



# Shortreed Community Elementary School

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January 16, 2023

Dear Families of Future Kindergarten Students,

On behalf of the community of Shortreed Community Elementary School, I want to welcome you to our school and wish you all the best on your journey with your child as a Shortreed Eagle. Shortreed is known throughout the district for our positive school culture and strong systems supporting literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional learning. We look forward to working with you as a team to have a positive impact and create the conditions for an effective education for your child(ren) during their years at the school.

We use a number of programs in the school to help nurture student strengths, support their self-regulation, and bring out the best in students:

- We use the Zones of Regulation school-wide to support students with self-regulation so they can be in an optimal physical and emotional state for learning. We offer numerous opportunities for students to develop and practice self-regulation skills so they can have some tools in their toolkit.
- We believe that academic and behaviour skills can both be taught and learned. As Dr. Ross Greene shares, "Kids do well if they can", so it is up to us to work as a team to find out how to best support students so they CAN.
- To best create a sense of belonging, students need to have a chance to explore and spend time in areas of strength. To do this at Shortreed, in a typical year, we offer things like Club Wednesdays where students get a chance to choose and explore an area of strength, curiosity, or interest. Examples of clubs in past years are in areas of cooking, visual arts, athletics, nature, technology, crafts, and drama.

To help you and your child with some learning, we invite you to join us for the school district's Gifts and Gatherings event at Shortreed on Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> (1:00pm-2:00pm) with district facilitator Sam Collie. We are planning to do our **Welcome to Kindergarten** event in May/June where you will have a chance to meet some of the staff and see the classrooms so please check your emails in the months ahead. You will receive a package via email during the summer outlining our Gradual Entry to Kindergarten. This starts in September and allows two weeks for students to build up the physical and emotional stamina to be able to enter kindergarten successfully for full days. We will be collecting \$40 from each family to cover the cost of school supplies so there will not be a kindergarten supply list coming home. We are able to bulk purchase these supplies to save you money so watch for more information coming out in the next few months.

This is an exciting time for you and your family, and we are honoured to be a part of this experience. To stay informed through the summer and into your years at Shortreed, please check out our website at [shortreed.sd35.bc.ca](http://shortreed.sd35.bc.ca) and follow us on Twitter and Instagram at @shortreedschool and/or like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/shortreedschool](http://www.facebook.com/shortreedschool). You can also join our Parent Group on Facebook to stay informed and connect with other families in our community.

At Shortreed, our mantra is "**You BELONG here.**" You and your child BELONG here. We look forward to having your family here and working together to help all our students flourish. On behalf of our Kindergarten Team and our entire staff, welcome to the Shortreed Family!

C. Wejr, Proud Principal