



## Riverdale News

A bi-weekly update for parents and families  
*Ecole Riverdale Elementary...*  
*together, we SOAR to success!*

Principal: Leah Christensen  
Vice Principal: Gary Loosemore

October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### A word from your Principal

Ecole Riverdale is a wonderful place to learn and grow. I see it every day in smiles and helping hands, and hear it with “merci” for simple things. This is thanks to a dedicated and knowledgeable staff, and to wonderful support from our parent community. It takes a village...

While we know the primary goal of our education system is to support student learning, it can sometimes be difficult to keep this at the centre of our days. With various events, initiatives, social and emotional needs, illness, and many other elements that enter our classrooms, teachers do an outstanding job of staying focused, gathering evidence of learning for each child, and then communicating this to you.

On **November 3<sup>rd</sup>**, we will have our first **Student Led Conferences** this year. We hope you will be able to join us for this important opportunity to have your child share his/her learning so far this year. (Please see below for further details).

If you are ever in doubt of how to support your child’s learning at home, read with them (in French, in English, in another language!). Whether they are 5 or 15, this is crucial in the development of independent learners. A child’s capacity to read, comprehend, infer meaning, ask questions, and make connections is one of the most important things we can do to support brain development, creative thinking, critical thinking and communication. Never underestimate the power of a good book, and a companion conversation!

### Good bye and Thank you Ms. G!

As you may know, last Friday marked the last day for one of our clerks, Ms. Grigoletto. We thank Ms. G. for nearly

five wonderful years with the Riverdale community, and wish her the very best as she moves into a new position at Coast Meridian. She is looking forward to being able to spend more time with her young family. Merci! Au revoir!

### Communicating Student Learning

It is our goal to provide you with frequent and meaningful communication about your child’s learning. This comes in many forms: after school conversations, emails, student-led conferences, team meetings, notes in planners, phone calls home, etc. In terms of formal methods of communicating to parents, Surrey has approved two different modes: the paper template (Communicating Student Learning Snapshot), and the online portfolio (Freshgrade).

On **Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**, students will be dismissed at 1.30 pm for Student Led Conferences in the afternoon. Your child’s teacher will send home specific information in the near future. We hope you will be able to join us, as this event will provide you with important windows into your child’s learning.

On **Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>**, Mr. Loosemore and Mme Christensen will host two different parent/guardian “**Conversation Cafés**” in the Learning Commons. The first will be held from 2.30 – 3.30pm, with a repeat session from 5-6pm. Child minding will be provided. We hope to provide you with current information about the new curriculum, what it means for your child as a learner, and to answer questions about reporting. Please save the date!

### School Start Time – 8.35am

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to have your child at school by 8.30am. When the second bell rings at 8.35am, students are to be in their classrooms, ready to engage in the day’s learning. Your support is greatly appreciated.

## Walk, Roll and Ride to School Week (Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>)

If you normally drive to school, please consider leaving your four wheels at home this week and enjoy walking, roller blading, or some two-wheeled transportation to school.

## Terry Fox Fundraising Update

Many thanks to our Committee for organizing a highly successful awareness campaign and Run last week. Primary students enjoyed “running across Canada” (on the gravel field), and our intermediate students joined staff and several parent volunteers along a community “run across Canada.” If we reach our \$1000 goal by this Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Loosemore and Mme Christensen will have “pie in their faces!” Two lucky teachers will be given the honour at our next whole school assembly. Thank you for your support and generosity!

## Halloween Costume Safety

Many students are in the midst of planning their costumes this year. Please remember that it is district policy that **replica weapons of any sort are not permitted at school**. Thank you for your assistance.

## Music Concert

In honour of Canada’s 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday this year, Mr. Clark is excited to prepare a concert featuring only Canadian artists and music! This December get ready to celebrate the great wealth of Canadian songwriters and performers from Raffi to Alanis, from Stompin’ Tom Connors to Tom Cochrane as the wonderful musicians and singers of Riverdale rock in Canada’s 150<sup>th</sup> birthday in style!!

## A Big Riverdale Thank You to our

### Parent Volunteers...

#### Our fantastic BBQ Team:

Tracey & Rob Kettner, Glen Moody & his daughter Micaella, Gina Hong & her daughter Jamie, Nicole & Adam Purvis, Halldor Bjarnason & his son Elliott, Karl & Stacy Ellis & their son Jordan, Charlene Saar, Lisa Zenowski, Deb & Mike Imada, Rosie & Mario Silva

**The Lice Check Team:** Leanne Campbell, Deb Imada, Corinne Moody, Sarah Schneider, Patty Whalen and Renata Wright ...for ensuring every child was checked, K-7. Letters were sent home with children where lice was found, and letters to the class were also sent informing parents to continue to check. This is standard practice and is very helpful in controlling outbreaks.

**Grade 6 immunizations** - Iris De Leon & Marcela Huaico for soothing some nerves.

## Committee Chairs:

Halldor Bjarnason – Earthquake  
Marcela Huaico – Laminating  
Hilda Jewell - Hot Lunch  
Kimmie Olairies - Fundraising  
Nicole Purvis - Social Media



## PAC Updates

Hot Lunch orders are now online. Please register your child: <http://www.munchalunch.com/schools/riverdale>  
Families on the School Lunch Program will have a lunch provided. If you would like additional items or treats from Treat Days then online ordering is a must.

**If you do not have online access**, paper order forms are available at the office.

- **First Hot Lunch** is Oct 20/16---Panago
- **Next PAC meeting is Oct 12 @ 6pm** in the Learning Commons. Child minding is provided.
- Please return **Emergency Kits** to your child’s teacher by Oct 13, 2016.

## Grade 6/7 Camp Conversation

Many thanks to the students and parents who came out for our meeting Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>. We really appreciated all of your thoughtful feedback. Please watch for a letter to be sent home with your child this week that will clarify our decision, and identify next steps for camp fundraising.

## Looking Ahead...

- Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> – Final Cross Country Meet at Bear Creek Park 2.30 – 4pm
- Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> – 6pm PAC Meeting
- Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> – Surrey Parks and Rec tulip bulb planting project at Riverdale *\*\*Please see the attachment for other community planting events.*
- Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> – Walk, Roll and Ride to School Week!
- Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> – Hot Lunch Day (Panago)
- Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> – Provincial Non Instructional Day
- Oct 25<sup>th</sup> – Student Photo Re-Takes
- Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> – PAC Movie Night 2.30 – 4pm
- Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> – SOAR Assemblies (9am Primary and 10.45am Intermediate)
- Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Early Dismissal, Student Led Conferences and Parent “Conversation Café”
- Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> – Non-instructional Day
- Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> – 9am Remembrance Day Assembly
- Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> – Non-Instructional Day
- Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> – Remembrance Day Holiday

***Ecole Riverdale...where we are all Ravens!***

***Nous sommes tous des corbeaux!***

