

**Theresa Clarke Elementary sdiq̓n**  
**13104 109 Avenue**  
**604-595-4048**

### **Newsletter 3 – September 19, 2025**

#### **Be a Good Ancestor and the 12 Moons of Halq'eméylem**

Our first school assembly on September 16 focused on welcoming students back to school. Our message centred on what it means to be a good ancestor. We anchored our discussion using the book, *Be a Good Ancestor* by Leona Prince and Gabrielle Prince and illustrated by Carla Joseph. In our assembly, we also introduced the 12 moons of Halq'eméylem, which reflects a way of understanding a calendar.

#### **First People in Residence**

The week of November 3 – 7, we are honoured to welcome our First People in Residence cultural facilitators. The purpose of First People in Residence is to celebrate Indigenous cultures, histories, and knowledge. We are truly fortunate to welcome our cultural facilitators to Theresa Clarke

#### **Community BBQ**

We were very excited to welcome our community together for a BBQ on Wednesday September 17. Having the Kwantlen First Nation's cultural team at our BBQ to share welcome drummings shortly was a huge honour for our school community. We raise our hands in gratitude to Chief Marilyn Gabriel and the Kwantlen Nations cultural team.

#### **Truth and Reconciliation**

On September 26, we will honor survivor's of the Indian Residential School system and remember those that did not. We will show our commitment by wearing an orange T-shirt on September 26. **There is no school on Tuesday September 30** to honour Truth and Reconciliation.

I would like to share *Journey of Hope* by Todd Stephens Nisga'a. *Journey of Hope* represents our collective path towards reconciliation. In the image all the creatures must row as one. We must work together to make reconciliation a reality. For any of you that visit my office, you will see *Journey of Hope* on the wall.



#### **Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre**

Please click [HERE](#) to see information on access to leisure activities. For your information and consideration. Chuck Bailey offers the following drop-ins for children aged 10 – 18 – weekend sports drop-in, girls' group, gamers' group, cooking group. See calendar below.

*Theresa Clarke Elementary*  
 13104 109 Avenue  
 604-595-4048

Chuck Bailey Youth September 2025 Calendar						
13458 107a Ave Surrey BC   604-598-5898						
Sun Sports Drop-in 3:00pm—7:00pm	Mon	Tue Girls Group 4:00pm—7:00pm	Wed Gamer's Group 4:00pm—7:00pm	Thu Cooking 4:00pm—8:00pm	Fri Sports Drop-in 4:00pm—9:00pm	Sat Sports Drop-in 4:00pm—9:00pm
	1	2 Blueberry Muffins	3	4 Pizza Melts	5	6
7	8	9 Brownies	10	11 Salmon Orzo	12	13
14	15	16 Magical Mandalas	17	18 Pizza Bagels	19	20
21	22	23 Oreo Cookies	24	25 Thai Coconut Curry Soup	26	27
28	29	30 Closed for Truth and Reconciliation Day				

### Cross country

We have a small group of students participating on our cross-country team. Practices are Tuesday morning at 8am and meets are Wednesday at Bear Creek park at 3pm starting September 24. All students in grades 3 – 6 are welcome. Permission forms are at the office.

### Soccer

Our small soccer team is scheduled to play their first game Thursday September 25 when Cambridge visits Theresa Clarke. Permission notices went home Friday September 19. Practices are Monday mornings 7:50 – 8:25am.

### Terry Fox Run

Our TFR is Friday October 3 from 1:15 – 1:45pm. Students in grade 3 – 6 will run to Poplar Park, around the trail, and back to Theresa Clarke Elementary. Students in Grades K – 2 will have a circuit on the playground to run around. Our goal is to raise \$200 – one dollar for every child in the school. If we reach our goal, Brad will turn GREEN! We hope to have a donation link soon from the Terry Fox Foundation. Stay tuned!

**Theresa Clarke Elementary**  
**13104 109 Avenue**  
**604-595-4048**



### **West Coast Recess and Lunch**

While it's still nice outside, the weather will start to get cooler and wetter. Students will be outside for recess (15 minutes) and lunch (30 minutes) most days. We ask that parents ensure their children are dressed appropriately for our rainy west coast weather with a coat, boots and umbrella if necessary. Students should keep a spare change of clothes in their backpacks.

We know that students benefit from daily opportunities to play outside in the fresh air.

The following general criteria is used when deciding to send students outside at recess and lunch.

OUTSIDE DAY	INSIDE DAY
Above 2 degrees and raining	2 degrees or below and raining
Snow days	Raining and so windy umbrellas will turn inside out

### **Crosswalk at 132<sup>nd</sup>**

We have reached out to the city multiple times to advocate for a crosswalk near 132<sup>nd</sup> and 109<sup>th</sup>. Here is the city's transportation engineer's response:

**Planned Safety Measures:** *The following is a summary of the actions we are planning to take.*

- **Speed Enforcement:** *We have requested increased speed enforcement by the Surrey Police Service (SPS) on 132 Street near 109 Avenue, timed with the start of the new school year. This measure aims to help manage traffic speeds and reduce instances of dangerous driving.*
- **Traffic Monitoring:** *City staff will begin monitoring traffic along 132 Street once school starts. This will help us determine the best location and type of crosswalk needed based on actual student and family crossing patterns.*
- **Walking School Bus:** *In partnership with TransLink, we will be launching a Walking School Bus (WSB) pilot at Theresa Clarke Elementary for the 2025/2026 school year. This program will have trained adult leaders guide groups of students to and from school along a safe, predetermined route. We'll share more information on how to join the program later this school year.*

**Planned Infrastructure Upgrades:** *We have identified the following two priority sidewalk gaps in the school's catchment area that we plan to address.*

- 108 Avenue (129 Block to 131A Street, north side)
- 131A Street (108 Avenue to 109 Avenue, west side)
- *These projects are anticipated to be designed and built by 2027 and will further enhance pedestrian safety for all residents.*
- *While we are committed to installing the necessary infrastructure, our process requires traffic monitoring to ensure we place the crossing in the safest and most effective location. We will continue to work closely with the school district and the Surrey Police Service to ensure the safety of students from day one.*

***Theresa Clarke Elementary School***  
***13104 109 Avenue***  
***604-595-4048***

**Upcoming dates**

Sept 26	Orange Shirt Day
Sept 29	Professional Development – classes not in session
Sept 30	Truth and Reconciliation – classes not in session
Oct 1 – 2	<a href="#"><u>Yom Kippur</u></a>
Oct 3	Terry Fox Run
Oct 7	Early dismissal 1:28 for teacher collaboration
Oct 11	<a href="#"><u>International Day of the Girl Child</u></a>
Oct 13	Thanksgiving – classes not in session
Oct. 18	<a href="#"><u>Persons Day</u></a>
Oct 20	Diwali
Oct 22	Hot lunch
Oct 27	<b>Individual Photo Day - SMILE</b>
Oct 31	Halloween