



## 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

June 12, 2017

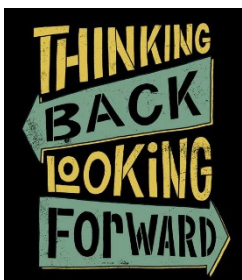
### A word from your Principal

It has been a phenomenal year of learning and exploration! Here are a few more updates that we're squeezing in before we break for the summer.

The Riverdale Courtyard has undergone some significant pruning and cleaning, and we will open it back up after a long-awaited break! The space is very special. It is intended to be a quiet place for students and classes to go to observe nature, draw, read, and have a quiet space. This doesn't happen often in a busy day of learning, so we are thankful we have a space to do this at our school.

We also received a \$5000 grant to purchase items that enhance students' creativity and opportunities to design and build. We have started to receive these items, and look forward to having them in classrooms in September.

Finally, the lockers will no longer be in use come September. Starting July 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will have new interior storage/cloakroom areas in all classrooms. This will be such an improvement for student safety, accessibility and will provide a calm, quiet start to our days. Maintenance cannot remove the lockers, but they will be secured shut.



Thank you for all of your support throughout the first 37 weeks of the school year. We look forward to seeing you at the year-end events that await us!

### Sports Day! June 16<sup>th</sup> – Rain or Shine!



It's a "Rugged Canadian" 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 somewhat cooperative, but we have alternate plans to come indoors should the skies open up.

### Grade 7 Graduation Celebration

Many thanks to the parents who have volunteered their time and effort in making this year's celebration a wonderful event! Invitations will be sent home early this week. Please RSVP the number of tickets (max of four/family) by Friday. Here are the details:

- 5.30pm Doors open and refreshments served to guests
- 6pm Ceremony
- 7-8.30pm Student Refreshments and Dance
- 8.30pm – Pick up students and clean up

### PAC Updates –

Many thanks to our incredible PAC for all that they continue to do to bring a fantastic year to a close. From Toonie Tuesdays to ice cream Tuesdays to Sports Day concessions and Hot Lunch!

**Sports Day Volunteers Needed!** Anyone who is able to help with cutting up oranges, the concession and/or hot lunch this day, please contact Hilda Jewell ([riverdale.pac@hotmail.com](mailto:riverdale.pac@hotmail.com)). Thank you!

## **Year End Celebration Assembly – June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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 Raven's Excellence awards. We will also take some time to say thank you and good bye to retiring and departing staff. We hope you will be able to join us! *Please note: Seating is limited.*

## **Class Placements for 2017-2018**

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.

## **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.

## **Calendar and Bell Schedule for 2017-2018**

Please find attached a copy of next year's calendar with early dismissals.

Next year, the school day has been shortened by 2 minutes. Many of you may have child care arrangements to make over the summer. Please note the 2017-2018 bell schedule:

8.35am	Warning bell – students enter school
8.40am	Classes in session
10.205am	Recess
10.35am	Classes in session
11.45am	Lunch bell rings
12.30m	Classes in session
2.30pm	Dismissal

## **Student Safety**

In order to ensure your child is safe at school, **it is district policy that parents/visitors first check in at the office before going anywhere else in the school.** We will then call down to your child's classroom to inform the teacher of your arrival. This also makes for fewer disruptions in the classroom. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

## **Looking Ahead...**

- June 13<sup>th</sup> – 9am Grade 7 Band Performance
- June 13<sup>th</sup> – PAC ice cream sales after school
- June 16<sup>th</sup> is Sports Day!
- June 22<sup>nd</sup> is the grade 7 Celebration from 5.30-8.30pm
- June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9am is our Year End Celebration Assembly
- June 28<sup>th</sup> – K-7 Communicating Student Learning Reports home for all students
- June 29<sup>th</sup> – Last Day of School – 1.30pm dismissal
- June 30<sup>th</sup> – First Day of Summer Vacation!
- August 28<sup>th</sup> – School is open for new registrations
- September 5<sup>th</sup> – First day of school from 10-11am only

***Ecole Riverdale...where we are all Ravens!  
Nous sommes tous des corbeaux!***