

August 2015

Dear Bluevale Students, Parents and Guardians:

Welcome to the 2015 – 2016 school year! Opening day is **Tuesday, September 8, 2015**.

Our renovations for the past number of years have been completed, portables have been removed and, in their place, a vibrant green space has been created. Like this smooth transition, we anticipate a smooth transition to the new school year. It is expected that all students will be in attendance on the first day of school. Please read the following information carefully and check Bluevale's website at <http://bci.wrdsb.ca> after August 27th for any updates.

Opening Day for Grade 9 Students:

- 8:15 am** Arrive and find homeroom on lists posted in the main hallway outside the Library, outside the Main Office and the Gym hallway.
- 8:45 am** Grade 9 Assembly in the Cafetorium
- 9:45 am** Assemble in homeroom classrooms and meet homeroom teachers, receive timetable information and registration packages.
- 10:15 am** Guided tour of school facilitated by senior leadership students.
- 11:15 am** Free BBQ lunch on the patio at the front of the school

Grade 9 students will be dismissed after the barbecue though they may wish to stay until the end of the school day. The library will be open for students who wish to stay at school for the afternoon until buses arrive.

Opening Day for Students in Grades 10, 11 and 12:

- 1:00 pm** Arrival and find homeroom on lists posted in the Main Foyer, outside the Library and the Gym Hallway.
- 1:15 pm** Report to homeroom class and meet homeroom teachers, receive timetable and registration packages.

Students will be dismissed from homeroom classes **at 2:00 pm**. The library will be open in the morning and in the afternoon for student use.

Opening Day General Information:

On opening day, there will be an opportunity for students to clear up any textbook issues or library fines, and pick up summer school report cards. Registration Packages will be distributed in Homeroom for **all** students.

Homeroom lists will be posted in the Main Foyer as early as Friday, September 4th, for any students interested in having this information before opening day. Wednesday, September 9th will follow a regular schedule.

Bell Times for 2015 – 2016 and Flip Day:

Period A	8:15 am – 9:30 am
Period B	9:35 am – 10:50 am
Lunch	10:50 am – 11:50 am
Period C	11:50 am – 1:05 pm
Period D	1:10 pm – 2:25 pm

Flip Day Tuesdays:

In order to reduce class time missed by students for extra curricular activities, the order of the periods **every Tuesday** will be: A, B, Lunch, **D, C**.

Transportation:

For WRDSB Yellow School Bus Transportation information please visit **www.stswr.ca** after August 24th. You will need your OEN (Ontario Education Number) from your report card to log-in. Questions about School Bus Transportation can be directed to Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region at 519-650-4934 ext. 221.

Bus Schedules will be posted in the Main Foyer the first week of September. Please note that buses will run at regular times on September 8th, 2015 (opening day).

On Line School Year Information Package

In an effort to reduce costs and save paper, the **WRDSB School Year Information** package that has previously been sent home with your student at the start of the school year, will be available online. Please visit our website at <http://bci.wrdsb.ca/> and click on School Year Information to view the package.

This package contains information regarding school year start-up such as; the school year calendar, safe schools protocol, and other information that may be helpful for a successful year in school.

Improved Communication

Data has shown us that the most effective communication tool requested by parents is email. Bluevale has always been pleased to provide parents/guardians and students with the ability to receive important messages from the school via home or cell phone. We are now excited to announce that you can receive these messages via email and text messaging as well. If you would like to receive email messages from the school, please go to our school website at <http://bci.wrdsb.ca> and sign up for school communication updates by adding your e-mail to our database. Once on the Bluevale webpage click on "**Parents/Guardians Add your email address to your child's contact information.**" This is found along the left hand side of the page.

If you would like to receive text messages from the school, please text to 56360 and type the word "join" in your message. Your phone number must be registered in our student system before you can access this service. Please note that data rates may apply depending on your plan.

If you have any questions about this improved service, please contact the school at 519-885-4620.

School Day

This year, to continue what has been piloted in many of the WRDSB elementary schools, Bluevale has implemented the use of an on-line payment system called, "**School Day**". The School Day payment system may be accessed through our school website from any web browser. It gives parents real-time, secure access to current information and has the ability to:

- Receive e-mail communications from the school
- Approve permission forms on-line
- Register your student for extracurricular events
- Make on-line payments for student cards, yearbooks, sports fees and other activities
- Update your mobile device with calendar events specific to your student
- Minimize the risks associated with sending money to school with your student, and reduce the environmental impact of photocopying permission forms and announcements

Not Returning to BCI?

Please let us know as soon as possible if you are moving or have had a change in plans and do not intend to return to BCI in September. Contact the guidance office at 519-885-4620 ext. 1130.