Dear Families,

Spring is upon us and we have been enjoying spending a little more time outdoors and in our school garden.

A few months ago we received a grant from the Vancouver Foundation. This very generous gift from the Sawyer Family Fund has allowed us to purchase new home reading books, garden benches for student seating, and resources for our science program. We continue to be very grateful for this opportunity to purchase materials for the school.

You may also have noticed a new bench installed in our playground. This was a gift from a former Collingwood family in memory of a family friend who passed away. The “Buddy Bench” is meant to encourage students to reach out to their friends. Whenever they sit on the bench it is a signal that they need someone to play with. We want to thank the Uchida family for their kind gesture and thoughtful gift.

Our Welcome to Kindergarten event will be held on **Wednesday May 24** starting at 10:30am. All children (and parents) registered for kindergarten in September 2017 are invited to attend.

We wanted to give you advance notice about an exciting event happening on **Friday June 16th**. The school, Neighbourhood House, and Community Policing Office are co-sponsoring a “Movie in the Park” event. There will be fun activities, a movie, and a bouncy castle. It is a family friendly event and we hope you are able to participate. More detailed information will be made available during the month of May.

The Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) is a great way to get involved in the school and learn more about programs. In the past we have had regular monthly meetings right afterschool. At the meetings we discussed issues related to the school and of interest to parents. This past year we have focused more on special projects and limited our meetings to specific times. PAC can take on many forms depending on who becomes involved. **Thank you very much to Zainab Mapara who has agreed to be our new PAC chair starting in September.** We would love to have more parents involved. If you are interested to learn more, please contact me at the school or through email.

Finally, a reminder to like us on Facebook. The web address is [www.facebook.com/collingwoodneighbourhoodschool](http://www.facebook.com/collingwoodneighbourhoodschool) Collingwood is on Twitter @collingwoodVSB. All forms of communication will be regularly updated as much as possible along with our school website (collingwood.vsb.bc.ca).

I hope you have a great month!

Sincerely,

Mr. J. Levine
Vice principal
Registration opens on May 5th for summer school and all summer school program information can be found at: 
https://summer.vsb.bc.ca/Pages/default.aspx

**WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN WEDNESDAY MAY 24**

Our “Welcome to Kindergarten” event will be held on Wednesday May 24 from 10:30 -12:00. If your child is registered for Kindergarten at Collingwood for the 2016-17 school year you are invited to attend this event with your child. Registration begins at 10:30 with the program starting at 11:00am in the gym. Please contact the office to RSVP.

**PAC NEWS**

Parent representatives met again in April to discuss details around organizing the “Movie in the Park” event planned for Friday June 16. This is an event jointly planned with the Neighbourhood House, Community Policing Office, and the school. **We need a few parent volunteers to paint faces at the event. If you are willing to help out, please let the office know.**

**Parental Involvement**
**Parent Advisory Councils**

**SCHOOL FEES FOR 2017-18**

School fees for next school year will remain the same as this year: $25.00 for school supplies, $25.00 for performances, and $5.00 for agendas (gr.1-3) or cooking (K). **More detailed information will be sent home before the end of the school year.** It is also important to note that the Vancouver School board has a financial hardship policy:

The Vancouver School Board will not deny a child access to the school supplies required for his or her educational program because of financial hardship. Nor will any child be excluded from activities where a fee is charged. **If at any time there is a financial challenge, please contact the school Principal. All requests will be treated confidentially.**
**A REMINDER THAT IF YOU ARE DROPPING OFF LUNCH FOR YOUR CHILD IT SHOULD BE LEFT IN THE BINS OUTSIDE THE LUNCHROOM AND NOT IN YOUR CHILD’S CLASSROOM.**

**AFTER-SCHOOL CHILD PICK-UP POLICY**

As a reminder, please be advised Vancouver School Board policy states that students must be picked up as close to 3pm as possible, as student supervision ends at 3:15pm each day. Please ensure that your child is picked up from school prior to that time every day.

If on any day you cannot pick up your child before 3:15pm, please make arrangements with a family member, or trusted friend or neighbour. It is also crucial that you provide the office with updated contact information because we do call if children are left after 3:15.

**COLLINGWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS**

The Collingwood branch of the public library has several programs available for adults and children. Fun, literacy-based programs at the Collingwood Branch Library, 2985 Kingsway, Call 604-665-3953 for information or registration. Visit vpl.ca/events

**UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES IN MAY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performance - recycling</td>
<td>Tues. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earthquake Drill</td>
<td>Thurs. 4</td>
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<td>Victoria Day – no school</td>
<td>Mon. 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Welcome to Kindergarten</td>
<td>Wed. 24</td>
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<td>Immunization Clinic</td>
<td>Fri. 27</td>
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**UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES IN JUNE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Day</td>
<td>Fri. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Afterschool programs finish</td>
<td>Mon. 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library books due</td>
<td>Wed. 7</td>
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<td>Sport’s Day</td>
<td>Fri. 9</td>
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<td>Year-end field trip</td>
<td>Wed. 28</td>
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<td>Last Day for students</td>
<td>Thurs. 29</td>
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Please check our online calendar [http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/col/Pages/calendar.aspx](http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/col/Pages/calendar.aspx)

**SPRING THINGS POEMS BY DIVISION 4**

I see hot little green birds.
I see fluffy long flowers.
I see pointy pink blossoms.
I see wet little bugs.
I see pink fluffy birds.
I see little yellow buds.
I see soft red birds. By Olivia

I see wet yellow duck.
I see cold penguin.
I see fluffy chicken.
I little chick.
I see tiny ducklings.
I see black crows.
I see owl.
I see tiny humming birds. By Kevin

I see little fluffy blossoms.
I see big rough rocks.
I see very big trees.
I see wet birds.
I see grey leaves. By Amy
I see little tiny buds.
I see little soft flowers.
I see tiny little grass.
I see tiny soft leaves.
I see tiny little nests.
I see tiny little soft grass.  By Chris

I see little green grass.
I see wet buds.
I see red flowers.
I see hot nests.
I see soft blossoms.  By Daniel

I see little tiny flowers.
I see tiny grass.
I see black birds.
I see brown nests.  By Salim

I see little cold green leaves.
I see wet long purple birds.
I see hot medium pink glowers.
I see huge giant black nests.
I see soft short grey buds.  By Coco

I see little bugs.
I see cold wind.
I see hot sun.
I see gigantic tree.
I see itchy birds.  By Julietta

My favourite parts of the story are when James’ aunts get run over by a crowd and when the old green grasshopper plays the violin with his body. This is definitely worth reading as it teaches the reader to never lose hope and face obstacles with courage.  By Ayaan (Division 2)

**Book Reviews**

**STUDENT BOOK REVIEWS**

**James and the Giant Peach** by Roald Dahl

I tried a new book by the very famous writer called Roald Dahl. This is a fantastic fictional novel full of humour, magical adventure as well as there is a life lesson to remember.

In the story, the main character is a boy named James. James is a sad and lonely boy because he is orphaned and had been raised by his vicious aunts, Spiker and Sponge. Luckily, one day while he was cutting the branches of a tree something incredible happened, he met an old man. The man gave James something magical that changed his fortune forever.

**Down and Out Down Under** by Geronimo Stilton

In this story there were three mice named Geronimo, Petunia, and Wolfgang. They went on a trip to Australia. Wolfgang decided to go to Bondi Beach. Geronimo and Wolfgang went surfboarding. After they went to the forest and met new friends. They also saw animals like emus, echidna, taipans, kangaroos and koalas. I liked learning about Australia and the animals.

By Cameron (Division 3)