

HENRY HUDSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Vancouver Board of Education

April 2017 Newsletter

Principal's Message

Dear Families,

Last week our school and seven other local schools were mentioned in a Vancouver Sun article that highlighted the challenge of not being able to accept all our Kindergarten registrants. Unfortunately we do have an extensive waitlist of in catchment Kindergarten students that we can't accommodate. Next year we will have one class of English kindergarten and one class of French Immersion kindergarten. Students on the waitlist will now be contacted by the VSB in order to find a placement for September. Queen Mary and Shaughnessy Elementary Schools are our designated overflow schools. We will continue to include these students on our own wait list and if placements become available the families will be contacted and offered placement at Hudson. Due to the extensive waitlist, our school is not accepting cross boundary applications.

While our enrollment number next year will be similar to this year's, the restored class size and composition language reduces class sizes to the point we actually need more classroom space. Between now and next September, the school district will be creating two more classrooms in the building. Most likely the staff room and one side of the lunch room will be converted into classrooms. The transformation of part of the lunchroom will still allow the Hudson Out Of School Care program to continue using the space before and after school. The part that is changed into a classroom will be a shared space between the Day Care and the teacher working in that new class area. I have been in contact with the Day Care and we have started planning for next year.

With our classes being full next year and our extensive waitlist, it is important that families who will not be returning next year notify the office so we may then offer that space to a waitlisted family.

Another big change to prepare for is our district wide earthquake drill scheduled for May 4. This year all schools will be conducting a mock student- parent emergency reunification. Essentially we will be practicing our release procedures. I am looking for 25 parent volunteers who would sign their children out at 2:30 pm. The procedure involves parents or emergency pick up contacts reporting to the Check In table, showing ID and our staff confirming the person picking up a student is listed with the school. It does take some time, but practicing the process will allow us to ensure the process works and provides opportunity to see where we can improve the efficiency of the release process. The initial release will have some "bumps," but will allow us to be better prepared in the event we need to conduct such an event with a real emergency. All schools will be practicing a mock release. Parent able to volunteer for the mock release are asked to contact the office.

The term 3 lunch hour and after school activities have just started and will all be up and running next week. Many thanks to our school PAC, the Community Schools Team and school staff for again providing volunteer time and a wide range of activities for our students.

Thanks for your support,
Ian Cannon
Principal

Overview of Upcoming Activities & Events

- Fri, Apr 7
 - Div 14F & 15F – Mike's Critters
 - Kindergarten Vision Screening Follow-Up
 - Jump Rope Jump Day
- Fri, Apr 14 – Good Friday – no school in session
- Mon, Apr 17 – Easter Monday – no school in session
- Wed, Apr 19
 - Gr 8 Articulation at Kitsilano Secondary
 - Deadline for Jump Rope Collection
- Thu, May 4
 - Div 4 – Field trip to Raincity Athletics
 - District fire drill
- Fri, May 5 – Professional day – no school in session



Classroom Highlights

Division 9 is working in congruence with Let's Talk Science to explore how the forces of motion affect the way Salmon Travel. We are looking forward to a field trip to Science World at the end of our unit where we will extend our learning about Forces of Motion through hands on activities including building a roller coaster.

Div. 4 was very pleased to have SFU student teacher Ms. Piper come in for 3 weeks before the break. Students learned about First Nations art and produced their own versions of Haisla art inspired by the works of Lyle Wilson.

Div 13F had a wonderful opportunity to meet with the French Sevens Rugby Team in March. The class spent an hour with the team learning about rugby and participating in a practice session. The French Consulate was present and "tweeted" images from this event. Through this contact, the school initiated an afterschool rugby program.

Div 14F & 15F enjoyed a visit from Mike's Critters in support of the Primary Science curriculum focus on characteristics of living organisms. The students participated in the hands-on activities with live animals.

Div 12F Miss Batko's class is starting a construction project using an online program called Tinkercad to design homes. As part of the unit, they were pleased to welcome architect, Sandi Wiley who shared information on design and planning.

Div 2 are currently working on the human body systems Science unit, have started a new novel study "Banner in the Sky", and are in the midst of their passion projects. Each student chose an area of his/her own personal interest to research and share with the class.

Div 11F Mr. Dominic's classroom is busy at work on their Social Action Project. The goal is to make a real impact on their community, whether it be school-based, locally or globally. We have projects from reclaiming urban land space to planting flowers for bees, sponsoring a child in an underdeveloped country, to organizing survival kits for homeless Vancouver youth. Accordingly, Division 11F has filled the other two empty garden beds and have planted their seedlings. Finally Division 11F is working hard on their 3D design projects to be eventually printed on our new 3D printer.

Div 1 has started square dancing with Division 10F on Friday afternoons, some students are discovering their dormant talents. We are also looking forward to camp in June.

Track & Field

Now that the weather is finally improving, students are very excited to begin a new Track and Field season. Practices are Tuesday mornings and afternoons, as well as Thursday afternoons. Track is open to students in Grades 3-7, with the exception of shot put coached by Mr. Cannon (which is only for Grades 6-7). We look forward to seeing you there. Dates for the mini-meets and final track meet will be announced after the Coaches Organizational Meeting on April 12th. Thanks, Ms. Tso, Mr. Lerch, Mme. Michelle, M. Ogilvie, Ms. Batko, and Mr. Cannon.

Babysitting Course

The Community Schools Team is excited to offer a full day Babysitting Certification Course on Friday, May 5 from 9am - 5pm (this is a non-instructional day; school is not in session). This course will cover basic first aid, and teach how to respond to choking, bleeding, poisoning and burns as well as child care skills and the rights and responsibilities of a babysitter. After the full day program is completed, students will be certified as a Canadian Red Cross Babysitter. The course is open to students in grades 6 - 7. Registration forms are available outside the school office. Please note that students should bring enough snacks and lunch for the entire day as food will not be provided. Students must attend the whole day (9am-5pm) to receive their babysitting certificate. Please contact Dianne Sankey (CST Programmer) at dsankey@vsb.bc.ca with any questions.

Student Washrooms

Beginning May 1st, the VSB will be repairing the boys' and girls' washrooms. The process will take a week for each washroom. The girls' washroom will be first for maintenance and will be closed for the week. Students will use the toilets in the gym while the main building washrooms are closed.

Jump Rope for Heart

Jump Rope Jump Day is Friday, April 7th. April 19th is the deadline for donation envelopes.

Library News

Our annual Scholastic Book Fair in the gym was a big success this year! It was wonderful to see families out selecting new books for home reading! This event helps support Library funding so, thank you Hudson, for supporting the love of reading here and at home! And a big thank you to all the wonderful parent volunteers and especially the student volunteers who do such a wonderful job!

Badminton

This year's badminton season is well underway, and we have a large group of enthusiastic students coming out for practices on Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:00 am during April. We have enough students for 2 full teams:

A Team – Grade 7 students

B Team – Grade 6 students

Games will run on Thursdays, generally from 3:30 to about 4:30pm.

April 13	Hudson A vs Kitchener	@Kitchener
	Hudson B vs Shaughnessy A	@Hudson
April 20	Hudson A vs Bayview	@Hudson
	Hudson B vs Kitchener	@Kitchener
April 27	Hudson A vs Shaughnessy	@Shaughnessy
	Hudson B vs Bayview	@Hudson

If you have any questions about Badminton, please contact Ms. Dawson.

“It is a wise thing to be polite; consequently, it is a stupid thing to be rude. To make enemies by unnecessary and willful incivility, is just as insane a proceeding as to set your house on fire. For politeness is like a counter--an avowedly false coin, with which it is foolish to be stingy.”

— Arthur Schopenhauer, The Wisdom of Life and Counsels and Maxims