

Kanaka Creek Elementary School



Principal: Ms. Gwyneth Dixon-Warren

Vice-Principal: Ms. Jennifer Fuhrmann

May 3, 2017

Principal's Message

Welcome Back! I hope everyone enjoyed their April break! Everyone seemed to return well rested and ready to be back! Please spend a few minutes reviewing the information included below!

- Track and Field for the intermediate students is taking place in the afternoons. The students are having a wonderful time participating in the various events!
- As the weather gets warmer - be sure to remind your children to wear sunscreen and drink lots of water while at school.
- Many thanks to the PAC for all the wonderful things they do.
- Thank you to the wonderful group of primary students who regularly offer to pick up garbage at recess and lunch. Great Kanaka community members!
- Emergency Preparedness - To ensure our school community is prepared for an unexpected emergency, we are required to practice fire, earthquake and lock-down drills. We will be holding our spring/summer drills in the coming weeks. If you have any questions, give us a call.



ARE YOU MOVING?

Please advise office staff immediately if your child(ren) will be attending a different school in September. As we will soon begin the process of staffing for next year, it is important that we have as accurate a picture as possible of our September enrolment.

KINDERGARTEN PARENTS AND PARENTS OF NEXT YEAR KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS:

Kindergarten orientation day is Friday, June 16th from 12:45 to 2:00 pm. Current kindergarten students will be dismissed at 11:00 am. More information on orientation will be sent on the parent portal shortly.

PALS

Next PALS is on Friday, May 26th at 3:00 pm in the library for children who will be attending Kindergarten next September. Please call the office to register.

CLASS PLACEMENT FOR 2017/2018

It is not yet the time for parents to submit requests for class placements - this is done at the end of May (forms will be available on our website). This is an advance reminder regarding the process of submitting a request for next year's class placement. As per School District 42 expectations, please take note of the following:

- **We do not accept requests for specific teachers.** We do accept information about your child's learning styles that might help us make stronger placements.
- Please remember that our teachers have a rich amount of information about your child - this information makes for strong class placements and is based on a yearlong experience with them.
- We cannot make placements based solely on friendships, especially if the social energy of the group is interfering with the classroom learning conditions.
- Teachers cannot make any guarantees about next year's class placements - if teachers suggest a teacher for next year, please remember it is only a suggestion. With changes in staffing and fluctuating enrollment - things can often change unexpectedly.
- Parent requests are one piece of the information we consider when placing students. We also have many other factors to consider and often our class placements are complex.
- Our ultimate goal is to create balanced classrooms that are beneficial for all.

Once again, please refer to the month end newsletter, should you be interested in submitting a request for your child's placement.

TRANSFER GUIDELINES:

Parents who wish to have their children in grades 1 to 7 transfer to another school for September must obtain a Student Transfer Request Form from their current school, complete the transfer form including signature, and have the current principal sign and date it. The current school retains the Student Transfer Request Form.

At the June 21st elementary principals meeting, all principals will bring all transfer request forms. Transfer decisions will be made at the meeting and when finalized the principal will contact parents. Acceptance criteria for prioritizing placements:

1. IN catchment with siblings already attending catchment school (proof of residence required) or displaced catchment siblings on district list
2. IN catchment (proof of residence required)
3. OUT of catchment with siblings
4. IN catchment daycare
5. OUT of catchment without siblings
6. OUT of district with siblings (Register at the District Education Office)
7. OUT of district without siblings

CLASSES NOT IN SESSION

Reminder Monday, May 22 is Victoria Day and Tuesday May 23 is a ProD. Have a great long weekend.

REMINDER TO ALL VISITORS: Please enter and exit the building quietly and remain quiet in the hallways to not disturb learning environments, including classes going on in the Library. All visitors **MUST** sign in at the office.

PARKING AND ELECTION DAY

MAY 9TH, 2017 - Kanaka Creek School is a polling station between 8:00 am and 8:00 pm and therefore parking will be even more limited. Please have a plan in place to arrive earlier/later, carpool or walk. Your patience is appreciated.

PARKING

At the risk of being repetitive, please be respectful of others while dropping off and picking up your child(ren). We all recognize the frustration with the traffic congestion around the school, especially with the but everyone needs to be patient and behave in a courteous and considerate manner, not only to be good role models for our children, but to ensure their safety as well. **If you can volunteer to supervise the parking lot after school, please email Jackolynn at greg5252@telus.net**

- MORNING DROP OFF: **DO NOT PARK IN THE DROP OFF ZONE** AT THE SIDE OF THE SCHOOL AS YOU WAIT FOR THE MORNING BELL. The morning drop-off time is a very busy time and although it may be more convenient for you to stop here, parking in this area impedes the flow of traffic and makes it more difficult for others to drop off their children. It is important that if you need to wait with your child before the morning bell that you find a parking spot in the lot, or if none are available, on the roadside. (NOTE: Please have your child organized with all their school items - this speeds up the drop off process).

- **AFTERNOON PICKUP:** A few years ago, the traffic committee with the support of the RCMP, the City of Maple Ridge, and SD42 Health and Safety Department made the decision to close the school parking lot at approximately 2:00 p.m. except for parents picking up children with mobility issues and for daycares picking up a number of students. It has been brought to our attention more than once, that parents are blocking neighbours' driveways and being somewhat abusive when asked to move. Please respect our neighbours and **DO NOT BLOCK DRIVEWAYS OR PARK ON OTHER PEOPLE'S PROPERTY.** You must have a Kanaka Creek Parking Pass to enter the parking lot after school. Thank you for your support in this matter.

VERY IMPORTANT - CLASS PHOTOS AND YEARBOOKS - are just around the corner. Please ensure you have given permission on the portal **for your child to appear in the yearbook and in class photos**. If you have not given permission, your child will not be able to be in the yearbook and/or class photo. If you are not sure if you have this or not, give us a call. A student without portal permission will not be able to participate in the class photo or panorama photo that will be taken on May 31st.

YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST

For this year's school Yearbook, we are holding a contest to design the front cover. Any student can enter. Get out your crayons, pencils or paints and make a winning design! Make sure you do it in FULL colour.

For your entry to be considered, it must follow these rules:

- Use a regular 8.5 x 11 sheet of white paper
- Make your cover is vertical (up and down, not side to side)
- Include the school name and "2016 -2017" in the design
- Include your first name

Also, make sure to put your whole name and Division or Teacher's name on the back of your design. All entries are due by May 31st. **ENTRY FORM IS ATTACHED TO THIS PORTAL NOTICE**

CHOIR NEWS

Congratulations to the KC Kids Choir! They did a fantastic job at the Norman Foote Concert at the ACT in March. The Kindergarten Choir brought an extra special energy and fun to the evening. Well done everybody! Special thanks to Mr. Boey, Mr. Grill, Mrs. Robertson, Ms. McKeown, Mrs. Grill, Mrs. Lambert and Mrs. Lyman for their help on concert night.

BOTTLE DRIVE NEWS

The bottle drive held by Divisions 7, 8 & 9 raised \$1,148.28 towards camp at Timberline Ranch. Thank you for your generous donations and many, many thanks to all the students and their parents who turned out to help. It was a huge success!

BAKE SALE

Division 6 is hosting a bake sale on May 11th. Treats are \$1 each and will be sold at recess (and lunch if there are treats remaining). Proceeds will go to Division 6's 2017 humanitarian project - Child Labour. Thank you in advance for your support.

TRACK AND FIELD

Intermediate students are currently participating in track and field. Students who qualify will be asked to participate in the District Meet. Your child will be notified if they qualify. If your child will be representing Kanaka Creek at the District meet, please ensure they are there well before their event time and they are dressed according to the weather. They will need to bring their own lunch and drink. A Kanaka tent will be set up at the event and it is imperative that students report to the teacher in charge when they arrive and prior to leaving.

The District Track and Field Meet will be held at MRSS on Thursday, June 8 for grades 4/5 and Friday, June 9 for grades 6/7.

CLASS PHOTOS

Class photo day is May 31st.
be present on this day.



We really encourage all Grade 7 Students to

PHONE MESSAGES FOR STUDENTS

While we endeavor to do our best to get messages to your child after school, on rare occasions we simply cannot. It is preferable that after school arrangements are made clear to your child prior to the start of the school day. We understand sometimes there will be extenuating circumstances where plans have changed due to an emergency and in those cases, we will have the message delivered to the class as best we can. Messages will be relayed during recess, lunch or after school but we prefer not to interrupt instruction time to relay a message unless it is an emergency.

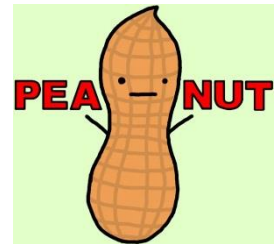


ANIMALS IN THE SCHOOL

Kindly keep your dogs and any other furry animals away from the school grounds and at no times can they be brought into the school. Thank you for your cooperation.

NUTFREE LUNCHES ETC...

We have a few students here at our school with life-threatening food allergies; therefore, we encourage all students to bring nut-free snacks and lunches. Please check with your child's classroom teacher if you are unsure about food allergies in your child's class.



SICK DAYS/LATE DAYS

If your child is not going to be coming to school or is going to be late for school, please don't forget to let the office know, even if you have already told the teacher. This will help to eliminate those phone calls home. You can report an absence to the office on the parent portal, email KC_Reception@sd42.ca or call us at 604-467-9050 (24-hour answering machine).

GRADE 7 NEWS

- May 19 - Krispy Kreme Doughnut fundraiser
- May 30 - Grade 7 Leaving meeting 6:30pm

PAC NEWS



- Save the date - Summer Carnival is coming! July 6th 5:30 - 8:30 pm. More information to come...
- Plant sale pick up is this Saturday, May 6th. Plants cannot be stored so if you cannot pick up your order, arrange for someone else to do so.
- Popcorn Day - May 5th - \$1 per bag, 1 bag per student. If you can volunteer, please meet at the gym after the first bell in the morning
- May 26th - Panago Pizza hot lunch. No order forms will be sent home as with previous Panago lunches.

Next PAC Meeting: May 10th at 7:00 pm in the library



Hello Camp Kanakers! The Scholastic [Happy Camper Book Fair](#) is coming to our school on [June 2-7th](#) and everyone is invited to join in the fun! There will be awesome contests and a fabulous Family Event on [Monday June 5th](#). Come see us and stock up on amazing summer reads. If you are interested in helping out at the fair, keep your eyes open for the sign up email in May. Have **s'more** fun with books at the [Happy Camper Book Fair](#)!