

Hours

Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten:	9:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.
Kindergarten through Fifth grade:	9:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
Middle School:	8:45 a.m. – 3:20 p.m.

Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth grade:

Arrival 8:30 a.m – 8:50 a.m.

Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth grade students may arrive on campus as early as 8:30 a.m. Students will report to the recess supervisor on the playground (or the gym if the weather is poor) and remain outside the building until 8:50 a.m. Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth grade classes begin at 9:00 a.m.

Dismissal

Students are dismissed in the pick-up/drop-off areas outside the main building and the gymnasium. Pre-Kindergarten students are dismissed at 11:50 a.m. After 11:55 a.m. students not yet picked up will wait for their ride in the preschool classroom. Kindergarten through Fifth grade students are dismissed at 3:15 p.m.

Middle School (Sixth through Eighth grade):

Arrival

Middle School students may arrive on campus as early as 8:15 a.m. and are permitted to come directly into the building. Middle School classes begin at 8:45 a.m. Students will be marked tardy after attendance is taken at 8:45 a.m..

Dismissal

Students are dismissed at 3:20 p.m. in the area by the main doors.

*Due to the unification with Evergreen Christian School, times are subject to change in the fall of 2018.

Parent Participation Hours

To help keep tuition affordable and to encourage parent participation in the school, families are asked to spend a certain number of hours each year helping in and around the facility. Volunteering creates a culture of community and teamwork.

Families with full-time students: 30 total hours

Families with only a preschool/Pre-K student: 15 total hours

Single parent families: divide required hours in half

Dress Code

The basis of our dress code can be summarized into four basic principles: cleanliness, appropriateness, safety and modesty.

Fundraisers

The Bellingham Christian School Foundation is responsible for the major fund raising efforts of the school. The PTF raises money for teacher support and school events.

Programs that Benefit BCS

We participate in a variety of programs that also help to defray school expenses.

SCRIP: Purchasing gift cards (called SCRIP) at BCS for shopping at Fred Meyer, Safeway, Target, and many more stores can earn our school 5% to 10% on the face value of the card and earn a parent a credit to go toward their tuition.

General Mills Box Tops Program: General Mills contributes money to the school every year for each box top certificate we collect. A box is located at the school to drop these off. Get your family and friends collecting these for the school. See our PTF president for more details regarding this program.

Fred Meyer and Amazon have shopping incentive programs that generate cash back for the school.

Lunch

Students are to bring a lunch each day. Microwaves are available in some classrooms.

Parent volunteers offer a pizza hot lunch day and bake sale most Wednesdays. Students place their order for pizza on Tuesdays using pre-purchased coupons. Milk is available daily and is purchased via a punch card. Pizza, bake sale and milk coupons are available for purchase on Tuesday mornings through PTF.

Weather

If severe weather necessitates closing school or a delayed start, go to the BCS website: www.bellinghamchristianschool.org or Sycamore. Announcements are usually made and posted by 7:00 a.m. and typically earlier. If the school remains open and you assess that you are unable to safely transport your child to school, please choose on the side of caution.

Worship & Recognition Assembly

Three times per year, at the end of each trimester, parents are invited to attend our Worship and Recognition Assembly. Students in grades 5-8th will be presented with High Honors (97% to 100%). Student of the month for all grades will be recognized. Honor roll for elementary grades are recognized in grade level chapels.

Boards

There are several committees and boards at BCS that you can be involved in including the BCS Board, Foundation or PTF and their sub-committees. You may attend any public meeting and observe or participate in them. Dates are published on the school event calendar, in Sycamore and in the weekly BCS Matters Newsletter.

Safety

At BCS we take safety very seriously. Our safety committee meets monthly. Emergency preparedness plans are in place including, lock down, fire and earthquake procedures. Drills are performed on a regular basis. First aid and safety equipment is provided for each classroom. All exterior doors remain locked at all times. Video surveillance is in place as well as fencing along the property lines. All visitors to campus are asked to check into the office and wear a visitor badge.

Annual Events at Bellingham Christian School

This is a list of many of the events that take place during the school year at Bellingham Christian School. Most of these take place annually while some are offered occasionally. Each of these will be listed in the BCS Matters newsletter prior to the event.

Registration Day – This event is scheduled on the last Thursday in August in the late afternoon. It is a time for parents to complete or update paperwork required for their student to attend school; to buy milk and pizza tickets and to sign up for recess duty and other participation areas. Classrooms are also open for students to drop off their school supplies, get their locker assignments and meet their teachers.

New Parent Orientation – This informative meeting is for all new families to get acquainted with the mission and policies of BCS. It is held on the evening of Registration Day.

Back to School Night — This is an important night for at least one parent in each family to attend in September. You will have an opportunity to hear from your child’s teacher regarding what is in store for your child during the year. Teachers will inform you of the curriculum, classroom procedures and more.

Fundraising Luncheon – The Fundraising Luncheon involves a presentation by staff and students, culminating in a request for guests to consider pledging financial support to the school. All pledges go towards general operating expenses and special campaigns. Parents are encouraged to host a table of friends and family members at the luncheon.

Veterans Day Assembly – We invite our local community to come together and honor Veterans at this heart-felt, patriotic event. You are welcome to invite veterans who you know.

Parent Teacher Conferences – In Fall and Spring, parents are invited to review their child’s progress with the teacher. On conference days, the students are dismissed at noon to allow for meetings in the afternoon and early evening hours.

Book Fair – Parents and students may purchase books and other items during this week-long event sponsored by our BCS Library. A portion of the proceeds is credited to the school for the purchase of more quality books for our library.

Christmas Chapel – This is a time for parents, students and staff to sing praises to the Lord during the Christmas Season. It is held during the school day just before Christmas break. It is beautiful to hear all the voices combined in thanking Jesus for coming to the earth.

Skate Night – All school families and staff are invited to attend an evening of roller skating. Even if you don't skate, it is fun to attend and just watch!

Easter Week- Multiple school wide chapels with celebration, reflection, teachings and worship regarding the passion week, death, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus.

Annual Association Meeting —Scheduled for the fourth Thursday in April. This is the annual business meeting for your school. You will hear about the vision and progress being made, you will elect new BCS and PTF board members and you will vote to an annual budget. A quorum is required to hold a vote.

Fun Run – This is PTF's (Parent Teacher Fellowship) major fundraiser for the year. All students and staff participate and may obtain sponsors for completing as many laps as possible in one hour. The money raised is for special events and teacher support. Pledge envelopes go home with students several weeks in advance of the run.

Staff Appreciation– Our entire staff is honored during May by PTF, parents, and students.

Field Day — On an afternoon during the last week of school we celebrate the end of the year with an all-school field day. Students spend the afternoon going from fifteen to twenty stations such as face-painting, softball throw, balloon toss and more.

End of Year Picnic – This is a great send off into our summer season. All families and staff are invited to participate in this end-of-the-year event.

Ongoing

Worship and Recognition Assembly – At the end of each trimester, we will have a Worship and Recognition Assembly. At this assembly we will acknowledge God at work at BCS. There will be a time of praise and worship and then we recognize students of the month and students receiving high honors. Our hope is to encourage all students in their ongoing growth academically, relationally and their faith.

Parents in Prayer – Throughout the year, parents meet weekly to pray for the needs of students, teachers, staff and the school at large. Watch for information about meeting times and location in the school newsletter.

Middle School Retreats — Three times a year, sixth, seventh and eighth graders attend retreats. The purposes of the retreats are four-fold: to encourage spiritual leadership, to encourage positive

cross-grade level interaction, to develop positive relationship between staff and students and to serve the local community.

School Spirit Days —These are the last Friday of every month. We encourage everyone—staff, students and parents—to show their school pride by participating in the monthly theme.

Student Academic Support Services

Student Academic Support Program (SAS) is an in-house tutoring program. Trained tutors, under the supervision of a certificated teacher, work with students on specific subjects during class time. Comments on progress are included in the student’s report card and an Individualized Academic Plan (IAP) is written for the cumulative file.

Bellingham School Dist Support: Students with documented learning disabilities may qualify for special education through the Bellingham School District. BCS receives limited English Language Learner (ELL) funding based on the number of students who qualify. Speech therapy is available free of charge to students who show a need based on an assessment. BCS receives Title 1 funding based on the demographic make up of the current student body. A reading specialist from a Bellingham Public School employee is available to help qualifying students in a small group setting.

Sycamore

Sycamore is an online program that provides access to calendars, grades, registration, forms, school supply lists and alerts. Parents will be issued a user name and password.

Extra Curricular Activities

Various extra curricular activities are offered each year. Some examples of recent offerings are Bible studies, middle school sports (tennis, soccer, basketball, archery) and choirs for elementary and middle school.