



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 27, 2017 – Final Edition of the Year!

A word from your Principal

Thank you parents, students and staff for a wonderful year! There aren't enough thank you's big enough to capture all the gratitude I feel for our amazing community. This year at our year end celebration assembly, we introduced the Raven's Excellence Award. This award captures all aspects of learning at school – from critical and creative thinking, to communicating learning, to being personally aware of one's feelings and actions, to having consistent, positive interactions with others throughout the school community. The caption on the award was, "...for using your head, hands and heart to change the world." This is what we strive to accomplish with every child. And as we reflect on all of our successes this year, may you know how much your support and encouragement are valued. Each day your child steps through our doors, our world is changed. This is why we're here. And when we do it together, we're all the stronger. Thank you for all you've done to make this year a success.

May you enjoy a summer season filled with new adventures, and we'll be here, ready to roll with enthusiasm and fantastic plans for 2017-2018 when you return on September 5th!

Year End Reports and Early Dismissal

Communicating Student Learning Reports will go home on Wednesday this week.

Thursday, June 29th is the final day of classes. Students will be dismissed at 1.30pm.



We Wish You All the Best!

Inevitably each year brings changes, and this year we wish to say some special goodbyes. Goodbye to all our Grade Seven students! We will miss you and wish you the best in high school. We shall also be saying goodbye to several students moving to other schools. We hope you carry happy memories of your time at Riverdale and all our very best wishes go with you! Goodbye and thank you to all parents who will be leaving the Riverdale community.

Thank you and goodbye to the following staff. We wish you the very best on your new adventures:

Mr. Loosemore – VP at Bear Creek Elementary
Mme Riel – Happy Retirement!
Mme Sauder
Ms. Loh
Ms. Riley
Mme Carvajal
Mme Legare
Ms. Olsthoorn
Mme Treanor
Mr. Clark
Ms. Lewis
Mme Brennan
Mr. Basra

Welcome!

To our new vice principal, Ms. Zamma! Ms. Zamma currently teaches grade 7 at Maple Green Elementary. She will be teaching one of the grade 6/7 English classes in addition to her role as Vice Principal.

We wish to welcome the following staff members who have obtained permanent positions at Riverdale commencing the 2016/2017 school year:

Mme Carbonneau (intermediate FRIM)
Mme Jablouné (intermediate FRIM)
Mme Bell (intermediate FRIM)
Mme Lachambre (primary FRIM)
Ms. Jacques (intermediate English)
Ms. Summers (intermediate English)
Ms. Chaplin (intermediate English)
Ms. Rana (primary English)
Ms. Moore (job sharing with Ms. Haywood)
Ms. Yu (music)

Welcome Back!

We're thrilled to have the following teachers return for 2017-2018:

Mme Ramirez returning after her maternity leave;
Mme Lendvov return to our primary French immersion team;
Mme Shah will be returning later in the fall after her maternity leave.

PAC Updates

A huge thank you to all the **Sports Day volunteers**, from cutting oranges to set up, concessions and hot lunches.

Deb Imada
Gemma Fournier
Anthony Dickart
Trevor Dubinsky
Halldor Bjarnason
Pattie Whalen
Traci Pavao
Kim Kodoma
Corinne Moody
Marcela Huaico
Stacey Ellis
Sarah Schneider
Tracey Kettner
Erin P.

Last **Ice Cream Sales Tuesday June 27** after school: ice cream sandwiches, fudgsicles and space pops \$1.50 each

Hoping all families a fun and safe summer, looking forward to see everyone in September.

Your PAC Chair, Hilda Jewell

Lost and Found

Please ensure you/your child checks the items out on display in the hallway. **Any unclaimed items will be collected and donated Wednesday after school.** Thank you.



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.

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.

September and School Opening

- **Week of August 28th:** The office opens for new registrations.
- **Tuesday, September 5th is the first day of school:**

9-10am - New Student Registrations only

10-11am - All students, K-7, attend for one hour. ** Please line up according to signage posted outside.

- **Wednesday, September 6th:**

Grades 1-7 - Classes begin at 8.40am, and the school day ends at 2.30pm (this is a slight change).

Students will be placed in temporary grade groupings which will continue until classes are set. We will work as quickly as possible to form classes. This could take a week. We ask for your patience and understanding as we wade through the complex process of placing students. Staff is committed to organizing classes which are balanced in terms of student performance and behavioral characteristics.

Kindergarten – please follow the gradual entry schedule mailed to you this week.

Monday, September 11th – Lunch Program begins. Please pack lunch and snacks prior to this time.

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.

Online School Cash – new payment system coming in the fall!

It's a convenient way to pay for all school fees, including fieldtrips and other fees. Watch for more information in September!

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
10.20am	Recess
10.35am	Classes in session
11.45am	Lunch bell rings
12.30m	Classes in session
2.30pm	Dismissal

Looking Ahead...

- August 28th – School is open for new registrations
- September 5th – First day of school from 10-11am only
- September 6th - full day for grades 1-7
- September 28th - Open House and PAC Family BBQ
- September 11th – Lunch Program begins
- September 25th – Non-instructional Day

Ecole Riverdale...where we are all Ravens!

Nous sommes tous des corbeaux!



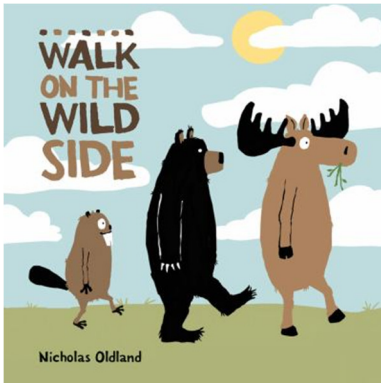
Summer Learning Resources

In amidst all of the adventures you may have, please see below for a list of some highly recommended resources to support great learning over the summer. Enjoy!

Discovery Education Newsletter

Please find attached the Discovery Monthly June Newsletter [here](#), and a memo regarding Discovery, login's and summer exploring [here](#).

Great Canadian Reads (To celebrate Canada's 150th, let's read a new Canadian author!)



Walk on the Wild Side by Nicholas Oldland

A beaver, bear and moose seek adventure but discover something much more meaningful. What starts as a Wacky Races-like competition, turns into an exploration of friendship. Testing their abilities amid a rugged and unforgiving terrain, our protagonists encounter a series of challenges along the route. Illustrations of iconic Canadian animals lend gravitas to a story that depicts a truly Canadian landscape.

The Bus Ride by Marianne Dubuc

A young girl on her way to grandmother's house casually observes things she sees on the bus. A bus ride that may be viewed as a regular mundane activity by an adult is reimagined as a whimsical place of wonderment for a child. Surreal scenes of animals taking on human characteristics will delight younger readers. Short and simple text allows the pictures to be the focal point of the story.

Gifts by Jo Ellen Bogart

A globetrotting grandmother offers to get gifts for her granddaughter from her travels.

A heart-warming story of a grandmother and granddaughter discussing objects the grandmother could bring back from her travels. Beautiful illustrations introduce young readers to well known items from various countries. A steady pace and repetitive phrases help younger children become familiar with words.

The Incredible Journey by Sheila Burnford

Three pets, a young Labrador Retriever, an elderly Bull Terrier and a Siamese cat, are separated from their beloved family and set out on a 300-mile journey across the wilderness of northern Ontario to get back home. An exciting though gently told story of courage, friendship and survival for readers ages eight – 12.

Silverwing by Kenneth Oppel

Young Shade, the runt of his bat colony, gets separated from his companions during their annual winter migration. Lost and alone, Shade is determined to make the treacherous journey south regardless, and only he can decide if the many creatures he encounters along the way intend to help or destroy him.

An exciting and richly detailed animal fantasy, Silverwing will captivate readers ages eight and up. Shade's adventures continue in Sunwing and Firewing.

One Well: the Story of Water on Earth by Rochelle Strauss

Timely and visually captivating, this book asks us to think about all of the water in the world belonging to a single well – a well shared by every living thing on earth. From this interesting perspective, clear and important lessons about water sustainability, conservation and protection are presented to students ages eight to 12.

Canadian Railroad Trilogy by Gordon Lightfoot

This lovely picture book chronicles the ambitious construction of the Canadian Pacific Railroad. Combining the lyrics of Gordon Lightfoot's classic folk song with Ian Wallace's atmospheric chalk pastel

illustrations, it celebrates the naturally rugged beauty of Canada and the effects the railroad had on this country. Detailed end notes, a reading list, a melody chart and chords provide additional interest for readers ages five and up.

Resources to Support Mathematical Thinking (compiled by Riverdale's Numeracy Team):

Picture Books

The Greedy Triangle by Marilyn Burns
Spaghetti and Meatballs for All by Marilyn Burns
The Great Graph Contest by Loreen Leedy
The Grapes of Math by Greg Tang
Math for All Seasons by Greg Tang
Actual Size by Steve Jenkins
Just a Second by Steve Jenkins
Animals by the Numbers by Steve Jenkins

Games

Spot It!
Rush Hour
Gobblet
Gobblet Jr.
Castle Logix
Vikings

Blogs for Inspiration

Kyle Pearce - <https://tapintoteenminds.com>
Graham Fletcher - <https://gfletchy.com>
Dan Meyer - <http://blog.mrmeyer.com>
Andrew Stadel - <http://mr-stadel.blogspot.ca>
Fawn Nguyen - <http://fawnnguyen.com>
Steve Wyborney - <http://www.stevewyborney.com>

Guildford Public Library Summer Reading Club

Ask your child how awesome it is! Staff came to school and did a presentation on all the fun prizes and activities throughout the summer. And it's FREE!