



Davie Jones Elementary School

12030 Blakely Road
Pitt Meadows, B. C. V3Y 1J6
Phone 604-465-9908 Fax: 604-465-3591
Principal: Ms Michelle Davis

August 31, 2018 Website: <https://daviejones.sd42.ca> Facebook: <http://schools.sd42.ca/dj/> No. 1

Dear Parent/Guardians

Welcome Back!

We look forward to seeing our new and returning families at Davie Jones Elementary. We hope you have all had a wonderful summer and you and your children are eager to join us in another year of learning together.

The following information pertains to students in **Grade 1-7 only, Kindergarten students will follow an alternate schedule.** Our goals in this opening week are to have each child start the year with a sense of belonging, to help familiarize them with the new people in the DJE community, and to re-connect them with former relationships. We will accomplish this in several ways. First, as much as possible we have tried to have students go to their last year's teacher or a familiar teacher in their *homeroom*. Signs have been posted around the school to help guide students, and teachers will be out greeting students. They will spend the entire morning with this teacher on Tuesday September 4th until the 11:00 am dismissal.

From Wednesday September 5th to Thursday September 6th, they will have the opportunity to do activities in primary or intermediate groups with different teachers throughout the day. This will help them get to know more about the whole school community, and for all of us to get to know them. They will not need any school supplies this first week.

During the *lunch break*, the children will *play first and eat later*. This has many benefits for children, including children more likely finishing their lunch instead of rushing out to play. Please encourage them to have a good snack at recess.

The schedule this week is:

	Tues Sept 8 th	Wed Sept 9 th to Fri Sept 11 th
Start	8:30 am	8:30 am
Recess	10:10 – 10:25	10:10 – 10:25
Lunch	none	12:00 – 12:40
Dismissal	11:00 am	2:20 pm

Our goal is that by Friday students will find out who their teacher will be for this year, unless unforeseen circumstances arise. If plans proceed as expected, they will be dismissed and/or picked up from their new teacher's classroom at the end of the day on Friday. We will have adults helping in hallways and around the school for parent pick up.

A reminder that students need to be under parent supervision if they are inside the building before 8:25 am as there is no formal supervision of children before 8:25 am. The breakfast program will start in the coming weeks at 8:00 am.

If you would like to know about future dates, check out the calendar on our website at:

<http://elementary.sd42.ca/daviejones/>

If you need more information, please contact the office or homeroom teacher and we will do our best to help you and to welcome you to the DJE Community.

Please join us in welcoming the following new staff to our team:

Ms. Dawne Carver	Returning from Maternity Leave to Grade 4/5 class
Ms. Stephanie Cunningham	Job sharing in Mrs Rajora's class Thurs. & Fri. & Support Mon.-Wed.
Ms Salena Demchuk	Education Assistant
Ms. Kim Hart	Education Assistant
Ms. Sarah Hemmerling	Education Assistant
Ms Meghan Murden	Support Teacher
Mrs. Heather Michelsen	Returning from Maternity Leave, Job sharing in Mrs. L. Smith's Gr 2/3 Class Tues/Thurs/& Friday, and in Mrs. Nelson's Kindergarten class Wed.
Mr. Robert Prince	Returning to a Grade 6/7 class
Mrs. Rynne Rajora	Returning from a leave to Grade 6/7 class
Ms Ewelina Taheri	Grade 1
Ms Kelly Wellington	Returning to a Grade 2/3 class
Ms Kyla Wilfer	Education Assistant, going by new married name

We are always in need of volunteers to help in our courtyard garden (anytime!) and at our breakfast club (7:45--8:20 each day), as well as in the Library. Please contact Ms. Ingrid Lehman in the office if you have some time to help us.

Miscellaneous:

- Mr. Gray will sponsor a running club for interested students and staff from 2:30 – 3:30 Tuesday and Thursday. Meet by the bike racks behind the school at 2:30 with your runners and a smile.
- Instead of a Meet-The-Teacher night, we will be having an Open House/BBQ from 5:00 – 7:00 pm at the school Thursday, September 13/18; 5:00-5:45 you may visit your child's new classroom and meet the teacher. 5:45 – 7:00 pm will be the BBQ. We will also be having a Scholastic Book Fair in the school library from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. We encourage you to attend! If you have any concerns regarding your children you may contact your child's teacher individually via phone or email to discuss their progress when you have time. We are usually available after school and occasionally before school with prior notice.
- Please make sure you sign up for the parent portal to receive notices from the school as well as pay for field trips.
- Please be aware that we have an email setup for Davie Jones Elementary so that you have the convenience of emailing the school office to notify us of your child's absence or lateness. Please email: dj_reception@sd42.ca (dj *underscore* reception). Another option is to go into your Parent Portal account and at the top tab you will see "Absence Report" where you can enter information about your child's absence.

The start of the year is always filled with anticipation and excitement and we all hope your child has their best year yet, it is our prime purpose. You are welcome to drop by the school anytime, please check in at the office when you do.

Sincerely,

DJE Staff

REMINDERS...

Student Information Verification Form: In the coming weeks, your child will bring home their Student Verification Form. Please update, sign and remember to send your child's form back to the school as soon as possible. Please include medical information and if you have moved, changed phone numbers, changed cell phone numbers, changed emergency contacts, email addresses, etc., please correct this information directly on the form. **Please date and sign the document and return to the classroom teacher promptly.**

Please expect a second notice, if you haven't returned the original sent home.



Inclement Weather: Please remember to send a change of clothes with your child to keep in the classroom, if your child tends to get wet and dirty when our rainy weather begins. This would save some phone calls home! Also, please feel free to donate those many plastic grocery bags you don't know what to do with!

Professional Development Day-Monday,

September 24, 2018: Students do not attend school on this day as staff will be involved in workshops at various locations in the district, throughout the day.

Thanksgiving Day Monday, October 8/18.

Students do not attend school for this family holiday.

NUT ALLERGIES

We have a number of students who have anaphylaxis reactions to a variety of foods. Davie Jones is a nut aware school so **please do not bring nuts or peanuts to school.** If you have any questions please feel free to contact Ms Davis.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS....

Sunday, November 4/18: Remember to turn your clocks **back** one hour!

FIREWORKS ARE ILLEGAL

The RCMP would like to advise all schools that fireworks are completely illegal in both Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows under Municipal Bylaw. Firecrackers, the small red-jacketed explosive, are criminally banned in Canada under the Explosives Act.

**STRONGSTARTS FOR PRESCHOOLERS
IN MAPLE RIDGE & PITT MEADOWS**

School District 42 provides eight StrongStart centers, situated across the district and funded by B. C.'s Ministry of Education. StrongStart centers are parent-participation, drop-in programs offering opportunities for preschoolers to engage in play-based activities with other children and adults. Everyone joins our facilitators in story, song, gym and sharing

times and interacts socially with new friends and neighbours. Parents and caregivers have opportunities to meet other parents and to share and support their children's early learning experiences.

Our centers are situated in the following Elementary schools: Blue Mountain, Davie Jones, Eric Langton, Fairview, Glenwood, Hammond, Harry Hooe and Highland Park. Centers are open Monday to Friday unless schools are closed for holidays or non-instructional days, and are free for children 0 to Kindergarten age – come and join the fun! **At Davie Jones the hours for this year are: Monday to Friday 8:30-11:30.**

You can register at any site (please bring child's Birth Certificate on your first visit). For more information, please go to www.sd42.ca or call 604-463-4200 Ext. 218

WHO IS AN ABORIGINAL STUDENT?

Aboriginal Ancestry is determined on a voluntary basis through self-identification. This includes First Nations (status or non-status), Métis or Inuit Ancestry. **No documentation is required and the ancestry can go back several generations.** Ministry of Education funding is provided to support the success of all Aboriginal students through culturally appropriate educational programs and services.

We encourage all students of First Nations, Metis, or Inuit Ancestry to complete a self-identification form as this allows you to access various supports and programs during the school year if you wish. If you have any questions about this process please do not hesitate to contact:

Diane Graves
Principal, Aboriginal Education
Cell: 604-466-6271
Email: Diane_Graves@sd42.ca

PAC NEWS

PAC meetings will be held on the third Monday of each month. We hope you are able to come out to some (or all) the PAC meetings and be a part of the decision making process.

The first PAC Meeting will be held Monday, September 17th at 6:30 pm in the school library. Please be sure to attend!

HOSPITAL HOMEBOUND SUPPORT

Do you have a son or daughter who is ill or injured and unable to attend school? School District No. 42 provides support to students who are unable to attend school for medical reasons. The Hospital Homebound teacher works with elementary and secondary students who have not been allocated support teacher time through a special needs designation at their school. Contact your child's teacher, counsellor, or administrator. He/she will complete the Student Support Services referral form



