



April 2018

PRINCIPAL: Mr. Robbie Dhillon
SECRETARY: Ms. Sharon Binng and Ms. Melanie Warriner

<http://schoolsweb.ab.ca>

FROM THE OFFICE

Dear Parents:

It was nice to see all the happy little faces returning from our two week Spring Break. Spring has sprung and the nice weather unfortunately is not here, as of yet☹. This is a reminder to ensure your child does have proper clothing at school for the rain I am sure we will see. A change of clothes, including socks is also advisable.

There has been a lot going on at Park Avenue the past little while. Please do take some time to come to the school and walk through the halls to see all of the wonderful work the children are producing. I would like to thank our teachers, educational assistants and other support staff for their excellent work this school year.

There is important information about Welcome to Kindergarten and next year's school organization in this newsletter as well.

We are currently planning our track and field meet for all students in Grades 3-7 (Tuesday May 22nd). There is detailed information further on in this newsletter including a need for parent volunteers.

Thanks, as always, to members of our PAC for their continued contributions to the school. The staff and students at the school appreciate your help and assistance.

Yours truly,

Mr. Robbie Dhillon
Principal

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2017-2018

Spring Concert, (approx. 12:45-2:15 and 6-7:30 PM ...Thurs May 3
Talent Show (approx. 12:45 start) Fri May 4
Non Instructional Day.....Thurs May 10
Pro-D (school based) (students do not attend)..... Fri May 11
PAC (6:30 PM).....Mon May 14
Victoria Day (students do not attend)Mon May 21
School Track Meet (Gr 3-7).....Tues May 22
Zone Track Meet.....Wed May 30

Welcome to Kindergarten (AM).....Fri Jun 1
District Track Meet.....Thurs Jun 7
PAC (6:30 PM).....Mon Jun 11
Formative Report Issued.....Thurs Jun 28
Last Day of School (school dismissed at 2:37).....Thurs Jun 28
Administration Day Fri. Jun 29

APPROPRIATE CLOTHING FOR WEATHER CONDITIONS



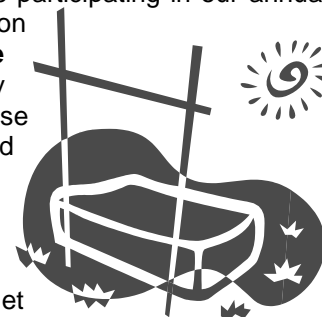
The cool wet weather seems to always be around. There may be days students will ask the question "Is it an inside day?" The answer on most days is no. Students will be going outside to play at recess and lunch unless it is raining heavily. We thank you for ensuring your child comes to school with appropriate rain and cool weather clothing. At Park Ave we believe in the importance of fresh air and outside play for all students and appreciate your assistance in this regard. **It is also advisable students have a change of clothes in their school bags, including socks.** Warm gloves are always a good idea as well.

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN

There will be an event for students (and parents/guardians) starting Kindergarten in September on **Friday June 1 in the morning, most likely 9:30-10:45 AM** the gym and MPR. **Please ensure you have registered your child for Kindergarten ASAP.** You do not need to preregister for this session, as we will be expecting most registrants to be present, along with parent and/or guardian.

SCHOOL TRACK MEET GRADES 3-7

All students in Grade 3-7 will be participating in our annual school track & field meet on **Tuesday May 22 (after the long weekend)** at the Rotary Bowl (behind NDSS). Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately and arrives to school on time as the buses leave for the Rotary Bowl around 9:00 am. Even though the sun may be out it can get quite cold at the Rotary Bowl. **All students should have a jacket, hat and pants in their backpacks, available to wear when needed.**



Students will ride on school buses for the return trip back to Park Ave as well (approx 2:20). Please note parking is an issue around the Rotary Bowl; there is pay parking beside the baseball field. You will also want to send your child with a packed lunch/extra snacks and lots of water. **In early May**, a permission slip will be sent home with students in Grades 3-7. Thank you to Mr. Robertson for organizing this for our students. The Zone Track meet is on Wednesday May 30th for those students that qualify and the District meet is on Thursday June 7th for those that qualify from the zones.

TRACK AND FIELD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

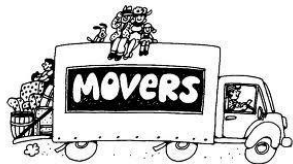
Our school track meet (Grade 3-7 students) is happening Tuesday May 22 (after the long weekend) at the Rotary Bowl (behind NDSS) and we can certainly use extra adults to help. If you are available to help out that day (either AM, PM or both), please let Mr. Robertson know through the permission form that will be coming home in advance of the track meet in early May. Please indicate on the form if you are able to volunteer and the time(s).

PARENTAL REQUESTS FOR STUDENT PLACEMENT 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

We are in the process of planning the next academic year. It is important you trust the teachers and administration to build classes which suit the students' both academic and social needs. We take a lot of care in doing classroom composition for each grade. We make up each class list in a way that maximizes the quality of teaching and learning conditions for all students. The classroom composition for each grade has to reflect the acceptance of all individuals within an inclusive school as we attempt to provide appropriate educational programming to all children. If you have specific educational reasons/concerns you would like us to consider about your child, please contact Mr. Dhillon (in writing) as soon as possible, but **no later than May 24th**. We do consider these requests along with all other pertinent information provided by classroom teachers and support staff. Please note your request will be considered but we do not guarantee it can be honored. It does become, however, an important part of our planning process. As teachers may change schools and grade groupings are dependent on our enrolment numbers and balancing learning needs, **please describe optimal learning environments without referring to specific teachers.** **We are not able to take requests for individual teachers.**

ARE YOU MOVING IN OR OUT OF THE AREA?

If you are moving (and your child is changing schools) please advise the office as soon as possible. Your co-operation greatly assists us in determining our numbers and school organization for the upcoming school year. Please also ensure you have registered your child at your new catchment area school as well. If you know of a family moving into our school community (or has already moved in), encourage them to come in to register before June 15 as this is the district deadline for guaranteed placement in our school. After that date, we can still accept students from within our community providing we have room for them, but we may not be able to confirm this until September.



SPRING PICTURE DAY—TUESDAY MAY 8TH

Marjie Callaghan of Lifetouch Studios is scheduled to be here to take class photographs, the whole school photo, the Grade 7 photo, and the staff group photo. Each student receives a class photo (no charge). Parents who wish to buy the Grade 7 photo (\$6) or the Whole School Photo (\$10) will have the option to do so (ie pre order with 100% satisfaction). **If you would like to buy one of these extra photos (Grade 7 or Whole School picture) please keep reading ☺ The order form will be sent home with students prior to the photo day.** This order form needs to come back with your child on Spring Picture Day and handed directly to the photographer. About three weeks later, class photographs will be given to all students, at no charge, and any of the preordered/prepaid photos will also be here. If you have any questions, please call: (250) 738-0983 ext. 2.



ABSENCES OR LATES



If your child is absent or late for school, please phone the school as early as possible to notify the office (and preferably before 8 AM). The school office does have a 24-hour voice mail and you can leave a message stating your name, your child's name, grade and teacher. This will avoid the phone call from the office to you in the morning, as well as help us to ensure all students are accounted for as quickly as possible. **On the topic of lates, please ensure your child arrives to school by 8:45.** Being late to class can impact your child's day as critical information (ie shape of the day) is covered early on, as are the morning announcements. Being late can also cause distractions for students and staff.

SCHOOL REGISTRATION 2018-2019

To register your child in Nanaimo-Ladysmith Public Schools, the online, centralized registration began on **January 10, 2018th**. The following information will help determine if this process will apply to you.

Take a moment and ask yourself the following questions:

1. Is my child new to Nanaimo-Ladysmith Public Schools?
2. Do I have a child that will be turning five years old on or before December 31, 2018 that will be entering Kindergarten? **Applications must be received by June 15, 2018 to ensure a placement in your child's catchment-area school.**
3. Do I want to register my child in Late French Immersion?
4. Do I want to register my child in Early French Immersion? **Applications will be received until January 31, 2018, at which time student selection will be determined by lottery. Parents will be notified in early February 2018. Late French Immersion Students are placed as space permits.**
5. Do I want to register my child in secondary academies? (Hockey, Soccer, Beach Volleyball, Lacrosse, Baseball, Performing Arts or Jazz)

6. Do I want to apply for a school transfer request (out-of-catchment)? **Applications are due March 31, 2018.**

For more information please visit the district website or by emailing ereg@sd68.bc.ca

LITERACY

Did you know that more than half of Canadians (55%) do not have the minimum skills necessary to meet the information demands of today's world? Literacy levels affect family income, health and quality of life. Canadians with lower levels of literacy are more likely to earn less and use computers less frequently. Conversely, higher literacy skills correlate to greater involvement in community groups and volunteer activities. Working in partnership with the school to enhance your child's ability to access information is the best way to enable them to *achieve their goals and reach their potential in life*. Research tells us there is a predictable reading **slump** occurring around **Grade 4**. One might assume by then that kids can read well enough on their own, but this is precisely the time when reading material becomes more challenging. We often say: In the primary grades, children learn to read and in the intermediate years, they read to learn.

Tips:

1. **Don't stop reading aloud to them once they can read independently—instead, simply take turns being the narrator.**
2. **Set a monthly goal in terms of reading minutes. Chart the progress and then reward your child with a new book, sticker or bookmark.**
3. **Encourage your child to develop an interest in different literary genres, such as adventure, mystery, fantasy and poetry.**
4. **Develop the habit of giving books or magazine subscriptions as gifts for birthdays or other special occasions.**