



## Riverdale News

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

Principal: Leah Christensen  
Vice Principal: Arley Zamma

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

### 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...

Now that children are settled into their classes and routines are taking shape, many parents ask about homework. The research is clear: many kinds of homework do not lead to deep learning. What we do know is that one of the most meaningful learning activities to do regularly at home is to read. Depending on the child’s abilities you may read together, and talk about the reading. This builds understanding about many different ideas and topics, so that when a child starts to read independently, they already have a toolkit of information about many different topics. You are also modelling what you do as a reader, and passing on these habits and strategies is very helpful. Your child will want to “be like you”, and if you are a reader, that’s great modelling!

If your child is reading independently, talk with her/him about what they are reading. Ask lots of questions. Ask them to summarise what they have read. This is a very complex task that lights up the brain! A child’s capacity to comprehend, infer meaning, ask questions, and make connections are some 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 (fiction and non-fiction), and a companion conversation!

For some wonderful resources, go to the Riverdale Library homepage (or to

surreyschools.ca/digitalresources) and look for “**Digital Resources.**” The district pays for many wonderful subscriptions to safe, educational and engaging online resources. Take advantage of them!

**Username: sd36bc**

**Password: sd36bc**

### Welcome Back Mr. Speak – Division 2

Many thanks to Mr. Cheng for getting the year off to a great start for students in Division. 2. After a one-month paternity leave, Mr. Speak will be back for the year, leading the ongoing learning in Division 2. Welcome back!

### School Start Time – First bell at 8.35am

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to have your child at school by 8.35am. When the second bell rings at 8.40am, students are to be in their classrooms, ready to engage in the day’s learning. Your support is greatly appreciated.

### Terry Fox Fundraising Update

Many thanks to our Committee for organizing a highly successful awareness campaign and run last week. Divisions 16-22 enjoyed “running across Canada” (on the gravel field), and Divisions 1-15 joined staff and several parent volunteers along a community “run across Canada.” We are getting close to our \$1000 fundraising goal! Thank you for your support and generosity!

### Public Health Advice – 48 hours at home

To help prevent spreading flu viruses, please keep your child home for 48 hours if they have vomited. We are already having a number of accidents and students not feeling well at school. Thank you for your assistance.

**A Big Riverdale *Merci* and Thank You to our**

## Parent Volunteers!

**Terry Fox Community Run** - Despite some unexpected construction and detours in the neighbourhood, students in Divisions 1-15 made it "across Canada" and were kept safe and on track thanks to our volunteers!

**Fruit and Veggie Program** – The BC blueberries 'magically' appeared in classrooms. It was perfect timing as they came at the end of the Terry Fox Run! Many thanks for organizing this program for our students.

## Our PAC BBQ – the tradition continues!

Thanks to the many volunteers who prepared tickets, found community donations, prepared food, set up the BBQ and tents, prepared the 50/50 draw, served with a smile, and helped to clean up. It was a wonderful evening, with over 220 tickets sold! Special thanks to Karl Ellis, who celebrated his 10<sup>th</sup> year of flipping burgers and creating the Riverdale "Special Sauce"!

## 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** – Thursday, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> (Panago Pizza)
- **First Treat Day** – Thursday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> (Kernals popcorn at end of day)
- **Next PAC meeting is Oct 12 @ 6pm** in the Learning Commons. Child minding is provided.

## Grade 7 Camp Fundraising Meeting

If your child is in grade 6 this year, he/she will have an opportunity to attend Grade 7 Camp next year! In the past, parents have worked hard to help fundraise and offset the costs of Camp. There will be an initial meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. Hope to see you there!

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Language Survey – English Program grades 2,3,4

For parents of students in grade 2,3 or 4 in the English program, the district is seeking your feedback about 2<sup>nd</sup> language programs (which begin in grade 5). An information form and survey will be sent home with your child this week. The district would appreciate your feedback. The survey can be completed online or on paper, and must be submitted by Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>. Merci!

## Lunch Program

Due to health and safety guidelines, we are required to have a parent **sign each month for the lunch program**. We thank you for signing and returning the form each month.

The cost of the lunch program is \$1 per day/child. The school district heavily subsidizes the costs to ensure it is affordable. We appreciate you returning the funds with the lunch order. If you have any concerns about cost, please speak with Ms. Christensen.

## 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. We will then call down to your child's classroom to inform the teacher of your arrival. We appreciate your cooperation.

## Halloween Costume Safety

Many students are starting to plan 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.

## Looking Ahead...

- Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Grade 6 Immunizations
- Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> – Grade 7 Camp at Camp Elphinstone
- Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving Holiday
- Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> – Cross Country Meet at Bear Creek Park 2.30 – 4pm
- Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> – 6pm PAC Meeting
- Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> – 5pm Grade 7 Camp Fundraising Meeting
- Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> – Cross Country Meet at Bear Creek
- Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> – Hot Lunch Day (Panago)
- Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> – Provincial Non Instructional Day
- Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> – Cross Country Meet at Bear Creek
- Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> – PAC Family Photo Night (4-9pm)
- Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> – SOAR Assemblies (9am Intermediate and 10.45am Primary)
- Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Non-instructional Day
- Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> – PAC Craft Fair in the gym
- Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> – 9am Remembrance Day Assembly
- Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> – Non-Instructional Day
- Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> – Remembrance Day Holiday
- Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> – 1.30pm early dismissal, Student Led Conferences and Curriculum Cafe

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

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

