



Riverdale News

An Update for Parents and Families

Ecole Riverdale Elementary...*Learning, Caring and Doing Our Best*

June 13th, 2016

**Posted bi-weekly on the School Website

A Word from Your Principal

This marks the final Riverdale news for the 2015-2016 school year. Saying “thank you” for a wonderful year just isn’t enough, but I hope you know how much the school community appreciates all that you do for us – from getting your children to school on time, to volunteer driving to athletic events, to supervising on field trips, to bringing in birthday treats, to fundraising for Camp and PAC, to helping ensure your child has a good night’s rest, to sharing in your child’s learning during student led conferences, and many, many others. You trust us with your child (or children) every day, to support their learning, and we appreciate your feedback, questions, suggestions and partnership.

Thank you for being such a welcoming community, and thank you for trusting us to do the very best we can for your child’s learning.

I wish you and your family a wonderful end of the school year, and summer break ahead. The sun promises to shine! May this time bring you happy memories and opportunities to be together that can be hard to find during the busy-ness of the school year.

Sports Day! June 17th – Rain or Shine!

It’s a Rock and Roll theme for our four houses: Ebony; Scarlet; Emerald; Indigo. PAC will run a concession throughout the day, and students will enjoy their final Hot Lunch of the year (thanks to PAC)! Please come out and cheer on the fun! The weather looks cooperative, but we have alternate plans to come indoors should the skies open up.

Grade 7 Celebration – June 21st, 5.30pm

- 5.30pm Doors open and refreshments served to guests (4 guests per student, unless you requested an extra seat)
- 6pm Ceremony
- 7-8pm Pizza and Dance (we will extend the time to 8.30pm should the ceremony go long)

Year End Celebration Assembly – June 22nd, 9am

This year, we will celebrate a wonderful year of learning, the arts, athletics, service and leadership through music, song, dance, slide shows, and special SOAR awards. Seating is limited, but please feel free to join us if you are able.

Report Cards, 1.30pm Early Dismissal and Final Day of School – June 23rd

Students will be dismissed at 1.30pm on Thursday, June 23rd. Teachers will be available after school, and during the day on Friday, June 24th should you have any questions or concerns.

Principal: Leah Christensen

Vice Principal: Gary Loosemore

surreyschools.ca/riverdale

Tel. 604.588.5978

Moving? No longer attending Ecole Riverdale in September?

Please inform the office as soon as possible if you are moving and/or transferring schools. Thank you.

PAC Updates

Mark Your Calendars! First PAC Meeting for the new school year is Sept. 21st at 6pm. Please see the attached flyers for further information. PAC loves volunteers, and would love to see you!

Class Placements for 2016-2017

Teachers spend a great deal of time taking into consideration many factors when placing your children into classes. When doing classroom configurations, teachers look at the overall composition of the classroom, and consider where each child would likely be most successful. They must balance the needs of the individual child with the overall composition of the classroom. We work collaboratively and consider the following criteria to carefully balance the learning experiences of all children:

- Social and emotional needs
- Gender balance
- Social relationships with peers
- Learning styles
- Diversity of learning needs
- Maturity

We have many parent requests to keep children together based on friendships. We know that having your child feel socially comfortable is important, and we will ensure they will have peers in their classes with whom they connect. If you wish to share any information based on the above criteria, please contact Ms. Christensen, with a brief note or by email. A final note about combined classrooms. Combined classrooms are in almost every school throughout the Province. The research on combined classes shows that there are no adverse effects of students being in a combined class. What does make a difference is that classrooms have a balanced composition; the grade level is irrelevant. In fact, there are strong advocates amongst educators that combined classes offer many advantages.

School Safety

In order to ensure your child is safe at school, it is district policy that parents first check in at the office before going anywhere else in the school. If you need to contact your child, we will call down to your child's classroom to inform the teacher of your arrival. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Calendar and Bell Schedule for 2016-2017

Copies of next year's calendar were sent home with each student, as well as emailed last month. We have attached it for your convenience. We want you to know that the school day has been shortened by 5 minutes. This is due to the length of next year's calendar – we are in session until June 29th. Many of you may have child care arrangements to make over the summer. Please note the 2016-2017 bell schedule:

8.30am	Warning bell – students enter school
8.35am	Classes in session
10.15am	Recess
10.30am	Classes in session
11.43am	Lunch bell rings (students play first, then eat)
12.28pm	Classes in session
2.28pm	Dismissal

Principal: Leah Christensen

Vice Principal: Gary Loosemore

surreyschools.ca/riverdale

Tel. 604.588.5978

Looking Ahead

- Tuesday, June 14th – 9am Grade 7 Band and Music Club Performance (followed by Guildford Public Library Summer Reading presentation).
- Friday, June 17th – K-7 Sports Day! Rock and Roll theme!
- Tuesday, June 21st – 5.30pm Grade 7 Celebration
- Wednesday, June 22nd – 9am K-7 Year End Celebration Assembly
- Wednesday, June 22nd – 2.30pm PAC Popcorn Day – outside the gym doors!
- Thursday, June 23rd – Last Day of School - 1.30pm dismissal for Parent Teacher conversations
- Friday, June 24th – 1st day of Summer Holidays!
- Monday, August 29th – the office opens for new registrations
- Tuesday, Sept. 6th – First day of school (from 10 – 11am only, K-7 – Students will return to their 2015-2016 classrooms for attendance purposes.)