

Beaconsfield Banter

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Official Trustee: Ms. Dianne Turner

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

NEWSLETTER NO. 2

OCTOBER 3, 2017

Principal's Message

It's hard to believe that it is already October. I hope this newsletter finds you and your family adjusting to new school routines and enjoying some of this fine sunny weather. September has been a very busy month at our school. Beaconsfield staff have been working hard to establish routines and expectations with students to set a positive tone for the school year. Our PAC has also been busily organizing events and activities. Thank you to our amazing staff and our productive PAC for all that they do to provide learning and community building opportunities for our school.



Last week we welcomed a new teacher to our school, Ms. S. Anchant. Ms. Anchant will be teaching one of our two Kindergarten classes (Division 10) at Beaconsfield. We would also like to welcome Ms. Jennifer Ion, a new school support worker to our school. At the end of this week, we will be saying goodbye to Ms. Suzie Mrazek, one of our support workers, who will be starting a new position with another school district. Welcome Ms. Anchant and Ms. Jenn and all the best to you, Susie.

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a relaxing and fun-filled Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is the perfect time of year to think about all the things we are grateful for and to spend time with family and friends. On that note, I am thankful for the wonderful students, parents, and staff at Beaconsfield!

Sincerely,

Mrs. L. Morden
Principal



Valuable and Sentimental Items

We strongly discourage students from bringing expensive and/or sentimental items to school, unless it is specifically requested by the teacher. If it is requested, the item should be given into the care of the teacher as we do not want these items stolen or damaged. Thank you for your cooperation.

Cell Phones



We understand that parents need to stay in communication with their children. However, cell phone use is not permitted during the school day (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.), unless it is under the direct supervision of a staff member and it is for an educational purpose. Students should not be taking pictures, making phone calls, or gaming during recess and lunch. If there is a need to make an important phone call, students CAN make the phone call under adult supervision or use our office phone during the school day. We want to protect the educational environment of our students and calls during class time are distracting and disturbs the learning of others. It is also a safety concern as we do not want our students to take inappropriate pictures or go online to unauthorized websites. I ask that parents support the school on this matter as we ensure that our children stay safe, and are enjoying a healthy lifestyle by playing and socializing face-to-face during our recess and lunch breaks.

Fruit, Vegetable and Milk Programs

Thank you to April Davies, PAC Co-Chair, for coordinating these excellent programs at Beaconsfield. Because of these programs, our students will have healthy recess snacks and will be able to sample the wonderful fruit and vegetables available throughout the year.



Appropriate Clothing for Outside Days



Just a reminder to parents that students will be playing outside to get fresh air and exercise during recess and lunch on dry days. If it is raining, students can play in the undercover area at the back of the school. The only time students will be staying inside is when it is raining or snowing heavily. As the days become colder and wetter, please make sure your child is wearing the appropriate outerwear and footwear as he/she will be expected to play outside during our breaks.

GCST Programs

Would you like to have fun, learn new things, and make new friends? Join one of the after-school programs offered by the Gladstone Community Schools Team! Program information will be coming home soon!

Terry Fox Run/Walk

Our Terry Fox event took place last week on Thursday, September 28th. Our whole school went to Trout Lake on a beautiful sunny day to honor Terry Fox. Thank you to Beaconsfield families for all of your generous donations to the Terry Fox Foundation. We appreciate the support!



Upcoming Professional Development Day and Curriculum Implementation Day

There will be NO SCHOOL for students on **Friday, October 20th** as it is a Provincial Professional Development Day. There will also be NO SCHOOL for students on **Friday, November 10th** as it is a Curriculum Implementation Day. Please mark October 20th and November 10th on your family calendars as there will be no school for students these two days.

Junior and Senior Dance Clubs

Thank you to the many Grades 1 - 7 students who have signed up to dance with Mrs. Neibel this year. Mrs. Neibel will be away most of October but back at Beaconsfield in November. We are so grateful for all the time and energy that Mrs. Neibel puts into running our Junior and Senior Dance Programs.



Walkathon

On Thursday, October 12 from 1:00-3:00 pm we will be hosting a Walkathon at Beaconsfield. All money raised will either go towards defraying spring camp costs for the intermediate students and field trips for the primary students. This fundraising initiative allows us to collect less money from families throughout the school year for field trips. Thank you, in advance, for supporting our school.

Kindergarten Registration & Mini School Application Information

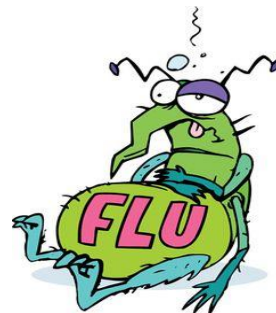
Detailed information will be coming out soon with respect to Kindergarten registration and Mini School Application forms for the 2018-2019 school year.

Lunch Room Update

Thank you to all parents and caregivers for your help with keeping our lunchrooms safe and organized. We have a lot more space in our lunchrooms to sit and to move around now. We have also appreciated your efforts with ensuring that students are eating healthy foods at lunch and avoiding fast foods. Please remember that we have students in our school that have serious allergies to nuts. Thank you for keeping your peanut butter and "Nutella" spreads at home.

Cough, Cold and Flu Season

Please keep your child home from school when they are sick, i.e. coughing, sneezing, and fevers. Please be courteous to the other students and staff members in our school; if your child comes to school sick, he/she may infect others and we do not want to make more people sick! Thank you.



Daylight Savings

A reminder that our clocks fall back on Sunday, November 5th. Please set your clock back one hour on before you go to bed that night.

Safe Arrival Program

As cold and flu season approaches, please remember to phone our safe arrival number to report that your child is absent from school. The safe arrival number is 604-713-5159 extension 11. Please also be sure to SIGN IN AND SIGN OUT your child from our school office if they arrive after 9:15 am or leave before 3:00 pm.



Halloween

We want Tuesday, October 31st to be an enjoyable day for our students, but we also want the day to be a safe one. Each teacher will set the guidelines and activities for the day for their students; however, we do have some important expectations:



1. Children may wear their costumes on Monday, October 31st. For safety reasons, masks may only be worn briefly for costume parades, not during the school day.
2. No toy or real weapons are to be brought to school at any time. Please keep toy sticks, batons, guns, lasers and other weapons at home on Halloween Day.
3. Please avoid sending your child in violent costumes with excessive face paints that look like blood, guts, cuts and wounds. These scare young children and are not appropriate for school.
4. Vancouver Fire By-Law, Section 5.8.2:
 - a. No person shall offer for sale, sell, give or furnish fireworks to a person under the age of 19 years
5. Please do not use our school grounds for setting off fireworks at any time as per the Fireworks Permit (only certain sites are permissible; the school is not one of them!). Children pick up the empty cartridges so it is a health and safety concern.
6. Please call 911 immediately if you witness any suspicious behavior on our school grounds on Halloween night.

If you have questions about our Halloween expectations please contact your child's teacher or Mrs. Morden, Principal, BEFORE Halloween. We want to be sure to make Halloween a fun day and we want to avoid situations where we have to ask students to remove parts of their costumes because they are not suitable for school. Thank you!

Emergency Drills

Our school participates in emergency drills throughout the year, so that students are prepared in case there is a real emergency.

If you are in the building when one of these drills is taking place, please follow staff instructions or do the following:



1. **Fire Drill** - exit closest door and meet on lower gravel field. Report to secretary who will be standing on the field.
2. **Earthquake Drill** - Duck, Cover, and Hold until shaking stops. Turn away from any glass windows. Count to 60 seconds, then exit closest safe exit. Meet on lower gravel field. Report to secretary who will be standing on the field.
3. **Hold and Secure** - please do not exit the building until PA announcement says it is "all clear". In certain cases, you may be instructed to wait inside a classroom. If you are outside the building and discover the exterior door is locked, it is because we are having a drill. Please wait patiently until the drill is over and the outside doors are unlocked.
4. **Lockdown** - go to closest classroom and follow teacher instructions.

As we are trying to model expected behaviour for our students during these important safety drills, please refrain from talking while the drills are taking place. Your understanding and cooperation is greatly appreciated.

PAC NEWS

From the Desk of PAC, October 2017:



Welcome Back to school Beaconsfield Families!

Thank you everyone who came to our September 13 PAC meeting. We thank and welcome new members of our executive team - April Davies, Co-Chair, Penny Mei, Treasurer, and Petra Davis, Co-Secretary. Thank you also to Julia Lu and Alison Crysler who, though retiring from the exec this year, continue to support and guide our PAC with their enthusiasm and knowledge!

As always, please check the school website for updated PAC Meeting Dates, our Executive Roster, Beaconsfield PAC Constitution/Bylaws and all Minutes/Treasurer's Reports from our monthly meetings.

We have many PAC sponsored and/or supported events this October:

1. **DPAC VSB Trustee Candidate Forum Tue, Oct 3** - Please consider attending this important all candidates debate at John Oliver Secondary School 6:30-9:00 hosted by the Vancouver District PAC. This is a non-partisan event and your opportunity to hear from the many candidates running for Trustee office of the Vancouver School Board Oct 14 in the City bi-election. Free tickets available through Eventbrite.
2. **Adopt-A-Book and PAC Treats Wed/Thurs, Oct 4 & 5** - PAC is supporting the Library this October with a targeted fundraiser. Join us in the Library after school both days where you can "adopt" books for our library shelves and enjoy coffee, tea and treats with all proceeds going directly to our library!
3. **Autumn Hot Lunch Mon, Oct 16** - PAC is offering monthly Hot Lunches by Foodie Kids starting this October. Foodie Kids is a local, North Vancouver lunch catering company that serves over 90 schools in the lower mainland. Their mission is to provide healthy and delicious food for kids but not kids' food. Make life simple (and save the PAC admin fees) by ordering your Autumn lunches all together in one transaction! Please see included the full Autumn menu and easy online ordering info sheet.
4. **Clothing Swap Mon, Oct 16 to Fri, Oct 20** - Our bi-annual Clothing Swap is back! This fall we are asking for clean, gently used, cold weather clothing, along with costumes for Halloween, to be dropped off to the office anytime the week before (Oct 10-13). The week of the Clothing Swap, donations will be available in the main hallway for all parents to choose from, for FREE! We ask that families respect classroom learning by shopping before and after school please.
5. **Garden Clean Up Bee Sat, Oct 14** - Save the Date! PAC is hosting our Fall Garden Clean Up from 10:00 -12:00 on this Saturday. We'll be in the school community garden pulling weeds and putting the garden to sleep for Winter throughout the morning. Open to all Beaconsfield families, please join us with your spades/shovels and bring a pot-luck snack to share for lunch!
6. **The Great BC Shake Out, Earthquake Kits Thurs, Oct 19** - Each year millions of people worldwide will practice how to "Drop, Cover and Hold On" during Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills. This year the Beaconsfield PAC has contacted a local Earthquake Kit company and will be offering Family Earthquake Kits to order for home use. We want to encourage all families in our community to be prepared and able to recover quickly from a large earthquake here. Stay tuned for more details!
7. **Fruit and Veg/Milk Program** - The BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program provides fresh fruit and vegetable snacks for public and First Nations schools throughout BC. At Beaconsfield, PAC hosts this program twice per month in distributing fresh produce to each division for a morning snack. On Oct 3, we'll be handing out baby carrots and on Oct 23, fresh local pears. This year we are also delivering milk boxes for grades K-5.

8. **Spud.ca Boxes** - Once again, PAC is supporting our year-round Spud.ca fundraiser. Spud.ca is an online grocery delivery company that emphasizes fresh, local, organic and sustainable food choices. They have partnered with Beaconsfield PAC and will donate 25% of funds raised from a wide array of Produce Boxes that you may order. Please consider this option for your family's shopping and/or share this with your networks, friends/family/coworkers; anyone can support our school by entering LORD BEACONSFIELD in the fundraising promo menu at checkout!

Thank you all for helping Beaconsfield PAC support our school,
Bree Cropper and April Davies, PAC Co-Chairs

*The Lord Beaconsfield Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is your opportunity as a Beaconsfield parent to have a voice in your child's education. We meet in the Staff Room on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 and childcare is provided by Ms. Wallace's Grade 7 Leadership Team in the Library. At meetings, we discuss new initiatives at the school and in the curriculum, parent concerns and ideas, fundraising plans to support extracurricular activities and the many ways all of us can enrich the lives of families in our school community. Please join us! **Next PAC Meeting: Wednesday, October 11 @ 6:00pm***



PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Wednesday, October 4	Goal Setting Conferences - <u>EARLY DISMISSAL @ 2:00 p.m.</u> *Adopt-A-Book Event in our School Library*
Thursday, October 5	Goal Setting Conferences - <u>EARLY DISMISSAL @ 2:00 p.m.</u> *Adopt-A-Book Event in our School Library*
	Pizza Day for those who pre-ordered
Monday, October 9	Thanksgiving - STATUTORY HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday, October 10 - Friday, October 13	PAC Clothing Swap - DROP OFF clean clothes in SCHOOL OFFICE
Wednesday, October 11	PAC Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. in the staffroom
Thursday, October 12	Walk-a-Thon - school fundraiser - from 1:00-3:00 pm
Saturday, October 14	PAC Garden Clean Up Bee - 10:00 am -12:00 pm
Monday, October 16 - Friday, October 20	PAC Clothing Swap - in main hallway of school (parents only please)
Tuesday, October 17	Earthquake Drill
Wednesday, October 18	Hearing Screening for Kindergarten ~ starting at 9am
Thursday, October 19	Immunization Clinic for Gr 6's ~ starting at 9:15am
Friday, October 20	PROFESSIONAL DAY - <u>NO SCHOOL</u> FOR STUDENTS
Monday, October 31	Halloween Dance
Sunday, November 5	Daylight Savings Ends - fall back one hour
Wednesday, November 9	Remembrance Day Service @ 11:00 a.m. in the gym
Wednesday, November 8	PAC Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. in the staffroom
Thursday, November 10	CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION DAY- <u>NO SCHOOL</u> FOR STUDENTS
Saturday, November 11	Remembrance Day - STATUTORY HOLIDAY
Monday, November 13	<u>SCHOOL CLOSED</u> in lieu of Saturday, November 11 th