



# Bothwell Elementary School

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Ms. Leah Christensen, Principal

June 7, 2022

# NEWSLETTER

## *A Word from Your Principal*

Dear Bothwell Parents/Guardians,  
The school year will soon draw to a close, and our success as a community is largely because of your positive and enduring support. Every year brings unique challenges, stories and successes, and this year stands out as one filled with extremes. When we face challenging times, we rely on each of you to help steady the ship. Your positive encouragement and reassurance both to staff and to your children has allowed us to flourish, and we are grateful.

Many aspects of school life have opened up in the last several months, and, as you will read below, we are excited to invite you back to some of them. It feels good to see one another's faces, and, for the first time in several years, enjoy conversations with one another.

May you know how much we appreciate all that you do – from driving students on field trips, helping with PAC hot lunches, having supportive conversations with your child's teacher, and packing nutritious lunches... everything you do has an impact on your child's success at school. Thank you for being partners in a most extraordinary journey.

Here's to three fun, energetic and exciting weeks together!

With gratitude,

Ms. Leah Christensen

## LOOKING AHEAD

- June 10 – Sports Day Rain or Shine!
- June 14 – 9am Grade 7 Outdoor Band Concert
- June 15 – *How Raven Stole the Sun* (theatre group)
- June 16 – Afternoon Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony and Reception
- June 17 – Grade 7s to Cultus Lake Waterpark
- June 20 – Opening Indigenous Cultural Assembly (with dancers and drummers)
- June 21 – National Indigenous Peoples' Day
- June 22 – Closing Indigenous Cultural Assembly
- June 22 – Year End reports go home
- June 23 – 9am Year-End School Celebration Assembly
- June 23 – 1.35 pm early dismissal and last day of school
- Sept. 6 – Welcome Back! First day of school:
  - 10 – 11am All students grades 1-7 attend
  - 10 – 10.30am Kindergarten students attend
- Sept. 26 – Non-instructional day (school is closed)

## Moving? No longer attending Bothwell in September?

Please inform the office as soon as possible if you are moving and/or transferring schools. This is an enormous help in preparing for September. We will miss you and wish you the very best in your new homes and schools. Take care.





## Sports Day Fun—Rain or Shine!

We are excited to plan a fun day for students on **Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup>**. We do not have an alternate date, so we will go ahead and shorten the day if necessary.

Teachers and student leaders have been busy planning 12 different stations for all students Kindergarten to Grade 6, with grade 7 leaders. We're ready for a fantastic day!

The day is planned as follows:

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 8.45 – 10am     | All students K-6 head outside for games and return to their class at 10am for snacks and washroom breaks.   |
| 10.45 – 11.20am | Grade 7 Student Challenges (K-6 students may choose to watch and cheer.)<br>PAC Hot Lunch...the final one of the year!<br>Special Ice Cream Treat to follow...Many thanks to PAC for generously providing ice cream treats for all staff and students. What a great idea! |
| 12.45 – 2.10pm  | All students head outside to continue rotating through the stations with grade 7 leaders.   |

If you would like to join and be part of the fun outdoors, please inform your child's teacher. We recommend choosing either morning or afternoon to join your child outdoors. We're excited to share this day together with you!



## School Calendar and Bell Schedule - Delayed

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the district has not yet confirmed next year's calendar and our bell schedule. We hope to have this out to you early next week. Thank you for your patience.

# Track and Field Meet at Bear Creek Park

Our Bobcats shone at the recent District Track meet held, after a three-year hiatus, at Bear Creek Park last Tuesday. Thank you to Ms. Sabell, Ms. Mortimore, and all the teachers who coached and organised for this event. Thank you also to the many parent drivers and volunteers who cheered our 43 athletes from grades 3-7. They excelled in sprints, relays, long jump and shot put events. It was wonderful to join with other schools in healthy competition.

Our Bobcats took home many first place ribbons, and everyone was an outstanding representative of our school. Well done, Bobcats!



## Grade 7 Outdoor Band Concert – June 14th

Parents are welcome to join us outside on the back lawn for a grade 7 band finale on Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at 9am. Students have been working hard to prepare some of their favourite tunes. We hope you can join us!



## Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony and Outdoor Reception

Thursday, June 10<sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm

1-2pm Ceremony in the gymnasium  
(maximum of 4 guests per child)

2-3pm Outdoor reception on the front lawn for families, friends and staff

Invitations with an RSVP will be sent home this week.



## ★ Year End Assemblies ★

It is wonderful to be able to come together as a school community for our year end assemblies. Given there is limited space once all students and staff have gathered in the gym, and that we continue to be mindful of everyone's different comfort levels, we are not extending an invitation for parents to join our assembly on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. This is a time to come together to celebrate an outstanding year, say goodbye to staff who will be leaving, and share in photo memories through a slide show.



Supply lists are attached to this email and will be posted on our new school website. Please note that some items will be requested by your child's teacher in September following class placements. Thank you for your assistance in purchasing requested items.



# Staffing Updates

Each year brings about change and we are sad to say goodbye to several staff this year and wish them the very best in the future:

- Ms. Anderson who will be teaching at White Rock Elementary;
- Ms. Moore who filled a term position and will be off on maternity leave;
- Ms. Sabell who is moving to Vancouver Island;
- Ms. Scott who is moving to Erma Stephenson with the MACC program;
- Ms. Ursu who filled a term position in Music and Library;
- Ms. Chomcy who filled a term EA position;
- Ms. Karlinski who filled a term EA position;
- Mr. Ordanez who filled a term EA position



We welcome the following teachers to Bothwell for the 2022-2023 school year:

- Ms. Macgregor who currently teaches at Riverdale Elementary and joins our early primary team;
- Ms. Sidhu who is currently teaching at Berkshire Park and joins our early primary team;
- Mr. Paulicelli who currently teaches at MB Sanford Elementary and joins our intermediate team;
- Ms. Young and Ms. Jawanda (job share partners) currently teaching at Northridge Elementary and are joining our early primary team



New staff have yet to be hired and placed in various positions before year end, as well as in early September as our student registrations are confirmed. Stay tuned for further updates.

## PAC Corner

Thank you to our executive and members who keep plans rolling week after week. Your support makes a tremendous difference for ALL of our students!

Thank you to everyone who came out to support the Chipotle fundraiser last week. We'll have a total shortly.

As a parent/guardian at Bothwell, you are automatically an important member of PAC! The PAC AGM happens every September, and we encourage you to come to this first meeting of the year. Please watch for the upcoming date and location in September.



# Class Placement for 2022-2023

At this time Bothwell is expected to have 13 divisions. Should additional students register over the summer and the first week of September, it is possible we will receive an additional division.

In September, it is standard practice for students to rotate through different groupings with different teachers the first 6-7 days of school. We appreciate this rotation can be upsetting for students as they are eager to know their teacher and who is in their class. However, ensuring we have balanced classes, positive peer connections (and not distractions), and take time to consider complex emotional, social and intellectual strengths and needs of children is worth the first several days of the school year.

For children who may experience anxious feelings during this time, we appreciate your support in helping your child understand what this time is for, and that they will soon be in their regular classroom.

**Parent/guardian requests** for a particular teacher or student pairing will not be part of the criteria used in balancing classes. However, please feel free to provide the school with information that can assist in the placement of your child. This information is not about a specific request; rather, it can be about your child's personal, educational or emotional needs that will assist us in helping your child have a successful year of learning and growth.



**If parents/guardians wish to provide us with any information, please email Ms. Christensen, or leave a note at the office before the end of the year. Thank you.**

## National Indigenous Peoples Day JUNE 21



Our final “deep dive” into learning will take place the last two weeks of June to coincide with National Indigenous Peoples’ Day. From June 13<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, students and staff will explore more fully some of the First People’s Principles of Learning that every teacher and educator is called upon to develop with students. As part of our deep dive, we are excited to welcome two Indigenous cultural workers who will lead various cultural workshops in classrooms. We will launch this time with an opening assembly, at which time we have Indigenous dancers and drummers performing. Our closing assembly on June 22<sup>nd</sup> will involve some performances by our music classes, as well as students sharing their learning from the week.

We are also excited to welcome 3 Crows Productions to perform a live play, *How Raven Stole the Sun*. We are grateful to PAC for funding this ArtStarts performance.