

S E P T E M B E R 1 1 T H , 2 0 1 7

Kennedy Trail Elementary School

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www.surreyschools.ca/kennedytrail

Mrs. Christine Shepherd –Principal
Mrs. L. Homeniuk- Head Secretary
Ms. H. Bird- Records Clerk

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.

As you walk around the school you may notice some missing faces and some new members to our team. Mrs. Bonneville (our head secretary) is currently on a medical leave. We wish her a speedy recovery. In the interim we have the wonderful Ms. Homeniuk working in the office. Over the summer, Ms. Au accepted a position in Vancouver, closer to her home. Mr. Wilson, Ms. A. Sandhu and Mrs. Cheema are currently on leaves of absence.

Joining the KT Kodiaks are:

Teachers: Ms. Al Ghadban, Mrs. Shortridge, Mr. Pascuel, Mrs. Pandher, Mrs. Chatha, Mrs. Hopkins, and Mrs. Gomes

Aboriginal Enhancement Worker: Mr. Harasymow

Education Assistant: Ms. Parihar

Speech and Language Pathologist: Mr. Rice

I look forward to meeting many of you at "Meet the Teacher Night" Thursday, September 28th from 5:30-6:30



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.

Important Dates – Please check our website for

Sept. 8	Sept. 18	Sept. 22
PAC Meeting-post-poned	Individual Picture Day	Terry Fox Run
Sept. 28	Sept. 28	Sept. 29
Family Photos	Meet the Teacher 5:30-6:30	Orange Shirt Day
Sept. 29	Oct. 6	Oct. 9
Thanksgiving Food Drive starts	PAC Meeting AGM 8:40 a.m.	Thanksgiving Day No School

Class Organization

Just before classes started Dr. Tinney, Superintendent of schools sent a letter home outlining that school start up is a little more complex this year. I thank you for your patience and understanding as this process unfolds.

Currently, teachers 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 mid-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.

KT PAC Meeting

Friday, October 6th will be our first PAC Meeting. It will be held just following drop off in the multipurpose room. We will be looking for volunteers for executive positions. All parents are welcome! Childcare for pre-schoolers can be arranged.



Thank You!

A special thanks to our wonderful custodians, Mr. Nageswaran and Ms. Rahman, who worked through the summer to make the school look so shiny and new.

Orange Shirt Day

Orange Shirt day is held annually on the 30th or September. As this is a Saturday, our school will be recognizing orange shirt day on **Friday, October 29th, 2017.**

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 29th. We will be selling orange t-shirts for a cost of \$6. Ordering information will be posted on our website soon.



Consent Package

At the beginning of each year, there are a number of forms to fill out. This year, in order to reduce the number of times we ask you to respond, we are summarizing as much information as possible into one document. This will include information around technology usage at school, Terry Fox Run, media consent, going home for lunch and more. **Please watch for this package soon and return it to school as soon as possible.**



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.**

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 \$2 and payment can be made using our new online system. Details will be posted on our website soon.



Terry Fox Run

Our annual Terry Fox Run will be held on Friday, September 22 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 \$361.15 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. Please ensure the permission slip is returned before the run.

Thank you to Mrs. Peterson, Mrs. Sandhu and Ms. Kolke for organizing.



Scent Aware

We would like to encourage all students and visitors of Kennedy Trail to refrain from wearing scented products to school as we have students and staff members with sensitivities and allergies to these products.

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.** 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.**

Picture Day

Photographers from Life Touch will be here on **September 18th** to take individual portraits of each student. Parents will have the option of purchasing photo packages when they see the proofs. New this year, K.T. will host family photo night (Sept. 28). For a \$10 sitting fee you can have time with our professional photographers.



Keeping Our Community Safe

We are all responsible for keeping our community safe. Sometimes our school grounds are used by community members that do not respect that children play here each day. If you notice any suspicious activity it is recommended that you call the RCMP non-emergency number at (604) 599-0502 or 911 for emergency situations. Thank you for your help in keeping our area safe for our students.



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 at the table by the main entrance labeled with your child's name and division. **Please do not bring lunches directly to the classrooms.**

Dress for the Weather

We live in a beautiful part of the world. One of the things that contributes 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.

Reminder: There is no School on October 9th due to Thanksgiving Day.



Thanksgiving Food Drive

We will once again be accepting donations for the Surrey Food Bank. Today is the first day of collections. Please send the following items to school:

Wed, Sept. 27	Baby Food/Formula
Thur. Sept. 28	Canned Meat/Fish
Fri. Sept. 29	Canned fruit/veggies
Mon. Oct. 2	Pasta/Noodles
Tues. Oct. 3	Canned beans/stew
Wed. Oct. 4	Cereal (hot & cold)
Thur. Oct. 5	Granola Bars
Fri. Oct. 6	Soup

All donations of food will be welcomed each day!



IMPORTANT DATES

Sept. 5	School Opens (10:00-11:00)
Sept. 25	Non Instructional Day (no school)
Oct. 9	Thanksgiving Day
Oct. 20	Non Instructional Day (no school)
Nov. 3	Non Instructional Day (no school)
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day
Nov. 10	Non Instructional Day (no school)
Nov. 22	Early Dismissal (1:25)
Dec. 12	Early Dismissal (1:25)
Dec. 22	Last day before Christmas Vacation
Jan. 8	School Re-opens
Feb. 12	Family Day
Feb. 16	Non-Instructional Day (no school)
Mar. 7	Early Dismissal (1:25)
Mar. 16	Last Day before Spring Break
Mar. 30	Good Friday
Apr. 2	Easter Monday
Apr. 3	School Reopens
May 4	Non-Instructional Day (no school)
May 21	Victoria Day
May 28	Non-Instructional Day (no school)
Jun. 28	Last Day for Students
Jun. 28	Early Dismissal (1:25)

This information can also be found in your child's planner.

2017-2018 Bell Schedule

Welcome Bell:	8:25
Classes Start:	8:30
Recess:	10:15 – 10:30
*Lunch:	Play Time 11:40-12:10 Eating Time 12:10-12:25
Dismissal:	2:25
Supervision Ends:	2:40



*kindergartens eat 11:15-11:40 and go outside 11:40-12:10



Tel: 604.596.7733
www.sureyschools.ca

Student Accident Insurance

Did you know . . .

Surrey School District does not insure expenses for student injuries that happen on school grounds or during school activities?

You are responsible for these expenses as a parent or guardian.

The Surrey School District and your District Parent Advisory Council provides the opportunity for families to voluntarily purchase private accident insurance through the IAP Kids Plus™ accident program underwritten by Industrial Alliance Pacific Life Insurance Company (IAP).

IAP Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance offers protection against the potentially high costs of serious injury from unexpected accidents and is especially valuable for families who:

- do not have medical or dental plans,
- have limited plans, as it may help supplement health and dental benefits, or
- have active children who enjoy sports and outdoor activities.

Accidents can, and do, happen

IAP Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance has a selection of plans to suit most budgets. Benefits include coverage for:

- A full year (September to September), 24 hours a day, whether at school or at home;

- Expenses such as ambulance, physiotherapy, private tutoring, counselling, and much more that are limited or not covered by private or group insurance plans, or provincial health plans;
- Injury-related dental treatment;
- Out-of-province or country emergency medical expenses.

If you change address during the school year, your IAP Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance plan is transferable from school to school, anywhere in Canada.

Insurance premiums range from \$13.50 to \$31.95 per year, depending on the plan selected, and your child is covered all the time, not just while at school. A discounted premium is available for families with 3 or more children.

The insurance agreement will be between you and Industrial Alliance Pacific Insurance and Financial Services Inc. and your IAP Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance Policy becomes effective on the date the enrolment application and payment are received by the insurance carrier.

For more information or to apply online, please visit www.iapkidsplus.com, or speak with an IAP Kids Plus™ Customer Service Representative at 1-800-556-7411.

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) News

The 2016-17 PAC Executive Member Elections will be held on Friday, October 6th, 2017

Upcoming events:



PAC Meeting: October 6th @ 8:35 a.m. in the Multipurpose room.

Please join us for this important meeting to be better informed about what is happening at school this year and to elect this year's PAC executive members. Please join us! All parents are welcome.

Did you Know?

- **Every Parent is a member of the PAC**
- **Last year the PAC paid for over \$2000 in fieldtrips**
- **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.