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**Subject:** Welcome Back to North Shuswap Elementary – September 2025

**Dear North Shuswap Families,**

Welcome to the 2025–2026 school year! We're excited to open our doors once again and welcome your children back to North Shuswap Elementary. Whether your child is returning or joining us for the first time, we're looking forward to a year filled with learning, growth, and connection.

At North Shu, we are all about empowering students to become confident, curious, and caring individuals who thrive in their learning, relationships, and community.

**Key Dates to Remember:**

- **Monday, September 1** – Labour Day (No School)
- **Tuesday, September 2** – Staff in Session
- **Wednesday, September 3** – First (partial) Day of School for Grades 1–8 (**8:00-11:00**)  
*Meet on the basketball court if the weather is dry; otherwise, head to the gym.*
- **Thursday, September 4** – Full day for students grades 1-8; first 1-hour visit for Kindies

**Please make it a high priority to be at school on Wednesday, September 3, as we need to physically see which students arrive to be able to organize classes. Thank you!**

**Kindergarten Families:**

Kindergarten students will begin with a **gradual entry schedule** starting **Thursday, September 4**, to help ease into school routines. Full-day Kindergarten begins **Monday, September 15**. Please refer to the Kindergarten Welcome Letter for full details, including group times, supplies, and bussing information.

We're thrilled to welcome **Ms. Kat Roberge**, who will be leading our K/1 class until Ms. Ladyman returns from maternity leave. Ms. Roberge brings a wealth of experience in early literacy and numeracy and is eager to support your child's learning journey. Other staffing updates will follow as we are still finalizing a few details!

**Reminders for All Families:**

- **Remember our 30km/h School Zone** and please be extra vigilant in the parking lot.



- **Drop-off and Pick-up:** Please be punctual and notify the office and your child's teacher of any changes in pickup routines. Safety is our top priority.
- **Bussing:** Contact the transportation department for information about bussing (including registration info) [here](#).
- **Absences:** If your child will be away, please notify the office by email or phone as soon as possible.
- **Prompt and Regular attendance:** There is convincing research indicating the many benefits of regular school attendance. We encourage students to do their very best to be at school ready to learn every day! Our caring staff put a lot of time and expertise into planning sequenced, thoughtful learning paths for students that become more challenging when absences are frequent. We look forward to you making the most of every opportunity this school can offer!
- **Cell phones/digital devices:** A reminder that cell phones are to be turned off/put on do not disturb on entering the property and kept in a bag (or locker) out of sight for the duration of the school day – not on their person (the temptations are too great). Students may request permission to call home from the office at an appropriate time if an urgent matter arises.
- **School Supplies:** General classroom supplies are covered by school fees (please pay at the office. Thank you). Your child's teacher may request you to provide a few additional items, depending on class needs. All students must have non-marking indoor shoes in addition to any outside footwear they may personally require. Please ensure all personal items (backpack, shoes, clothing, small water bottle) are clearly labelled.

We encourage all families to stay connected with the school, ask questions, and get involved (PAC or otherwise). Let's make this a joyful and successful year for every student!

Warm regards,

## Duncan Hazlewood



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*Empowering students to become confident, curious, and caring individuals who thrive in their learning, relationships, and community.*

Belonging, Respect, Reconciliation, Empathy, Equity, Perseverance

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