once a week for 2 weeks in case you missed them. If you only find nits and no lice, check again every day for one week to make sure that you did not miss any live lice.

If someone in the house has lice, check all family members.

## What are safe options for treating head lice?

There are many different products and ways to treat head lice. They can all be obtained over the counter. Only consider treatment if you find live lice. Head lice will not go away without treatment.

Children should not be sent home or kept home from school or daycare because of head lice.

If one person in the household has head lice, there is a good chance other household members do as well. All members of the household should be checked on the same day, and those with lice should be treated.

### Chemical treatments

Shampoos, creams, rinses and sprays that contain an ingredient that kills lice are available at most pharmacies without a prescription. Some examples are permethrin, pyrethrins, isopropyl myristate and dimethicone.

Some chemical treatments may not be safe for infants, young children, pregnant or nursing people or other individuals. Speak to your health care provider or pharmacist to find out which is best for you or your child. Always carefully follow the directions for use on the label and keep the products out of the reach of young children.

After treatment, check the hair and remove eggs and lice. You can also remove the nits, although you don't have to remove them, as nits are empty eggshells.

Most treatments are repeated in 7 to 10 days to make sure that any head lice that have hatched after the first treatment are killed before they have a chance to lay any eggs. It is also important to check the head for any eggs and remove them after the second treatment. The itching may last for 7 to 10 days, even after successful treatment.

Head lice have started to develop resistance to many of the chemical products. The product is not working if there are live lice detected after 2 properly applied applications of an approved product 7 to 10 days apart. In this case, consider a

full treatment plan using a topical treatment of a different type.

Irritation from chemical products is common and not a sign that the product is not working.

Wet combing is less expensive and non-chemical. Combing treatments follow the same steps used to check for lice. Use generous amounts of hair conditioner and a special lice comb, every 4 days for at least 2 weeks. If you find lice on the final combing, add one more combing in 4 days until you find no live lice.

### When should I call my health care provider?

Call your health care provider if the treatments are not successful or if you are unsure which kind of treatment is best for you or your child. Health care providers can advise safe chemical treatment plans for pregnant or nursing people and children less than 4 years of age.

### What options are not recommended for treating head lice?

Some methods and products should not be used because they are either not safe or do not work. These products include insect sprays, motor oil, gasoline, alcohol, flea soap, dyes, bleaches, heat applied to the scalp, garlic, mayonnaise, petroleum jelly, olive oil, vinegar, margarine, tea tree and other essential oils, electric lice combs and shaving the head.

### What should be cleaned?

Head lice rarely leave the scalp and if they do, they can only survive for 1 to 2 days. Head lice are not spread through contact with furniture, pets or carpets. There is no evidence that a major cleaning of the house or car is necessary. Hats, pillowcases, combs and hairbrushes that have had contact with the head of the person with head lice in the previous 48 hours could be considered for cleaning in hot soapy water, and dry them in a hot dryer for 15 minutes. Items that can not be washed can be placed in an airtight plastic bag for 2 weeks.

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For more HealthLinkBC File topics, visit [www.HealthLinkBC.ca/more/resources/healthlink-bc-files](http://www.HealthLinkBC.ca/more/resources/healthlink-bc-files) or your local public health unit. For non-emergency health information and advice in B.C. visit [www.HealthLinkBC.ca](http://www.HealthLinkBC.ca) or call **8-1-1** (toll-free). For the deaf and hard of hearing, call **7-1-1**. Translation services are available in more than 130 languages on request.

# 2025—2026 Calendar



## School Calendar 2025-2026

School District #28 Quesnel

401 North Star Rd. Quesnel, BC V2J 5K2 Phone: 250 992-8802 Fax: 250 992-7652

Website: www.sd28.bc.ca

AUGUST 2025						
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SEPTEMBER 2025						
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OCTOBER 2025						
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NOVEMBER 2025						
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DECEMBER 2025						
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JANUARY 2026						
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FEBRUARY 2026						
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MARCH 2026						
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APRIL 2026						
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MAY 2026						
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JUNE 2026						
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JULY 2026						
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AUGUST 2026						
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SEPTEMBER 2026						
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27	28	29	30			

Sep 1: Labour Day  
 Sep 2: School Planned Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)  
 Sep 3: Back to school (1/2 day for students)  
 Sep 30: National Day of Truth and Reconciliation  
 Oct 13: Thanksgiving  
 Oct 24: Provincial Pro-D (no school for students)  
 Nov 5,6: Early Dismissal (to facilitate Parent Teacher Interviews)  
 Nov 11: Remembrance Day  
 Nov 28: District Planned Non-Instructional Day - Indigenous Focus (no school for students)  
 Dec 22-Jan 2: Winter Break

Jan 5: Students back from Winter Break  
 Jan 30: District Planned Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)  
 Feb 16: BC Family Day  
 Mar 16-27: Spring Break  
 Apr 3: Good Friday  
 Apr 6: Easter Monday  
 Apr 24: Regional Pro-D (no school for students)  
 May 18: Victoria Day  
 Jun 1: School Planned Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)  
 Jun 24: Last Day for students  
 Jun 25: Administrative Day (no school for students)  
 Jun 26: Summer Break begins

Professional, District, Ministry, Non Instructional Days - No School  
 Statutory Holidays - No School

School Holidays - No School  
 Early Dismissal



First Nations Health Authority  
Health through wellness

First Nations Health Authority  
270 – 177 Victoria St.  
Prince George, BC, V2L 5R8



Population & Public Health  
500 – 299 Victoria Street  
Prince George, BC, V2L 5B8

**November 24, 2025**

**To Families and School Staff: What you need to know about measles**

Measles is spreading in BC right now. This letter has important information to help keep your child, your family, and our schools safe. Measles is a sickness that spreads easily, but we can help stop it with vaccines and knowing what to do if we're exposed to it.

**Vaccines help protect us**

Getting the measles vaccine is the best way to stay safe!

People are protected if they:

- got **two measles vaccines (shots)** after turning 1 year old,
- were born **before 1970**, or
- were diagnosed with measles before.

Check if you or your child got both vaccines:	If you or your child need vaccination:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• check online at <a href="https://www.healthgateway.gov.bc.ca">BC Health Gateway</a> (<a href="https://www.healthgateway.gov.bc.ca">https://www.healthgateway.gov.bc.ca</a>)</li> <li>• call your local Community Health Centre or Health Unit.</li> </ul>	Book an appointment at your local: Community Health Centre, <a href="#">Health Unit</a> ( <a href="https://www.northernhealth.ca/find-a-facility/health-units">https://www.northernhealth.ca/find-a-facility/health-units</a> ), or pharmacy

**What measles looks like**

Symptoms of measles show up **7 to 21 days** after being near someone who has measles (if you catch the virus). These symptoms include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red or watery eyes
- A rash that starts on the face and neck, then spreads

Measles spreads through the air when someone with measles breathes, coughs or sneezes. Measles can make people very sick by causing problems with breathing or in the brain, and sometimes it can be deadly.

**If you think your child has measles symptoms**

- Do not send your child to school.
- Call **your doctor** or the **Northern Health Virtual Clinic at 1-844-645-7811**.
- Try to keep your child away from other people during this time.
- If you need to go to the doctor or hospital, call ahead so they can get ready.

## If someone has measles

They should stay home and away from other people until at least 4 days after the rash starts. This helps stop the sickness from spreading. If you need to go to the doctor or hospital, please call first so the staff can get ready.

If measles exposure happens at school	If your child gets sick at school
<p>If there is exposure to measles at your school, public health will send a letter to the school to send home. It will tell you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Where to get vaccines</li><li>• Information about testing, preventive treatment, and care</li><li>• That anyone not immune to measles should stay home for <b>21 days</b> to keep others safe</li></ul>	<p>If your child feels sick at school, staff will call you – just like normal.</p> <p>If there is concern about measles, school staff will call public health for advice. Based on this advice, school staff may help that person go home quickly.</p> <p>While waiting, your child may wear a mask and stay in a separate room.</p> <p>You can call <b>your doctor</b> or the <b>Northern Health Virtual Clinic</b> at <b>1-844-645-7811</b> to assess you and see if you should be tested for measles.</p>

## Extra care for some people

Measles can be very dangerous for people who are not protected, and who are pregnant or have weak immune systems. If you are worried about the health of your child or family member related to measles, call **your doctor** or the **Northern Health Virtual Clinic** right away. They can help you get care and medicine to stay safe.

## More information

- <https://www.northernhealth.ca/health-topics/measles>
- <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/measles>
- <https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthlinkbc-files/measles>
- Northern Health Virtual Clinic: 1-844-645-7811

Let's work together to stop the spread of measles and keep our schools and families safe.

**With thanks and in partnership,**

*Northern Director of Nursing, on behalf of  
First Nations Health Authority Public Health Doctors (Medical Officers)*

*Regional Nursing Lead – Healthy Schools, on behalf of  
Northern Health Public Health Doctors (Medical Health Officers)*

