

Beaconsfield Banter

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Principal: Ms. Lani Morden

Office Administrative Assistant: Ms. Tracey Bell, Extra Clerical: Ms. Almeida

PAC Chairs: Alison Crysler / Bree Cropper

Director of Instruction: Mr. Rob Schindel

Liaison Trustee: Dianne Turner

<http://beaconsfield.vsb.bc.ca>

NEWSLETTER NO. 7

MAY 3, 2017

Dear Beaconsfield Parents,

Spring has arrived and there are many activities and special events going on at Beaconsfield over the next couple of months. Hopefully this newsletter will help keep you up to date with what is taking place. I am so impressed with the number of field trips, performances, special activities and sporting experiences that Beaconsfield educators provide to our students. All of these opportunities engage our students academically and socially and help them make connections to topics they are studying in their classrooms.



Thank you for all that you are doing to support Beaconsfield school. We need your help with making sure that your child/children are on time and ready to learn each day. We also need your ongoing assistance with encouraging your children to make positive choices that support their health and well-being and the well-being of other students and adults in our school community. Thank you for encouraging your children to be responsible (in person and online), kind, accepting and inclusive of other children in classrooms and outside on our school grounds. If your child needs support solving a problem at school or with some aspect of their school work, please encourage them to speak directly with their teacher. If you feel that your child cannot solve the situation without your involvement, please contact your child's teacher. Teachers will do their best to get back to you as soon as they can.

As parents, we want the very best for our children. It can be very upsetting when our children get upset from something taking place at school. Please be sure to familiarize yourself with our school communication protocol outlined in this newsletter. Teachers spend many hours each day with your child. They need to be the first to know if parents have a concern and they will have important perspectives and insights to share. Please call the school and make an appointment with your child's teacher to meet and discuss with them your concerns. Beaconsfield teachers also appreciate positive feedback. So, be sure to let your child's teacher(s) know the approaches that you appreciate from them as well! Thank you for taking the time to follow these guidelines. For a quick online VSB reference on how to address parent concerns please check out: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/sites/default/files/appeal-guide.pdf>

As we march into May, I hope that this newsletter finds you and your children well and that you are enjoying some of this Spring weather together. I look forward to seeing everyone out for the Beaconsfield Country Fair on Friday, June 2nd. It's shaping up to be a great event, thanks to the 2016-2017 Beaconsfield Parent Advisory Council.

Sincerely,

Mrs. L. Morden
Principal

Annual Earthquake Drill - "Big One at Two"

We will be holding an Earthquake Drill on **Thursday, May 4th, at 2:15 pm**. If your child is particularly sensitive to drills, please ensure that your child's teacher is notified.

Sport's Day - Friday, May 19th

Beaconsfield School is scheduled to have Sport's Day on **Friday, May 19th** from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. The staff will be working over the lunch hour, so school will be dismissed at 2:00 pm. Please make arrangements for your child or children to be picked up at 2 pm on Friday, May 19th. Thank you!



Class and Panorama Photo Day

Please note that our annual class photos and our giant school photo will take place on **Monday, May 15th**.



CLASS PICTURE DAY IS COMING SOON!

Field Trips in May and June 2017

It's field trip 'season'. Please ensure that forms/fees are returned promptly to teachers and that your child arrives at school on time and prepared for the weather. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Painting Project

Areas of the inside of Beaconsfield School are being painted. We are pleased that our walls are being cleaned up and apologize for the inconvenience. Thank you for your patience. This project is scheduled to end in approximately August 2017.

Welcome to Kindergarten 2017

On Tuesday, May 16th (between 10:30-12:10 in our library) Beaconsfield staff will be welcoming our 2017-2018 class of Kindergarten students and their parents. We are looking forward to meeting with them!



Posting Photos on Social Media



It's fun to take photos of children at school events such as Sport's Day or our Talent Show and share them on social media sites with friends and family. However, PLEASE do not post pictures of other children from Beaconsfield School online without their parents' permission. Thank you in advance for respecting the privacy of other people's children.

Head Teachers

There are times when Principal, Mrs. Morden, is at off-site meetings or absent from Beaconsfield School. During these times, Ms. Ikeda and Ms. Wilting are the designated Head Teachers, and may make decisions on behalf of Mrs. Morden. Thank you to these teachers for taking on this responsibility when it arises.

Beaconsfield Talent Show

Our annual Talent Show will be taking place on Wednesday, May 31st. The time will be announced over the next few weeks. Thank you to Ms. Vassilakis for preparing interested students for this special event.



VSB Summer School

It's time to register for VSB Summer School classes. Registration opens on May 5th. Please check out this link for more detailed information: summer.vsb.bc.ca

Beaconsfield School Communication Protocol

It can be very upsetting when your child has a problem at school. Please follow these steps if your child is having a problem at Beaconsfield School that you feel is important to discuss:

Classroom/Educational Program Concerns

Please meet or speak with your child's classroom teacher if the concern with respect to your child is taking place in the classroom (e.g their academic progress, interactions with other students, resource allocations, your child's interactions with your child's teacher etc.). Please call the school and make an appointment to speak with your child's teacher(s) directly about the concern. It is important to meet and discuss the concern with you, and possibly your child, so that the teacher can share their observations with you as well and work to problem solve the situation. Electronic mail can be used at times by some teachers to organize meeting times, however, please use electronic mail primarily for setting up meetings concerns. Concerns are best spoken about and resolved with a teacher in person or over the phone. If concerns are not resolved by the teacher, the Principal may be contacted. Out of respect for the teacher, please ensure that your child's teacher is aware that you are contacting the Principal. Thank you.

Concern with another Student or Students

Please speak with your child's classroom teacher directly if your child is having challenges with another student in your child's class or our school. Please refrain from contacting the parent of the child. Contacting another child's parent about a situation at school or speaking directly with the child is not following school communication protocol and will only make matters worse! If the concern is taking place at recess or lunch, please contact your child's teacher and they can decide whether the Principal needs to be involved.

Concerns about Interactions on Social Media

Please speak with your child's classroom teacher directly if your child is concerned about interactions taking place on the internet with other students at Beaconsfield School. Negative online interactions can have an impact on the learning environment and social interactions at school. Therefore, it is important that teachers are aware of concerns related to your child online with other Beaconsfield students. Your child's teacher will assess if the Principal needs to be involved with the situation or whether it can be solved at the classroom level. Parents can also request a meeting with the teacher and the Principal about online concerns.

Before or After School/ School Property Concerns

Please contact Principal, Mrs. Morden, if you have concerns related to interactions taking place before or after school or any concerns about the school buildings or school property.

Contacting Beaconsfield's Principal, Mrs. L. Morden

The best way to contact Mrs. Morden, Beaconsfield's Principal, is by phone at the school office (604-713-4605). Mrs. Morden will make every effort to return parent/caregiver calls in 24 hours. Please indicate if your call is urgent. Mrs. Morden makes in person appointments or meetings 2-3 days ahead. If you have concerns about your child, Mrs. Morden will ask whether you have met with the teacher about your specific concern and ask you to do so if you have yet to meet with him/her. Meetings with the teacher and the Principal present can also be organized.

Emailing school staff, including the Principal, can be a very efficient way to communicate. Please be advised that email is typically used by all Beaconsfield staff to relay general information and arrange face to face meetings or telephone appointments with parents. Specific concerns are best discussed in person or, at times, over the phone. *Please contact the Principal directly by phone or by email to set up an appointment if you have a concern or need clarification related to a situation involving Mrs. Morden.* Thank you.

Parent Requests for Student Class Placements (2017-2018)

We are starting to plan for the 2017-2018 school year. Mrs. Morden will be accepting written requests from parents/guardians until May 31st, 2017. Requests will not be accepted for specific teachers. However, if there are other factors that should be considered for next year, please put these in writing. Requests will be taken seriously but cannot always be guaranteed as many factors are involved in placing students in classes.

Are You Moving?

Please call our school office and let Ms. Bell know if your child will not be attending Beaconsfield for the 2017-2018 school year. If your child will be returning late in September 2017, please notify our school office in writing so that we can save a space for your child in our school.

From the Desk of the PAC

Hello Families,

Plans are already underway for the **June 2017 Beaconsfield Country Fair**.

Your school PAC is busy with the details and the many events that will be happening such as carnival games, music, BBQ menu planning, and game prizes!

We need help to make this event a success once again.

You can support us in a few ways:

1. With donations for the **Silent Auction**: Gift cards - Gift certificates - New, un-used items. Think: restaurants & cafes, stores & online shopping, event tickets for spas, movies, music, theatre, sports. Items can be dropped off to the office anytime! Please email beaconsfieldschool@gmail.com if you have a larger sized item that needs storage.
2. New / gently used toys to be used for **game prizes**. (Are greatly appreciated, and can be dropped off to the office anytime).
3. By **volunteering** to help at the Fair on June 2nd! We are looking for helpers for decorating, games, cake walk, ticket sales, and food service. Please sign up on the bulletin board by the office, or email Bree at cropperbree@gmail.com

Your donations and time are greatly appreciated! Thank you.

Next PAC meeting will be on Wednesday, May 10th at 6pm. Childminding is provided.



Thank You!



Important Dates for May - Please mark your calendars

Thursday, May 4 th	Earthquake Drill ~ Big One at 2:15
Friday, May 5 th	School Wide Assembly at 11a.m.
Wednesday, May 10 th	PAC meeting at 6pm. Childminding provided Gr 7's going to Van Tech from 9-3
Friday, May 12 th	School Presentation ~ Metaphor at 1:30 (musical performance)
Monday, May 15 th	Class and Panorama Photo Day
Tuesday, May 16 th	Welcome to Kindergarten from 10:30-12:10
Wednesday, May 17 th	Div. 05 & 06 going to Richmond Nature Park 9-3 Div. 03 Mining fieldtrip to Creekside Comm Centre 9-1:30appx
Thursday, May 18 th	Gr 7 Aboriginal Moving Forward Ceremony ~ Croatian Culture Centre
Friday, May 19 th	Sports Day ~ dismissal at 2pm
Monday, May 22 nd	Victoria Day - School Not in Session
Tuesday, May 23 rd	Home Learners Portfolio Meetings (May 23-29)
Thursday, May 25 th	Div. 01, 04, 05 & 06 going to Shane Point from 9-3 Div.03 going to Trout Lake & Roedde House Museum from 9-3
Monday, May 29 th	Gr. 6 & 7 Soccer Tournament at BC Place
Wednesday, May 31 st	Talent Show

***Please check website regularly for updates:
beaconsfield.vsb.bc.ca***

