



## September 2018

PRINCIPAL: Mr. Robbie Dhillon  
 SECRETARY: Ms. Sharon Binng and TBD

<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 sixth 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 enrolment is confirmed students will be placed in their 2018 –2019 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](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 2018-2019

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| First day of class, Grades 1-7 one hour (11AM-12 PM)          | Tues Sep 4   |
| PAC (6:30 PM)   | Mon Sep 10   |
| Photo Day   | Tues Oct 2   |
| Non Instructional Day (Students do not attend)                | Thurs Oct. 4 |
| Pro-D (School based) (Students do not attend)                 | Fri Oct 5    |
| Thanksgiving (students do not attend)                         | Mon. Oct 8   |
| PAC (6:30 PM)   | Mon Oct 15   |
| Early Dismissal (1:15 PM)                                     | Tues Oct 16  |
| Early Dismissal (1:15 PM)                                     | Wed Oct 17   |
| Formative Assessment Conference 1:30-3 PM and 5:30-7 PM       | Wed Oct 17   |
| Early Dismissal (1:15 PM)                                     | Thurs Oct 18 |
| Pro-D [province wide] (students do not attend)                | Fri. Oct 19  |
| Photo Retakes   | Tues Oct 30  |
| PAC (6:30 PM)   | Mon Nov 26   |
| Remembrance Day (students do not attend)                      | Mon Nov 12   |
| Last Day before Holiday                                       | Fri. Dec 21  |
| First Day back  | Mon Jan 7    |
| PAC (6:30 PM)   | Mon Jan 21   |
| Progress Report Issued  | Fri Jan 25   |
| BC Family Day (students do not attend)                        | Mon Feb 18   |
| Non Instructional Day (students do not attend)                | Mon Feb 25   |
| Non Instructional Day (students do not attend)                | Tues Feb 26  |
| PAC (6:30 PM)   | Mon Mar 4    |
| Formative Assessment Conference (Portfolio Style) (5:30-7 PM) | Wed Mar 6    |
| Last Day before Spring Break/Easter                           | Fri. Mar 15  |
| First Day back  | Tues Apr 2   |
| PAC (6:30 PM)   | Mon Apr 15   |
| Good Friday   | Fri Apr 19   |
| Easter Monday   | Mon Apr 22   |
| Non Instructional Day(Students do not attend)                 | Fri May 10   |
| PAC (6:30 PM)   | Mon May 13   |
| PAC Fun Fair  | Sat May 25   |
| Victoria Day (students do not attend)                         | Mon May 20   |
| PAC (6:30 PM)   | Mon Jun 17   |
| Formative Report Issued                                       | Thurs Jun 27 |
| Last Day of School (school dismissed at 2:37)                 | Thurs Jun 27 |
| Administration Day  | Fri. Jun 28  |

### BELL SCHEDULE 2018-2019

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 – 12:21 |
| Afternoon Recess                    | 1:20-1:35     |
| Dismissal Tuesday to Friday         | 2:37          |
| <b>Early Dismissal EVERY MONDAY</b> | <b>1:37</b>   |

### 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. Cheques can be made payable to SD 68. Kindergarten parents will be able to pay teachers directly at the first week meeting as outlined in the Welcome to Kindergarten package.

## WELCOME TO NEW STAFF



Over the summer (and late June) we received news of new staff members to Park Avenue. As of August 30th they include: Ms. Leona Davey (EA), Ms. Vanessa Munro (Tuesday SST/ELL support teacher), Ms. Stephanie Pickerell (reading support teacher 2 days per week) and Ms. Ilse Hill (counsellor) Please take a moment to make our new (or returning) staff members feel at home.

## TENTATIVE TEACHER STAFFING FOR 2018-2019 (AS OF AUGUST 30<sup>TH</sup>)

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         |
| K/Grade 1    | Ms. Kim Leong        |
| Grade 1/2    | Ms. Amy Dube         |
| Grade 2      | Ms. Tonja Henigman   |
| Grade 2/3    | Ms. Tara-Lyn Megyesi |
| Grade 2/3    | Ms. Carly Gauthier   |
| Grade 3      | Ms. Joy Tretick      |
| Grade 3/4    | Ms. Leslie Baker     |
| Grade 4/5    | Ms. Dallas Knight    |
| Grade 4/5    | Ms. Brittany Jahelka |
| 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<br>Ms. Vanessa Munro (1 day) |
| Teacher Librarian              | Mrs. Heidi Fargo   |
| Band/Music/FSL Teacher         | Mr. James Derksen  |
| Health and Career Ed (primary) | Ms. Becky Harris   |
| Counsellor                     | Ms. Ilse Hill  |
| Speech/Language                | Ms. Darlene Frier  |
| School Psychologist            | Ms. Kirstin Funke-Robinson                                 |
| Support Reading Teacher        | Ms. Stephanie Pickerell (2 days)                           |

### SUPPORT STAFF

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Secretary                 | Ms. Sharon Binng and TBD                |
| Child & Youth Care Worker | Ms. Jessica Nordal                      |
| Custodians                | Mr. Dale Brandback and Mr. Bob Grinnell |

Education Assistants Ms. Leona Davey, 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

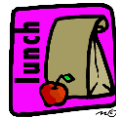


On Tuesday October 2nd we will be taking Individual student photos starting in the morning. The proof envelopes arrive about two weeks after photo day and go home with students. Parents have a week to decide on a purchase and then they return the envelope to the school. Parents can also order on line 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

## 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.

## PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT PORTFOLIO REVIEWS

Our parent/student/teacher portfolio reviews will take place on Wednesday October 17<sup>th</sup> (1:30-3 PM and 5:30-7 PM). More information will be coming prior to the sessions, **but please be aware students will be dismissed at 1:15 on Tuesday to Thursday (October 16-18)**. Please note this replaces the old parent teacher conferences and adds an evening session for parents and students to come to the school.

## 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.