

Charles Dickens Elementary School Newsletter

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Safe Arrival: N/A at this time

Website <http://dickens.vsb.bc.ca>

Principal:

Vice Principal:

Annex Vice Principal:

Liaison Trustee:

Anna Maria Niccoli-Mullett

David Murphy

Erin Gibbs

Diane Turner

April 2017

Dear Families of the Charles Dickens Community,

We hope this greeting finds you having had a restful Spring Break, enjoying time with family and friends. As we continue to move into the third term of the 2016-17 school year, please join me in welcoming Rachelle Icasiano, our Office Administrative Assistant, new to the School Office. Rachelle will be joining us at Dickens through to June 30, 2017. Rachelle has had diverse experiences in Vancouver schools across the city and is enjoying meeting the students, staff, and parents of the Dickens Community. Thanks for joining us, Rachelle! A special thank you to Cecilia, our Extra Clerical Assistant, for her work in supporting Rachelle in the office. Please know, Viv, Rachelle, and Cecilia have been connecting and we are thankful for all of their hard work in ensuring our third term progresses smoothly. Thanks everyone!

A special note: due to a high volume of calls being received in the office requesting that students receive messages pertaining to pick up plans, we ask that parents please make arrangements with your individual children before the school day starts as we are unable to inform students in a timely manner.

As our students continue to excel in their learning, we are extremely proud of all the ways they are providing leadership and contributing to the school community in general. For example, we have had ongoing enthusiasm among students to lead Weekly Assemblies and to prepare for Morning Announcements. Additionally, students have been actively fulfilling initiatives related to Green Team Duties, Dance Club Activities, Floor Hockey, Student's Council, and much more! Thank you one and all for all of your contributions to making Dickens such a welcoming place!

Please note, Student-led Conferences celebrating educational work to date will be taking place, for most classes, on:

- Wednesday, April 5, 2017; 2:00pm Dismissal – more information to follow
- Thursday, April 6, 2017; 2:00pm Dismissal – more information to follow

Class Placement Information:

PLEASE NOTE: Class placement parent letters **are not** being accepted by the school again this year.

At this time, schools are in the beginning stages of planning for the 2017-18 school year. This process involves working to best support our students to have a smooth transition to the next year.

As you know, staff know their students in the school context and engage in a rigorous class placement process that involves thoughtful collaboration, time, and consideration of a number of factors. We approach each placement decision carefully. Each student's social, emotional, and academic needs are considered in addition to:

- balance of academic, social, and emotional abilities
- social connections
- students as English Language Learners
- students with special needs
- leadership abilities
- cohesive student groupings
- previous classroom history/family history
- class size composition (Ministry/VBE)

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Dates to Remember:

- Ready Set Learn Event - Tuesday, April 11, 2017; 9:30am to 10:30am – Library. This is an opportunity for 3-and 4-year olds to come together and participate in some learning activities!
- PAC Executive Meeting – Tuesday, April 11, 2017; 7:00pm/Dickens Staffroom
- Good Friday – Friday, April 14, 2017 – School Closed
- Easter Monday – Monday, April 17, 2017 – School Closed
- Community Schools Team After School Programs – begin Monday, April 24, 2017
- Friday, May 19th, 2017 – Sports Day 2017! All welcome!

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Anna Maria Niccoli-Mullett, Principal