



Betty Huff Elementary School

13055 Huntley Ave, Surrey, BC V3V 1V1
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August 31, 2021

Dear Kindergarten Parent/Guardian:

Your child is enrolled in Kindergarten, at Betty Huff Elementary, beginning in September, 2021. We have included some important information below regarding the first weeks of school. If you have any questions after reading this, or if your child is no longer going to be attending Kindergarten at Betty Huff Elementary, please call the office at (604) 585-3104 between 8:30am and 3:00pm, M-F.

We have included an additional document as the last page of this letter.

- Gradual Entry Calendar for the first weeks of school.

We are very excited to be welcoming back all of our students and most especially, our new Kindergarten students! The first few weeks for Kindergarten will be a gradual entry process at Betty Huff as it is for all schools in Surrey.

You will find out your Child's Gradual Entry Group on Tuesday. If the teacher doesn't find you, please make a point of introducing yourself to a teacher and asking which group your child will be in. At that time, please refer to the attached calendar for the times your child will be attending.

Our new K students will be welcomed by a team of teachers at the red playground and grass area near the driveway entrance on Tuesday at ONE of the following two times:

September 7	10:00 – 10:25	Children whose last name begins with the letters A-K only
September 7	10:30 – 10:55	Children whose last name begins with the letters L-Z only

As you can see above, children only attend one of the times. These times are orientation and we ask you to come with your child if possible, although parents will not be allowed in the school building, if teachers choose to bring the children inside. During this time, you will confirm your child's attendance and then we will engage with children, reinforce importance of washing hands, and observe them playing. At present, we have 42 children registered for Kindergarten at Betty Huff, which will result in two Kindergarten classes and one K/1 class, so long as all registered children attend. In accordance with the BC School Act, class size maximum for Kindergarten is 19 or 20 depending on certain circumstances.

Teachers will advise you of pickup areas moving forward.

During gradual entry, the children will need a small snack and eventually a lunch. Due to visitor restrictions, parents will not be able to enter classrooms to drop snacks/lunch off. They may not be dropped off at the school office either. Please ensure your child brings all snacks /lunch and a

refillable water bottle with them in the morning each day. Healthy eating is a must in Kindergarten. Please leave pop, soda, juice boxes, sweets, and chips for home.

Students will be attending full days (8:35 - 2:35) beginning on Monday September 20.

Items to buy for Kindergarten: **Please bring these items on Monday, September 20.**

- \$35 for school supplies for the year – these will be communal and shared.
- Velcro running shoes with no laces. These shoes will be kept at school to be used inside daily. These shoes will be worn at school and in the gym. They must be running shoes. Please no slippers, party shoes, water shoes, high tops or shoes with laces. Students will use INSIDE and OUTSIDE shoes in Kindergarten.
- Small School-sized Backpack- 16-18" long. This will carry your child's lunch, library books, if necessary, and other items. Please do not overfill it, as it can be hard on a small child's back.
- Spare set of clothing to keep at school: Clearly labelled T-shirt, leggings or pants, underwear and socks. These should be in a zip-loc bag so that the dirty clothes can go back in after an accident. Yes, accidents do happen!
- Lunch bag & refillable water bottle
- Please write your child's name on all their personal items.

Please note, by the time school starts, Kindergarten teachers expect the following (unless there are special circumstances):

- Students are able to open their own lunch containers and eat independently
- Students will be able to do up their own jackets and put their shoes on independently (further reason why we do not want shoe laces in Kindergarten)
- Students will be fully potty trained.
- If your child has had difficulty meeting a typical benchmark, please have a private conversation with your child's teacher so we can provide added support as needed, or support you in how you might find out more information about your concern.

We look forward to working with you and your child this next school year and we can't wait to see you all in September!

Sincerely,

Mr. B. Helland, Principal
Ms. C. Koppensteiner, Vice-Principal
and our Kindergarten team