



## SIR JOHN FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### THE FRANKLIN EXPRESS

250 Skeena Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5K 4N8

Phone: 604-713-4709 / Fax: 604-713-4711

Preschool: 604-291-9310 / Community Office: 604-713-5898

Email: [franklin@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:franklin@vsb.bc.ca) Website: <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/franklin>

PRINCIPAL: Maureen McDonnell	DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION: Magdalena Kassis
OFFICIAL TRUSTEE: Diane Turner	PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL: Lara Davis



Welcome back to a new school year! A very special welcome to our new students, their families and our new staff.

I am honoured to have been chosen to join Sir John Franklin Elementary school as your new Principal. I am looking forward to building relationships with students, staff and parents as we work together to develop a strong sense of community. I bring with me 5 years of leadership experience in two elementary schools in Vancouver and over 20 years as an educator. Throughout that time I have always felt that it is my responsibility to ensure children receive a quality education within a safe, respectful and caring learning environment. I am a great believer in the link between home and school. Working together with staff and parents greatly enhances your child's educational experience. Please feel free to contact me at the school with any questions, concerns, or just for an introduction.

Through a close and shared partnership with everyone associated with Franklin, I am confident our school will continue to be a successful place for our students to learn and grow.

Sincerely,  
Maureen McDonnell  
Principal



## STAFFING UPDATE

I am excited to introduce several new staff members to our staff: Ms. Monika Tusnady; Intensive French Grade 6, Ms. Eleanor Tufts; Grade 4/5, Ms. Alexa Benson; Grade 3/4 job share, Ms. Julie Robinson; Kindergarten. Our Grade One teacher, Ms. Dyer, has accepted a position at another school, so Ms. Priscilla Yip will be our Grade one teacher. We are in the process of hiring another Grade 4/5 teacher.

## THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

Most students will report to their last years' classes with the exception of our Grade 6 and 7 Intensive French classes. Grade 6 Intensive French students will report to Ms. Tusnady in Room 306 and Grade 7s to Mr. Orange in Room 308. We anticipate the move to 2017-2018 classes by the end of the first week.

## NOTICE OF LATE RETURN

In order to maintain a space for your child, be sure to inform the school if your child will not be at school on Tuesday September 5<sup>th</sup>. Please note that we cannot save a place for your child past September 29, 2017.

## KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

Kindergarten students will be following a gradual entry. The schedule was sent to all families in June, but please contact the office if you need a copy. **NEW KINDERGARTENS WILL REPORT TO SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> BETWEEN 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. TO SIGN UP FOR AN INTERVIEW TIME.**

## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Newsletters will be published monthly and will be emailed during the first week of each month. You can also check our website for information and events at <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/franklin>. As newsletters and other important correspondence will be sent out via email, please be sure to update us if you change your email address over the school year. If you require a hard copy of the newsletter, please contact the office. Extra copies will be available in the main hallway. This first newsletter is the only one that will be distributed as hard copy.

## SCHOOL PLAN

This year our school plan includes the following two goals: 1. To promote social emotional development in students. 2. To increase knowledge, acceptance, empathy, awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal histories, traditions, cultures and contributions among all students. Teachers, staff members and families will work together throughout the year to help our students work to their potential in these and other areas.

## FRANKLIN CODE OF CONDUCT

You may be aware that we have a new school code of conduct. The new code of conduct document will be included in the school opening package that will be sent home with your child. We hope you will have a chance to take a look at the new code of Conduct with your child. We will review the school Code of Conduct at our monthly school assembly and work with our students to promote and develop an awareness of our school motto “**Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Fair**”. Look out for Code of Conduct Posters in our school and classrooms. I would like to thank Ms. Myers and Franklin staff members for developing our new School Code of Conduct.



## STUDENT INFORMATION VERIFICATION

The student information package included a student verification sheet, emergency contact information and the names of people to whom we may release your child. If any of this information has changed, please contact the office to update it. Please remember to notify the office if you change your telephone number(s), house address or email address throughout the school year so that we are able to update our records. Packages will be sent home to new families the week of September 18<sup>th</sup>; please verify all information, complete the forms and return it to school.

## FORMS AND SCHOOL FEES

Early next week a package will go home with all students. It will contain the school calendar and information about school fees and agendas, as well as media consent forms and other important forms. Please look for it, read through the information and sign and return it to school as soon as possible.

## VOLUNTEER DRIVER FORMS

If you are thinking about volunteering to drive for a field trip or for any sport teams this year, you will need to complete a Volunteer Driver Registration and Approval Form. This form can be obtained from the office and is valid for one school year, so if you completed one in June, you will need to fill out another form. It is best to complete the form before the field trip as the Principal must sign the form and approve each volunteer driver before they are allowed to drive any students for school related activities.

Please note the following in regards to the approval process:

- one form must be completed for each driver
- the owner of the vehicle must sign the form
- you will need to show your driver's license when you bring in the completed form
- by signing the form, you are certifying that you have had no moving violations, no impaired driving charges and no criminal charges related to a motor vehicle in the past 24 months

In regards to driving students the following rules apply:

- no child under the age of 13 is allowed to sit in the front passenger seat of a vehicle that has an air bag
- no child between 40-80 lbs or until a height of 4'9" tall, or age 9 can travel in a car without a booster seat

### STUDENT SUPERVISION

Adult supervision is provided from 8:40 until the warning bell at 8:55am. and from 3:00 to 3:20pm. During recess and lunch, VSB supervision aides supervise the playground and lunchroom. It is our expectation and the Vancouver Board of Education policy that students respect safety rules and follow Franklin's Code of Conduct at all times.

REVERSE LUNCH: At Franklin, we have a Reverse Lunch, which means that our students play at the beginning of the lunch break and eat at the end of it. Teachers of younger students work with the children to ensure that they have an opportunity to eat something before the lunch break and then finish after play. Franklin students bring lunch from home and eat in the lunchroom, or are welcome to go home for lunch. If your child is staying at school for lunch, please provide your child with sufficient healthy snacks, drinks and lunch meals for a day of intense learning and playing.

12:10 -12:35pm	Student play time
12:35pm	Students eat lunch in the lunchroom
12:57pm	Afternoon classes begin

### PARENT ADVISOR COUNCIL

There are many ways to be involved in your child's education and school life at Franklin. All Franklin parents are part of the PAC and are encouraged to come to regular meetings to get to know other parents and get involved with what is happening at the school. More information about our PAC can be found at <http://franklinpac.weebly.com/> or you can contact Lara Davis, our PAC President.

### STUDENT SIGN OUT POLICY

Once the children arrive at school, they remain under the care of the school staff until the end of the day. Please be advised that students need to be signed out at the office if they need to leave the school during the school day.

### SAFE ARRIVAL

If your child will be absent or late for school, please inform the school office by leaving a brief message with your child's name and division number or your child's teacher's name at **(604) 713-4709** before 9am. Thank you.



## PARKING/DROP OFF PROCEDURES

We have worked with the Neighbourhood Parking and Transportation Branch of the City of Vancouver over the years to improve the traffic flow and safety for student drop off and pick up. Please note:



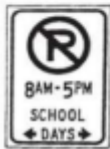
- Parents are asked to drive in a clockwise direction around the school to ensure the flow of traffic and so that students are not crossing the street in front of cars.
- 3 MINUTE PARKING areas have been established on Pandora, Kootenay and Franklin streets to allow for student drop off on the school side of the streets.
- NO STOPPING ANY TIME signs are for the safety of all children. Please respect them.
- Resident permit parking zones allow for stopping for up to five minutes if the driver remains in the vehicle.

*For the safety of the children, please drive carefully and obey traffic signs around school grounds  
The following are traffic signs that are typically posted around Vancouver schools.*



### **“NO STOPPING 8am - 5pm SCHOOL DAYS”**

These signs designate the zones where vehicles are not permitted to stop under circumstances. These zones are kept clear to provide good sight lines for drivers: see students and students to see drivers.



### **“NO PARKING 8am - 5pm SCHOOL DAYS”**

These signs designate the zones for active picking up and dropping off of students. Do not park and leave the vehicle in these zones.



### **School Area Signs**

This sign is used in advance of school to warn drivers that children may be walking along or crossing the road. On local streets 30 km/hr signs are posted and speed limit is 30 km/hr from 8am - 5pm on school days.



### **School Crosswalk Signs**

A school crosswalk sign indicates where children will be crossing the road. Vehicles must yield to pedestrians at all intersections and crosswalks. Vehicles must remain stopped until children are safely across and on the curb. Please remember children are playful and impulsive and may enter the roadway suddenly.

## SAFETY DRILLS

Various safety drills will be reviewed and practiced regularly throughout the year, including fire, earthquake, lockdown (building intruder) and hold and secure and shelter in place (external concern that may impact the school). Students will be prepared in advance and will be informed of upcoming drills at **the beginning of the school year**. These safety drills allow us to assess our level of preparedness and make adjustments to better prepare in case of an



emergency. Students are expected to follow instructions quickly and quietly during drills, exercising the safe practices that have been taught.



Wednesday, September 20  
Wednesday, September 27  
Thursday, September 28  
Wednesday, October 25  
Thursday, October 26  
Monday, October 9

Meet the teachers evening  
Pro-D (School not in session)  
Terry Fox Run (on Franklin school grounds)  
Parent teacher conferences (2pm dismissal)  
Parent teacher conferences (2pm dismissal)  
Thanksgiving holiday

## ALLERGY POLICY



这是重要的信息，请让人们为您翻译

**Franklin School is allergy-aware!** Please note that parents are asked to avoid sending foods containing **nut or peanut products** to school with their children due to severe allergies to these particular foods.

As peanut/nut butter tends to stick to surfaces, please wash your child's hands if you give them these foods for breakfast before school.

If there are questions or concerns, please contact Ms. McDonnell for further information. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.