



# Kennedy Trail Newsletter September

**September 3rd, 2019**

Welcome to our Monthly Newsletter

*Growing and Learning Together*

## **In This Issue**

- Principal's Message
- Upcoming Events / Important Calendar Dates
- Friendly Reminders
- Celebrations of Summer
- PAC Update

## *Principal's Message*



Welcome Back to a new school year! It is so great to see all the smiling faces. I am not sure who has the bigger smiles; the children or their parents. This is my fourth year as principal at this amazing school. I am privileged to work with an incredible staff in a great community with fantastic children. I do love the excitement and energy the first day brings.

This year we will be continuing with our Social and Emotional Learning focus. September's monthly theme is "Self-Regulation". Please see the Cookie Monster video to give you a hint of what we will be learning.

As you walk around the school you may notice some missing faces and some new members to our team. Please join me in welcoming our new staff: Mrs. Marchiori (intermediate teacher), Mr. Dishart (Intermediate teacher), Ms. Virk (primary teacher), Mr. Brion (music teacher), Ms. Gafur (LST), Mr. Hall (LST), Ms. Jeffrey (EA) and Ms. Gill (CYCW).

This newsletter is packed full of important information for school start-up. Please keep it handy for reference. It can also be found on our school website under "News & Other" and Online Newsletter.

I look forward to seeing you all at "Meet the Teacher" night on Tuesday, September 24th at 5:00 p.m.

Christine Shepherd

Principal

Kennedy Trail Elementary

## Mind Full, or Mindful?



## Up Coming Events



[Click HERE to be directed to our school calendar](#)

Tuesday, September 3rd, First Day (students attend 10 a.m.-11 a.m.)

Wednesday, September 4th, First full day (grades 1-7). Kindergarten please check your calendar

Friday, September 6th, PAC Meeting 8:30 a.m.

Friday, September 20th, Terry Fox Run

Tuesday, September 24th, Meet the Teacher Night 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Friday, September 27th, Orange Shirt Day (observed at school)

Monday, September 30th, Non-instructional Day

Thursday, October 3rd, Early Dismissal 1:22 p.m. (curriculum and planning)

Monday, October 7th , Individual Student Photos



### **Class Organization**

I thank you for your patience and understanding as this process unfolds.

Currently, teachers and staff are working on classroom organizations. The placement of students is determined through school-based professional decisions. The teachers at Kennedy Trail work carefully and collaboratively to determine the most suitable placement for your child based on the following criteria:

- Ministry & District Policy
- Teacher & School-Based Team recommendations
- Student intellectual, social and emotional development
- Learning styles and strengths of students
- Degree of independence
- Integration of students with special needs
- Social compatibility
- Gender balance
- Class and group dynamics

Because of the effort and collaboration that teachers put into class organization, students will **not** be placed in their permanent classrooms until next week. During this transitional time, teachers are working closely with one another, doing assessments and providing many appropriate and valuable learning opportunities for the students.

### **Did you have a baby this summer?**

We are looking for a family with a baby to be part of our [Roots of Empathy](#) Program this year. This is an incredible program that helps students learn about empathy, feelings and kindness by watching a baby

in the first year of development. If you would like to know more about the program please contact Mrs. Shepherd. We'd love to have you!



## Roots of Empathy Baby



Roots of Empathy  
Racines de l'empathie



### **Orange Shirt Day**

Orange Shirt day is held annually on the 30th or September. As this is a non-instructional day, our school will be recognizing orange shirt day on **Friday, September 27th, 2019.**

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission (SJM) residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, BC, Canada, in the spring of 2013. It grew out of [Phyllis' story](#) of having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission, and it has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually.

Orange Shirt Day is also an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.

Our school will be encouraging everyone to wear orange on the 27th. We will be selling orange t-shirts for a cost of \$6. Ordering information will be posted on our website soon and will be done through the school cash online system.



## **Terry Fox Run**

Our annual Terry Fox Run will be held on Friday, September 20th at 1:00 p.m.

We will need **parent volunteers** to help direct students and supervise the intersections. If you are able to help, please leave your name and number at the school office.

Last year we raised \$285 for the Terry Fox Foundation. Let's try to beat that this year. Please go to [Kennedy Trail Terry Fox Run](#) to make your on-line donation.

In order for students to participate in the community run (leaving the school grounds) parent consent is required. Permission slips will be sent home on September 16th. Please ensure they are returned before September 19th, 2019.

Thank you to Ms. Sawhney, Ms. Sandhu and Ms. Kolke for organizing.

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*School Calendar and Bell Schedule for 2019-2020*

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### 2019-20 Surrey Schools calendar

September 3, 2019	Schools Open
September 30, 2019	Non-instructional day
October 14, 2019	Thanksgiving Day
October 25, 2019	Non-instructional day
November 8, 2019	Non-instructional day
November 11, 2019	Remembrance Day (Stat holiday)
December 23, 2019 - January 3, 2020	Winter break
January 6, 2020	Schools reopen after winter break
February 17, 2020	Family Day
February 21, 2020	Non-instructional day
March 16 – March 20, 2020	Spring break
March 23 - March 27, 2020	School closure days
April 10, 2020	Good Friday
April 13, 2020	Easter Monday
May 1, 2020	Non-instructional day
May 18, 2020	Victoria Day
May 25, 2020	Non-instructional day
June 26, 2020	Administrative day/Schools close

### 2019-2020 Bell Schedule

**Welcome Bell:** 8:25 a.m.  
**Classes Start:** 8:30 a.m.  
**Recess:** 10:20 a.m.- 10:35 a.m.  
**Lunch Play Time:** 11:37 a.m.- 12:05 p.m.  
**Lunch Eating Time:** 12:05 p.m.- 12:22 p.m.  
**Dismissal:** 2:22 p.m.  
**Supervision ends:** 2:37 p.m.

We will also have early dismissal at 1:22 p.m. on the following days:



October 3rd, October 17th, February 6th, and June 25th

### *Friendly Reminders*



### **School Cash Online**

Kennedy Trail Elementary has gone cashless (with the exception of charity donations). Please pay for planners, lost library books, and field trips online. If you already have a cash-online account from the previous year you do not need to do anything else. If you need assistance setting up an account please stop by the office for help.



### **Student Planners (Agendas)**

Students from grade 1-7 will be getting student planners once classes are established. The planners contain important information about school and district policy. We encourage you to read over this information with your child(ren). The cost of the planner is \$5 and payment can be made using school cash online. Cash will not be accepted at the school.





### **Stay Connected**

Our school website is one way to stay on top of all the “Kennedy Trail Happenings”. The **website** and on-line calendar is updated regularly and you can find information on school and PAC events. Please subscribe to our monthly **e-newsletter**, by entering your address in the newsletter field on our home page. **Hard copies will not be sent home with each student but will be available by request at the office.** You can also get a **free app** for smart phones called schoollink. This app will allow the school to send push notifications directly to your device. Once the app is downloaded add ‘Kennedy Trail’ to your school list and you will receive a newsfeed of anything posted on our website. You can also follow the Official Kennedy Trail Facebook page and Twitter account (a link is on our website).

## **Consent Forms**

Parents please note, if you provided signed consent forms last year for your child(ren) to appear in the news media, on school or district websites & publications, to use online tools or digital portfolios, or other annually collected consent forms, your consent status remains in effect and on file at our school going forward. You no longer need to resubmit consent forms every year. However, you can review or change any consent form at any time by contacting the school.



## **Medical Alerts**

At the beginning of each year parents are responsible for notifying the school and/or updating the medical alert forms of any life threatening condition their child has (for example: severe allergies particularly to bee stings, and nuts, asthma and diabetes, etc.) These forms are available in the office; they need to be updated annually.

**Please inform the office of these concerns as soon as possible.**



### Allergy Aware

Several Kennedy Trail students have severe anaphylactic reactions to peanuts, nuts and their by-products. Please refrain from sending foods to school that contain peanuts, nuts and/or their by-products until classes are established. Once we are aware of which rooms need to remain nut-free we will notify you. Thank you for your continued understanding and cooperation as we endeavor to make our school a safe environment for all students. **Please inform the school immediately if your child has a severe life-threatening allergy.**



### School Visitors

All visitors, including parents, to the school or school grounds during the day must report and sign in at the office and receive a visitor's badge. This helps ensure student safety. If you are bringing your child lunch, please leave it in the bin at the main entrance labeled with your child's name and division. **Please do not bring lunches directly to the classrooms.** Student volunteers will deliver them to the classes.



### **Dress for the Weather**

We live in a beautiful part of the world. One of the things that contribute to its beauty is the high amounts of rain we get, especially in the fall and winter. As the summer comes to a close and the weather starts to change, please make sure your child is dressed for the weather as they will be going outside. You may want to leave a change of clothes, shoes and/or socks at school for those particularly wet days.

### [PAC Update](#)



**Parent Advisory  
Committee**



### Did you Know?

- Every Parent is a member of the PAC
- Last year the PAC paid for over \$5000 in field trips
- Every treat day and hot lunch makes money for our students' benefit

If you are able to help with PAC events please leave your contact information at the office. We can always use more help for treat days, hot lunch or other events.

**Our first PAC Meeting of the year will be held this Friday, September 6th at 8:30 a.m. Please join us! The PAC will be having executive position elections at this meeting.**

### Celebrations of Summer

Our staff had a great summer but are excited to be back. Can you name all the staff members in these photos?













## Contact Us

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