



June 2018

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

<http://schoolsweb.sd68.bc.ca/parkave/>

FROM THE OFFICE

Dear Parents,

This is the last full newsletter of the 2017-2018 school year. There have been many memorable moments to reflect upon this year. Our PAC has provided some key moments this year. Classroom teachers and support staff have planned, sponsored and supported a multitude of activities for students. Thank you to all staff and parents for making this a great year!

The staff of Park Avenue has always been very proud of their students and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the positive citizenship exhibited by our students. It has been a pleasure to see the growth in all our students.

On behalf of all students and staff at Park Avenue Community School I would like to express my appreciation to the PAC for their support and contributions made over the year. Their commitment has enabled us to provide programs, a new score clock, fieldtrips, IPADS, resources and presentations that benefit all students at our school. I thank you for all that you do!

I would like to extend a thank you to our parents and community members who volunteer their time directly in the classrooms helping with reading, in the library etc... Your help in classrooms and around the school has contributed to the success of each and every student. To everyone who has volunteered this past year, my sincerest thank you!

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to extend best wishes to our Grade 7 students who will be moving onto high school next year. Congratulations and continued success in all your future years!

Yours truly,
 Mr. Robbie Dhillon
 Principal

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2017-2018

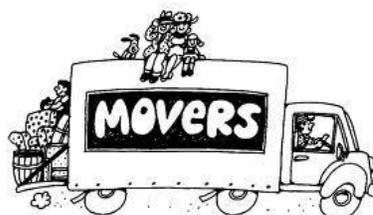
Grade 7 celebration (5:30-8 PM)..... Thurs June 21
 Fun Day (morning) Fri June 22 (AM)
 Hot Dog Lunch (PAC), Free..... Fri June 22
 Formative Report Issued..... Thurs June 28
 Last Day of School (school dismissed at 2:37)..... Thurs June 28
 Administration Day Fri. June 29

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Our school office is open until Friday July 6th and reopens on Monday August 27th. Our office hours are as follows:

**Monday July 2 Canada Day Stat Closed
 **Tuesday July 3 8 AM to 2 PM
 **Wednesday July 4 8 AM to 2 PM
 **Thursday July 5 8 AM to 2 PM
 **Friday July 6 8 AM to 12 PM

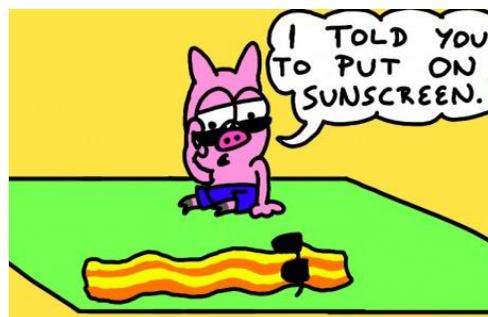
ARE YOU MOVING IN OR OUT OF THE AREA?



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.

SUNSCREEN



It is that time of year when it is a good idea to apply sunscreen on your child in the morning, before school starts.

BELL SCHEDULE 2018-2019

Below is a summary of our bell schedule for the upcoming school year. (**no changes from this year**)

Morning Session	8:45
Eat Lunch	11:30 – 11:45
Long Recess	11:45 – 12:20
Afternoon Recess	1:20-1:35
Dismissal Tuesday to Friday	2:37
Early Dismissal MONDAY's only	1:37

Notes: Our Monday short recess will be in the morning, 10:15 AM to 10:30 AM. Some teachers may opt to have students eat after coming in from long recess. Your child's teacher will communicate this to you directly. **Please note EVERY MONDAY is early dismissal (1:37 PM).**

TENTATIVE TEACHER STAFFING FOR 2018-2019

The tentative organization for next year appears below. ***I must stress that the organization outlined below may change depending on movement of students into and out of the community during the summer and final postings of teachers.*** A shift of a few students from one age level to another can have an impact on the structure of several classes. **You can help us** by letting us know if there are any families out there who plan to move out of our community or move into our community during the summer. Give us a call **2507545591** or send a note if you have some information to share.

2018-2019 TENTATIVE TEACHER STAFFING

Principal Mr. R. Dhillon

Teaching Staff

Grade 7 Mr. Mark Robertson
Grade 6/7 Ms. Sarah Frostad
Grade 6 Mr. Ray Schlitz
Grade 5/6 Mr. Andy Galloway
Grade 5 Ms. Denise Smith
Grade 4/5 Ms. Brittany Jahelka
Grade 4/5 Ms. Dallas Knight
Grade 3/4 Ms. Leslie Baker
Grade 3 Ms. Joy Tretick
Grade 2/3 Ms. Carly Gauthier
Grade 2/3 Ms. Tara-Lyn Megyesi
Grade 2 Ms. Tonja Henigman
Grade 1/2 Ms. Amy Dube
Kindergarten/Gr 1 Ms. Kim Leong
Kindergarten Ms. Tia Radu
Kindergarten Ms. Cher Grindler

- Student Support/ELL: Ms. Amy Hill + Mr. Linden Shaw
- Library: Ms. Heidi Fargo
- Band, Music, FSL: Mr. James Derksen
- Counselling: Ms. Ilse Hill

STAFF FAREWELLS



We wish our leaving staff members the best of success in their future endeavours and hope that soon they will return to Park Avenue as many have in the past. They have all left a mark on our school and will not be easily replaced. Please

wish the following staff members all the best: Ms. Harris, Mr. Klan, Mr. Wells, Ms. Ward, Ms. Legebokoff, Ms. Chelsom, Ms. Warriner and Ms. Williamson. In addition to this list, Ms. Gummer is retiring (and congratulations to her) and many thanks for all of her years of service.

The posting and staffing process is still underway so there is a chance that some of the staff listed above might be back with us in September.

CARING & SHARING

Wow, this school year is almost over, and already children (and even some parents/caregivers) are looking forward to the freedom that comes with summer. It's great for children to have some unstructured time to rest up over the holidays, but two months without any schoolwork can have a downside. In May's newsletter we talked about how some experts estimate that during the summer holidays, children can lose up to 20% of what they learned in school. In this month's column there are some additional ideas to help reduce learning loss and give your child a head start for next September.

Yes, hiring a tutor or enrolling your child(ren) in 'summer school' are good options for retaining academic success, but this is not always an option for many families, so here are some creative alternatives. It is always good to review the concepts learned in school, but **the key is to keep exercising the same parts of the brain.** Some people compare it to a physical exercise program, where we must

"use it or lose it". For example, athletes who work hard all year would not stop training for two months and expect to go back into competition at the same level; however, they might switch up their training while still maintaining their fitness level. In fact, cross-training can actually help an athlete improve their performance, so it certainly can't hurt for students to do a little **cross-brain-training** over summer.

Children learn to store memories more efficiently through practice. So, from local daytrips to long holidays, help your child(ren) relive the events; exercise memory storage systems by asking specific questions about the day's experience. For instance, at the end of a trip or event, we often ask things like "Did you have fun?" Children don't have to think for more than a second before giving a 'yes' or 'no' answer. Use open-ended questions starting with **How, What, Why, Who, When, and Where**, like "**What was your favourite part?**" This encourages your child(ren) to think back, remember the sequence of events and make comparisons. It also gives you an opportunity to talk about an experience you shared together. You can continue the conversation and help your child(ren) to remember more by talking about your favourite parts, too. Do further exploration or research on interesting points or facts which come up. Bring in hands-on activities whenever possible as children are even more engaged when using more of their senses; it will also reinforce learning/memory in a different way.

Some ideas for daytrips:

* Visit a museum or local historical site. You can research it online, use *MapQuest* or *Google Maps* to plan your route, and even have your child hold the map to practice math, map, and communication skills as he or she becomes **Navigator-for-a-day**.

* Lots of stores have educational workbooks and travel games that children can use on car trips. (It's good to have some electronic-free car time anyway). Feeling even more creative? Together, make up a poem, song or rap.

* While you have the electronics off, you can play memory games in the car- remember games like the trip game? ("I'm going on a trip, and I'm taking apples, books, hat, sunscreen, candy....." which each person repeats and then adds a word). The internet and library offer many more options of games.

* Speaking of the library, have your child(ren) sign up for the **Library Reading Club**, and make regular trips there. Kids can choose books that interest them, keep track of their reading, and earn prizes along the way – **and it is all free!** It's cool inside and there are several locations in Nanaimo, including one downtown next to the waterfront (where the seawall and ice cream are close by...hint, hint).

* Check the local newspapers for events - things like dog shows can be a rich source of information and a lot of laughs for everyone, and they are often held locally. Nanaimo Parks, Recreation & Culture and other agencies offer a wide variety of events (many of which are free). Don't forget, **even social interacting with others offers valuable learning opportunity.**

* Finally, why not have your child make a trip memory book or journal? It helps them remember things in sequence, helps them practice skills like writing and art, and gives them something to help remember their experiences, and to share with others. Keep in mind many back-to-school assignments include "**What I did this summer...**"

We hope these ideas help you get off to a wonderful summer, both full of fun and continued learning.

Summer Reading Club 2018

Summer Reading @ Vancouver Island Regional Library

Summer vacation is almost here and your children are no doubt dreaming about fun times and adventures! But in order to keep your children's reading skills sharp; it's also a smart idea to include reading as a part of their summer fun.

Like all skills, a little practice goes a long way. Vancouver Island Regional Library invites kids aged 0 - 12 years to join Summer Reading Club. Participants will embark on a reading adventure at the library with this year's theme: **Motion Commotion**. Summer Reading Club encourages children to read a little every day by providing:

- Fun tools, such as colorful reading records, tattoos, and medals.
- Chances to win cool prizes — the more they read, the more chances to win.

Summer Reading Club officially begins **July 3rd**. You can register your children online starting June 15th at www.virl.bc.ca or you can drop by your local branch.

For more information, call or visit your local branch of Vancouver Island Regional Library or visit www.virl.bc.ca. In remote areas, the program is available through our Books by Mail service. Please call 1-877-415-8475 for information.

Planning a family trip or vacation? Don't forget that children can borrow from and return books to any of the 39 branches of Vancouver Island Regional Library located on Vancouver Island, Haida Gwaii, and Bella Coola on the central mainland coast. We make it that easy for you!