



September 2017

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

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

FROM THE OFFICE

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year to all students, staff and parents! I hope that you all had a refreshing summer and are charged up for what promises to be a most exciting and rewarding year at Park Avenue Community School.

I am excited to be starting my fifth year at Park Avenue Community School. I look forward to working with you, the staff and your child. Today was an opportunity for students and teachers to meet and for us to have an idea on our enrolment. When our enrolments are confirmed students will be placed in their 2017 –2018 class groupings. During the next few days the children will enjoy getting to meet each other, get to know the staff, familiarize themselves with the routines and expectations of the school and engage in interesting learning activities.

Students will be receiving their student handbooks this week and you will find important information about Park Avenue. You will find the handbook a very useful instrument to learn about various aspects of the school and expectations.

Many great things happen at Park Avenue School thanks to our amazing PAC volunteers, our students and families, our staff and our community supporters.

As a learning community, we are all following learning paths that inspire us. Your support and interest in your child’s celebrations of learning amplifies your child’s successes. We all learn from watching, modelling and encouraging each other. Our children *look to us to set an example*; please remember this when you are in our school. Our school-wide expectations apply to all of us!
We look forward to a new year working with you to support your child’s growth and progress.

While this opening newsletter is being provided to you in paper copy, we also have it on our school website. **This will be the only paper copy newsletter going out this year to the entire community.** Please ensure you are on our new email list serve. You must register yourself to this listserve. Here are the directions:

Because of the Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation, we require parents’ consent to send commercial type information (including PAC order forms and other activities for which there is a charge...even a minimal charge) via email. Our newsletters are also sent out via email. By signing up here, you are giving your consent:

https://wwwssl.sd68.bc.ca/Parent_Subscription/parkavenue.htm

If you don’t receive a confirmation email, be sure to look in your Spam or Junk folder. You can unsubscribe from this service at any time. Please note there will be further instructions of what to after you have sent in your initial email to the address above.

If you don’t have an email address, please send a note and ensure it is handed in to our secretary and we will make a list of those parents who require a paper copy of newsletters. This will help us reduce our paper consumption and in turn help the environment.

The staff of Park Avenue is committed to focusing on the intellectual and physical development of each and every child. With your support, the potential is phenomenal! We look forward to working with you this year.

Yours truly,
Mr. Robbie Dhillon (Principal)

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2017-2018

First day of class, one hour (11AM-12 PM)	Tues Sep 5
PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Sep 11
Meet the Teacher (6:00-7:00 PM)	Wed Sep 20
Photo Day	Tues Oct 3
Pro-D (School based) (Students do not attend)	Fri Oct 6
Thanksgiving (students do not attend)	Mon. Oct 9
PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Oct 16
Formative Assessment conference	Mon Oct 16-Thurs Oct 19
Early Dismissal Week (1:20 PM) ..	Mon Oct 16 to Thurs Oct 19
Pro-D [province wide] (students do not attend)	Fri. Oct 20
Photo Retakes	Wed Nov 1
Grade 6 Immunizations	Fri Nov 3
PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Nov 6
Remembrance Day (students do not attend)	Mon Nov 13
PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Dec 4
Last Day before Holiday	Fri. Dec 22
First Day back	Mon Jan 8
PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Jan 8
Progress Report Issued	Fri Jan 26
PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Feb 5
BC Family Day (students do not attend)	Mon Feb 12
Non Instructional Day (students do not attend)	Mon Feb 19
Non Instructional Day (students do not attend)	Tues Feb 20
PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Mar 5
Last Day before Spring Break/Easter	Fri. Mar 16
First Day back	Tues Apr 3
PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Apr 9
PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon May 7
Pro-D (school based) (students do not attend)	Fri May 11
Victoria Day (students do not attend)	Mon May 21
PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Jun 4
Formative Report Issued	Thurs Jun 28
Last Day of School (school dismissed at 2:37)	Thurs Jun 28
Administration Day	Fri. Jun 29

BELL SCHEDULE 2017-2018

Below is a summary of our bell schedule for the upcoming school 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 EVERY MONDAY	1:37

PLANNERS (GRADES 1-7):

All students in Grades 1 through 7 will receive and use a planner next week, after payment is received. The primary planner (Grades 1-3) costs \$7 and the intermediate planner (Grades 4-7) costs \$5. These planners are also important tools as students learn to set goals and organize their homework assignments and commitments. We ask that you ensure your child has written his or her name and the school address and phone number on the first page of the planner as we do not have extra copies. Cheques are made payable to SD 68. Thank you to those families who pre-ordered planners in June.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Students (Grades 4-7) purchased supplies and are asked to bring them to school on Monday. Grade 1 to Grade 3 students pay \$30 to cover the cost of their supplies (plus the cost of the planner, \$7) for a total of \$37. Cheques can be made payable

to SD 68. Kindergarten parents will be able to pay teachers directly at the first week meeting. The cost there is \$35 which includes the cost of the back and forth folder planner system.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF



Over the summer months we received news of new staff members to Park Avenue. As of August 31st they include the following teachers: Ms. Knight, Mr. Galloway, Ms. Hill, Ms. Chelsom, Ms. Dube, Mr. Wells and Ms. Frostad. We also have two new Educational Assistants, Ms. Beale and Ms. Luff. Returning to Park Ave after being away last year are Ms. Baker, and Ms. Leong. Please take a moment to make our new (or returning) staff members feel at home.

TENTATIVE TEACHER STAFFING FOR 2017-2018 (AS OF AUGUST 31ST)

The tentative organization for this year appears below. As we get an indication of any student movement over the summer this may shift some of the grade level assignments below. A shift of a few students from one age level to another can have an impact on the structure of several classes.

Principal Mr. R. Dhillon

TEACHING STAFF

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

Student Support Teachers/ELL Mr. Linden Shaw, Ms. Amy Hill
Teacher Librarian Mrs. Heidi Fargo
Band/Music/FSL Teacher Mr. James Derksen
Health and Career Ed (primary) Ms. Natalie Chelsom
Counsellor Ms. Becky Harris
Speech/Language Ms. Darlene Frier
School Psychologist Ms. Kirstin Funke-Robinson

SUPPORT STAFF

Secretary Ms. Sharon Binng and Ms. Melanie Warriner
Child & Youth Care Worker Ms. Jessica Hastings

Custodians Mr. Dale Brandback and Mr. Bob Grinnell

Education Assistants Ms. Trish Gummer, Ms. Geraldine Turner, Mr. Ryan Aubichon, Ms. Linda Dixon, Ms. Suzanne Jamieson, Mr. Dallas Toporowski, Ms. Lindy Beale, Ms. Kirsten Luff

Aboriginal E.A. Mr. Barry Plaxton

Library Clerk Ms. Deborah Hunter

PHOTO DAY



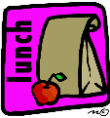
On Tuesday October 3rd, we will be taking Individual student photos starting in the mornig. The proof envelopes arrive about two weeks after photo day and go home with students. Parents have a week to decide on a purchase and then they return the envelope to the school. Parents can also order on line and photo packages arrive about two weeks later.

BC FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM/MILK PROGRAM

We continue to be a part of this program. As part of this program our school receives fruits and vegetable (and milk) that is distributed to classes periodically. In addition to this we

also provide a fruit bin to classes, generally daily, that has a number of healthy choices.

LUNCHES AT SCHOOL



Those who eat lunch at school cannot leave the school grounds during the lunch break without prior written permission from their parents. During periods of very poor weather, arrangements are made for pupils to remain indoors during recess times. Aides hired by the School Board will provide supervision during the lunch recess break. Parents and students must be aware that eating lunch at school is a privilege. Students who persistently misbehave during the lunch break will lose the privilege of staying at school during the lunch break and will be required to make other arrangements for their lunch break off the grounds.

RISK/THREAT ASSESSMENT

SD 68 takes all threats seriously. What do parents and students need to know? Students and parents need to be aware of the steps the school district will take in responding to a threat:

- Any threats must be reported to the school principal, counselor, or some other responsible adult
- Nanaimo-Ladysmith schools will follow up on every reported threat.
- Follow-up may involve the police

- Interviews will be held with the threat-maker and any other students who may have information about the threat.
- Threatening behaviour may result in discipline for a student
- Intervention plans may be developed for the student making the threat and a support plan developed for any students who are the target of threats

STUDENT DRESS CODE

It is expected students will dress in a manner that is appropriate and conducive to a positive and safe learning environment. Appropriate dress is safe; is free of any reference to alcohol, drugs, gangs, hate, obscenity, profanity, discrimination, sex and/or violence; is not disturbing or distracting to others within the school setting. Clothing should appropriately cover the body from the shoulder to the mid-thigh. Students who wear inappropriate clothing will be asked to change into acceptable attire, which may require being sent home. In this case, parents will be contacted.



ADMINISTERING MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

Some students must, out of necessity, take medication while attending school. Parents need to fill out a Request for Administration of Physician Prescribed Medication (available at the office). All medication must be locked up in the office area and administered by staff.

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT ALL GRADES



Our K-7 meet the teacher night is scheduled for **Wednesday September 20 from 6:00-7:00 PM.** Please drop in to meet your child's teacher.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Our parent teacher conferences will take place from **Monday, October 16 to Thursday, October 19.** More information will be coming prior to the sessions, **but please be aware students will be dismissed at 1:20 on these four days** in order to facilitate the conferences. **Sign up for these days will take place during meet the teacher night in September.**

STUDENT INFORMATION FORMS

Please look for these important forms coming home next week. We ask that you complete these and return them to school as quickly as possible so we have the necessary safety contacts and medical information on file for your child.

PAC

We have an active PAC at Park Avenue, which is always in need of new or more members. I would encourage parents to get involved in the goings on at PAC. Many programs in and around the school are run and facilitated by members of PAC. PAC meeting dates are listed under the dates for the school year on the first page of this newsletter.