

Community Newsletter

September 2nd, 2021



Principal's Message

It is our sincere hope that Peace Arch students and families enjoyed a safe and fulfilling summer break! We look forward to reconnecting with our entire school family and embarking on an exciting and meaningful school year together. We know that our community is likely feeling a range of emotions and expectations as we return to school next week. As always, our top priority is student safety and well-being. Please know that your children will be in excellent care from the moment they arrive at our building beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 7, at 10:00 a.m.

You may have also noticed significant work taking place on and around our school grounds. Our school has been the site of some extensive work over the summer to rectify the drainage issues around the perimeters and playgrounds. Some areas are still under considerable construction, particularly around Beaver Pod, but we have been assured they will have things ready for school opening.

Safety Protocols

- **K-12 Health Check:**
 - Just a reminder that every parent is responsible for monitoring the daily health of your child(ren) before sending them to school.
 - The checklist provided by the Ministry of Health has been included at the end of this newsletter for your reference.
- **Masks:**
 - All staff and all students in Grades 4-12 are required to wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status
 - All students in Grades K-3 are highly encouraged to also wear a mask
- **Cleaning and Disinfecting:**
 - Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected at least once daily
- **Visitor Requirements:**
 - Make an appointment
 - Perform a health check prior to entering the building
 - Wear a mask
 - Sign in with contact information at the office
 - Respect others' personal space
 - Only access areas as required for the visit

More detailed information will be coming to families during the coming days and weeks from the Surrey District and B.C. Government.

Click [here](#) for a full report from the BC Ministry of Health on the safe return to school for 2021/22.

Opening Week

This year will follow more of a typical pattern of September Start Up. The students will be placed into temporary groupings, alphabetically by grade and assigned to a homeroom teacher at their grade level. The students will arrive and dismiss from their assigned homeroom for the remainder of the week. During this time, we expect our enrollment numbers to become more solid, which will allow us to continue our class organization work. As always, we greatly appreciate the support, understanding and patience of families as we work hard to create balanced classes which best meet students' learning needs. Our hope is that students are assigned to permanent classes by the beginning of week two. **Students do not bring their supplies until they are assigned to their permanent classes.**



First Day of School - where does my child go?

The first day of school is Tuesday, September 7th from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Signs and maps will be posted around the school to help direct students to their meeting places.

Grade 1-7 Students attend from 10:00 - 11:00 am.

- **Grades 4 -7 French & English combined**
 - Meet on the lower Grass Field. Assigned groupings will be posted along the retaining wall on the lower grass field.
- **Grades 1-3 French Program**
 - Meet at the side courtyard with picnic tables
- **Primary English Program**
 - Meet at the front courtyard outside the office

Kindergarten Students

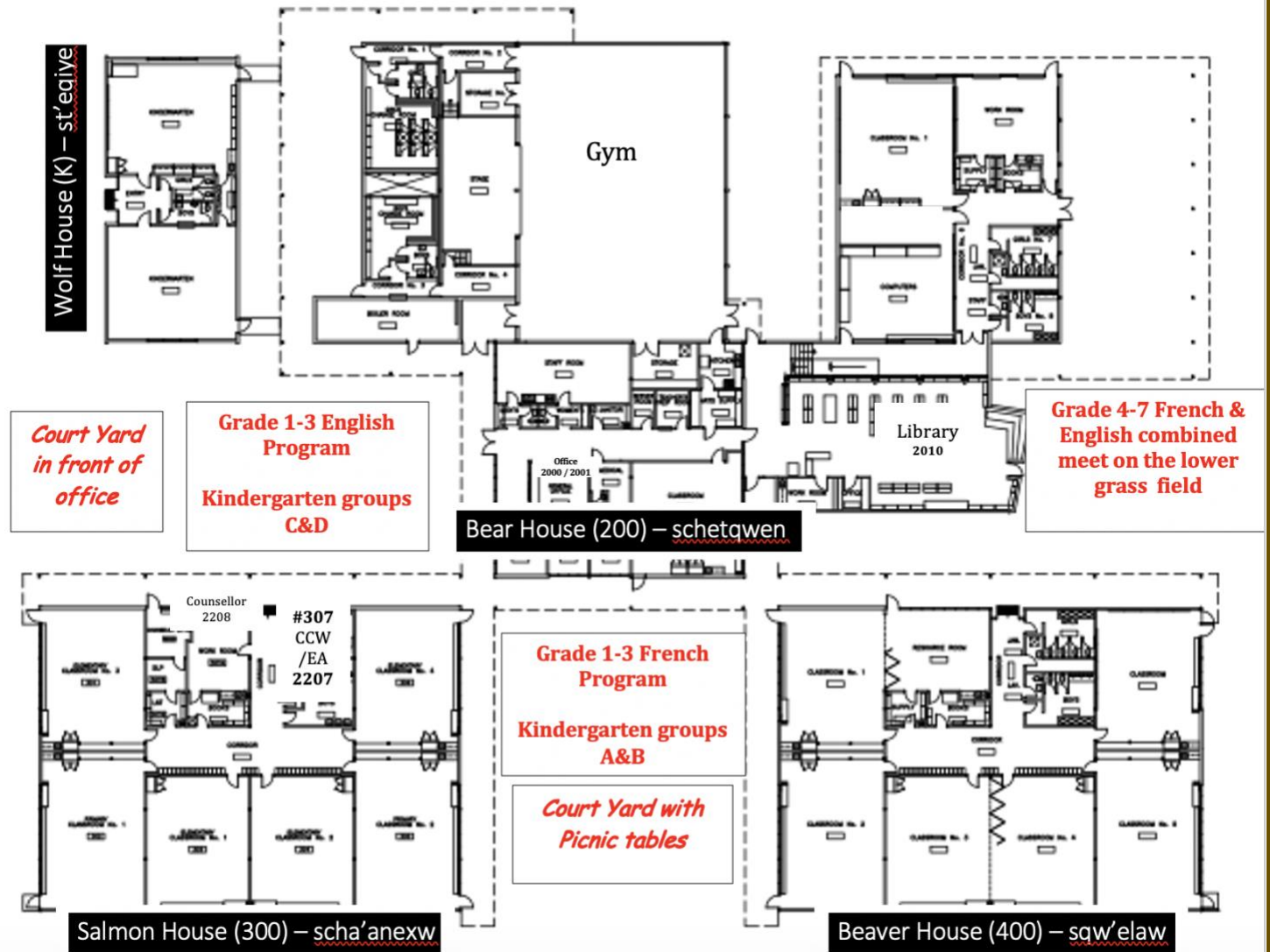
- **Group A & B** attend from 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. in the side courtyard with picnic tables
- **Group C & D** attend from 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. in the front courtyard outside the office

New Students meet with your grade group

If you are not too sure where to go, please ask a staff member who will be happy to assist.

September 7th Meeting Locations

**Please meet in your
designated meeting spot
and line up according to
the posted signs.**



PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Peace Arch staff and students would like to thank our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) for their hard work and support each and every year! The role of our PAC is to encourage parental input and involvement in their children's schooling. We encourage ALL parents to become involved with the PAC this upcoming year.

I am pleased to introduce this year's PAC Executive:

- **President** - Kirsten Yanicki
- **Vice President** - Amy Chen
- **Treasurer** - Tana Jennings
- **Secretary** - Luana Recchia

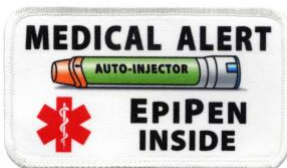


Plan to join our first PAC meeting on **September 21** at **7:00 PM.** Location TBD

Our PAC will be setting up a Welcome Station on September 7th in the front courtyard (in front of the office) and offering refreshments. Please be sure to drop by!

Peace Arch Elementary's Bell Schedule 2021 - 2022

8:30am	Welcome Bell
8:35am	Classes begin
10:15am	Recess
10:30am	Classes resume
11:50am	Lunch bell (play first)
12:15pm	Break (eat second)
12:35pm	Classes resume
2:35pm	Students are dismissed



Medical Alerts:

If your child has a medical alert that requires the school to store medication please contact the office to make arrangements to drop off medication and make sure your child's medical alert forms are up to date (forms need to be reviewed each year).

Student Attendance

We ask that families ensure that children attend school on time, during scheduled hours, and minimize any mid-day interruptions, whenever possible. If your child is going to be away from school please call the office at 604-536-8711 and leave a message on our voicemail.



School Supplies

School supply lists have been posted on our website and you can order them online at www.schoolstart.ca

Parent Handbook / Student Planners

A handbook for parents is included in the student planner. It contains important topics such as the school Code of Conduct, communication, school policies etc. Please take the time to read through the information and discuss the pertinent topics with your child. All students in Grades 1-7 are expected to purchase a planner for \$5.00. All purchases can be made at [SchoolCash on line](http://SchoolCash.online).



Drop Off Zone

This is the time of day when parents are trying to get their children safely delivered to school and themselves safely off to their jobs. A few simple procedures and considerations would increase the safety of this process:

- Walk or bike to school if you live in the neighbourhood
- Supervision begins at 8:20 a.m. and children can be dropped off any time after that. Try to come earlier if you find the drop off area congested at your usual drop off time.
- Park on a neighbouring street and walk the rest of the way
- When you arrive at the drop off bay, pull as far forward as possible to allow others to pull in behind you.
- Drop and drive away; **do not remain to watch your children join their friends or to use your phone.**
- If you drop off or pick up from the South Side of Roper St. do not block driveways, and insist on your children using the crosswalk, and not running across Roper, to get to the school grounds safely.



Home-School Communication:

SCHOOL WEBSITE

- Please visit our [School Website](#) for ongoing important information and notifications. Our school and our district use the school web page as a central place to share accurate and timely information about school events or emergency information such as school closures.
- Correspondence from the school office will be sent electronically to your email. If you are not subscribed please visit our web page and enter your email to receive school newsletters.
- Getting connected is very easy: go to the school web page, scroll down to EMAIL LIST, enter the email address you would like the school to use, and click the "I agree" and "submit" buttons.

A screenshot of a web form titled "EMAIL LIST" in purple. Below the title, it says "Sign up to receive communications from École Peace Arch:". There is a text input field with the placeholder "Enter your email address ..." and a green "SUBMIT" button to its right. Below the input field is a checkbox with the text "I agree to the terms and conditions".

HOME LINK

- The SchoolLink app enables Android, iPhone or iPad users to access essential school information, as well as receive virtually instant news, announcements, feature stories and timely alerts posted to the school's website. Please install the **SchoolLink app** to your electronic device. Users can download the app from Google Play (Android) or Apple's App Store by searching for SchoolLink. Then select Peace Arch Elementary from the list that will appear.

Back to School Tips to Help Students Succeed

****Get Routines Established Early****

- planners signed
- nightly reading time
- set homework place and time-free from distractions
- assignment calendar for quick reference
- lots of sleep

****Eat Healthy****

Give your child's mind the fuel it needs to be alert. Keep nutritional snacks, such as cut up fruit and vegetables, cheese sticks, low fat yogurt and butter free popcorn, on hand.



****Review Safety Tips****

- make sure your kids know safe routes to and from school
- know their address and phone number

****Get lots of sleep****

- establish a bedtime routine that allows for calming down time free of tv, and video games
- this is the perfect time to share in a read aloud of a favorite story
- research shows that there should be NO SCREEN TIME 30 minutes prior to bedtime for optimal sleep

Important Dates:

Tuesday, September 7 th	- School Opens
Wednesday, September 8 th	- First Full Day of Classes (grades 1 - 7)
Friday, September 24 th	- Terry Fox Run
Monday, September 27 th	- Pro D Day - No School
Wednesday, September 29 th	- Orange Shirt Day
Thursday, September 30 th	- Truth and Reconciliation Day - School Closed

*At École Peace Arch Elementary
we want our students to
Take care of themselves
Take care of others; and
Take care of this place*

Peace Arch Staff 2021/22

Classroom Teachers

Mme. Yalpani
Mr. Morris/Ms. Zafiris
Mme. Hollins
Mme. Wilson/Mme. Sawatsky
Mr. Chapman
M. Gareau
Ms. Sullivan
Mme Adams
Ms. Kehler
Mme. Murphy
Mr. Vicente
Mme. Verrier/Mme. Frose
Ms. Toth
Mme. Gertz
Mme. Baretto
Mme. Sherry
Ms. Smith/Ms. Talstra
M. Simpson
Mme. Roussel/Mme. Frose
Ms. Westcott
Ms. Mann
Mme. Ahonen
Mme. Friesen

Non-Enrolling Teachers

LST Mme. Chalifour
LST Mme. Morris
SLP Ms. Torrie
IST Mr. Nicholl
Counsellor Mr. Mazurkewich
Music Ms. Blackman
Library Mrs. Porter/Ms. Romanyk

Support Staff

CCW Ms. Gortz
AYCCW Ms. Kalenuik
EA Ms. Albert
EA Ms. Dujmovic
EA Ms. Huang

EA Ms. Fairbain
EA Ms. Mapendo
EA Ms. Rakowski
EA Ms. Range
ABA Ms. Rodgers

Noon Hour Supervisors

Ms. Arlene Abji
Ms. Lorraine Berg
Ms. Joy Coates
Ms. Nicole Miles
Ms. Michelle Wagner

Office Staff

Head Secretary	Ms. Lawson
Records Clerk	Ms. Jackson
Vice Principal	Ms. Crnkovich
Principal	Ms. Boulet



Dear Parents

(of elementary school aged kids)

When your kids come to school we will have to help them open LOTS of the things you pack for lunch.

PLEASE HAVE THEM PRACTICE OPENING THINGS BY THEMSELVES.

These are EASIER to open. If I help them open it, I won't be putting my hands on parts that will go in their mouth.



These are HARDER to open. If you send these PLEASE have them PRACTICE opening it. If I help them open it, I will be putting my hands on parts that will go in their mouth.



If your kiddo can open everything in their lunch, it means less time waiting with their hand up, more time eating and less germs!! (even though we are washing our hands and disinfecting)

DAILY HEALTH CHECK

KEY SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS	WHAT TO DO
Fever (above 38°C)	<p>If yes to 1 or more of these symptoms: Stay home and get a health assessment.</p> <p>Contact a health care provider or 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.</p>
Chills	
Cough	
Difficulty breathing	
Loss of sense of smell or taste	
OTHER SYMPTOMS	WHAT TO DO
Sore throat	<p>If yes to 1 symptom: Stay home until you feel better.</p>
Loss of appetite	
Headache	<p>If yes to 2 or more of these symptoms: Stay home for 24 hours.</p> <p>If symptoms don't get better or get worse, get a health assessment; contact a health care provider or 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.</p>
Body aches	
Extreme fatigue or tiredness	
Nausea and vomiting	
Diarrhea	
INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL:	WHAT TO DO
Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	<p>If yes: All students and staff who have travelled outside of Canada are required to self-quarantine for 14 days after arrival under both provincial and federal orders.</p> <p>This includes students who are attending school from abroad. Students from outside of Canada should plan to arrive in Canada at least two weeks before they are scheduled to attend school to adhere to the selfquarantine orders. Additional information is available here.</p>
CLOSE CONTACT	WHAT TO DO
Have you been contacted by public health and notified that you are a close contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	<p>If yes: Please follow the instructions provided by Public Health.</p> <p>You can call 8-1-1 anytime to get advice about how you are feeling and what to do next. Pay attention to how you are feeling. If it becomes harder to breathe, you can't drink anything or feel much worse, seek urgent medical care at an urgent care clinic or emergency department.</p>

Check your symptoms with the [K-12 Health Check](#). If you have any questions, or the symptoms get worse, contact your healthcare provider, or call 8-1-1. For more information on COVID-19, please go to www.bccdc.ca. If you develop severe symptoms, such as difficulty breathing (e.g. struggling to breathe or speaking in single words) or chest pain, call 9-1-1 or go to the nearest Emergency Department.

Please check BCCDC's [Symptoms of COVID-19](#) regularly to ensure the list is up to date.