



Panther Press



Principal: Navdeep Aujla
Head Teacher: Scott Hodges
Secretary: Maria Jensen
Trustee: Katrina Chen

Dear Parkcrest Families,

September has been a busy and exciting month at Parkcrest Elementary. Thank you to all the staff for all your work the first week of school—students were excited to be back at school and participating in Camp Wellness.

The cross country season begins very early in the year and students attended the first cross country meet at Burnaby Lake this week. As always, Parkcrest had some very strong finishes and we are looking forward to the final meet coming up in mid-October. A big thank you to Mr. Hodges, Ms. Andrews and Ms. Clark for supporting the cross country team.

We also had our Parents as Partners meeting and Library Open House this week. Many enthusiastic visitors came to see the updates that have been done in the library over the last few months through the generous donation from the family of Mrs. Sheila Bowyer-Smyth. Mrs. Bowyer-Smyth was a Special Education Teacher in the Vancouver School District for many years and was also a resident in the Parkcrest neighbourhood. Her family made a generous donation in her memory to the school library and this allowed us to purchase much of the new furniture as well as the Brightlinks. If you have not had a chance to see the upgrades, please drop by and also take a few minutes to view the plaque and biography honouring Mrs. Bowyer-Smyth.

Our first Pro-D day is coming up on Friday, September 30th and this is a provincial implementation day to give teachers the opportunity to work through the re-designed curriculum. Teachers have been exploring these changes over the last year and this is the year when parents will actually see changes in reporting and application. If you would like to look at some of the changes, please go to <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum-info>. I will be sending out information on changes to reporting in the upcoming months.

Our school goals at Parkcrest Elementary School are reading and social emotional learning. Reading has been a key focus the last three years and we are experiencing a great deal of success in reading across the grades. Please look at page 3 for information on reading programs from K to 7 at Parkcrest Elementary.

Sincerely,

Navdeep Aujla

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct. 2ndLast Day to order Dominos Pizza Lunch
- Oct. 3rdGr. 6 Immunization
- Oct. 3rdCross Country Meet @ Burnaby Lake 3:30—4:30pm
- Oct. 4thCross Country Practice 12:15—1:00pm
- Oct. 6thDiv. 4(Gr. 3s only) 5, 6, 7, 8 Field Trip to Pumpkin Patch
.....12:15—1:00pm
- Oct. 6thCross Country Practice 12:15—1:00pm
- Oct. 7thDominos Pizza Lunch
- Oct. 7thEarly Dismissal 2:00pm
- Oct. 10thThanksgiving Day (school closed)
- Oct. 11thCross Country Meet @ Burnaby Lake 3:30—4:30pm
- Oct. 11thPAC Meeting 7:00pm
- Oct. 12thWalking Wednesday
- Oct. 13thGreat Shakeout BC
- Oct. 13thSchool Photos Oct. 19th Walking Wednesday
- Oct. 20thDominos Pizza Lunch Oct. 21st Pro-D Day (no classes)
- Oct. 26thWalking Wednesday
- Oct. 26thArt Starts Performance 2:00pm
- Oct. 31stHalloween Assembly



For the most updated information on Parkcrest events, please use the online School Calendar at <http://parkcrest.sd41.bc.ca/calendar-2/>

Reading Programs At Parkcrest Elementary

There is a great deal of research that has been done to look at factors that lead to academic success. Reading at grade level, with comprehension and fluency, by the end of grade 3 has been identified as one of the most important determiners of later success. At Parkcrest Elementary, we have looked carefully at research and have aligned our school goal to what the experts are saying. Reading is a focus not only in the primary grades, but also in the intermediate classes.

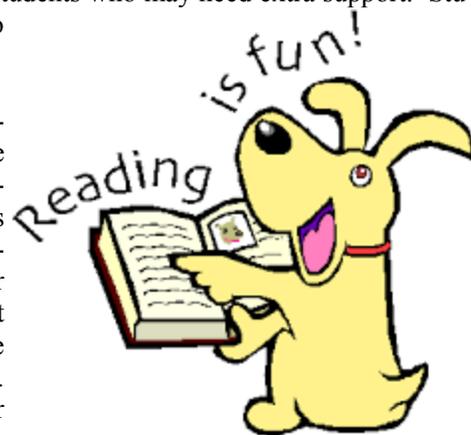
Our focus on preparing students for reading starts in kindergarten. In February, all kindergarten students begin a research-based program called "Links to Literacy". Through this fun and play-based programs, kindergarten students learn the difference between letters, words and sentences. They also learn about the cues that readers use to read: meaning (pictures), structural (does the sentence make sense) and visual (looking at letters). Students learn to follow print and read simple picture books. The teacher works with the Learning Support Teacher to deliver this program and also to identify which students may need extra reinforcement. Those that need the extra support are provided this support so that all students go into grade 1 ready to read.

All students from grade 1 to 3 are assessed using benchmarks assessments at the beginning of the school year. Based on this assessment, students are grouped into five homogenous "Guided Reading" groups so that they can learn to read with students who are at a similar reading level. These Guided Reading groups meet four times each week for 40 minutes and focus on reading at their reading level. Guided Reading groups are changing as needed; students move into different groups as their reading advances throughout the year.

In addition to this support, identified grade 1 students are given "Reading Recovery" support. Reading Recovery is a research-based program that is provided one-on-one for 30 minutes each day for sixteen weeks. Students in grade 2-3 who are identified as needing additional support are participate in "Levelled Literacy" with groups of 3-4 students, 2-4 times each week. Our goal is to provide all students with effective reading program and also provide extra support to give some students the "boost" they need to read at grade level.

This comprehensive program assures that majority of students at Parkcrest go into the intermediate grades reading at grade level. The monitoring of reading continues at the intermediate grades and students are assessed using RAD in September. This assessment provides a great deal of information to teachers on the learning profiles of their students and also give information on students who may need extra support. Student progress is also measured at the end of the school year to assess the effectiveness of programming.

This intense focus on reading has been very effective at Parkcrest Elementary School. Students who need extra support are identified early and the home-school conversations help to formulate plans to support students. The data from June indicates that only 3% of our primary students were not meeting expectations for reading. We will be continuing this programming for the current year and I want to also acknowledge the key role that families play in this success. The follow-up that you do at home every night is a key factor in the success that we see at school. Reading to your child each night is as beneficial as having your child read to you. Thank you for all your support.





HALLOWEEN Safety Tips



Here are some Halloween safety tips to keep in mind for all our Parkcrest students:

- ☞ Wear a costume that fits well, has bright colours and is non-flammable
- ☞ Wear make-up instead of a mask so you can see everywhere
- ☞ Go trick or treating with family or friends. Let people know your route. Set a curfew for older children
- ☞ Bring a flashlight or glow stick
- ☞ Cross the street only at corners. Never dart between parked cars or in the middle of the block. Always look both ways
- ☞ Only visit houses that have a light or pumpkin on
- ☞ Do not eat any treats until an adult has checked them

CHANGE IN WEATHER

The weather can be unpredictable during this time of year. Please ensure your child(ren) are dressed appropriately for school and the weather. Students will be outside for recess and lunch and should be prepared for rain. Parents of primary children are encouraged to pack an extra set of clothes in their child's backpack or classroom in case of a muddy fall.



**Change Your
Clocks Back &
Smoke Alarm
Batteries**



Sunday, November 6th
remember to change
your clocks back one
hour! It is also a great
opportunity to change
smoke alarm batteries.

Library



Library Open House—students enjoy cake and cookies.



Our library has new carpeting, furniture and Brightlinks, thanks to a generous donation from the family of Mrs. Sheila Bowyer-Smyth.

TERRY FOX RUN





PAC News

2016-2017 Parkcrest PAC

PAC Co-Chair: Janina Nenadic
PAC Co -Chair: Kim McKay
PAC Treasurer: Diane Ormiston
PAC Secretary: Catherine Chuah
PAC Email: parkerest.pac@sd41.bc.ca

Upcoming PAC Meeting

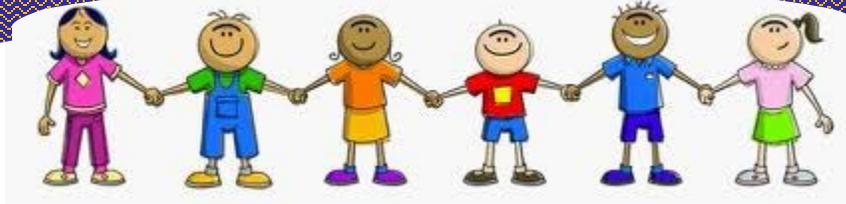
PAC Meetings are on Monday and start at 7:00pm—All parents/guardians are welcome

Next meeting is on Monday, Oct. 17th.

Please look for an email about our upcoming meeting.



COMMUNITY NEWS



LOOKING FOR CHILD CARE? LET THE YMCA CHILD CARE RESOURCE & REFERRAL HELP!

We provide families with child care information & referrals to local facilities. From explaining your options to assisting with child care subsidy processes, we're here to help!

Contact us at:

Metrotown Community Resource Centre

4460 Beresford Street

Burnaby, BC

604.294.1109

www.gv.ymca.ca



LOVE THE WATER? CHECK OUT WATER POLO!

Burnaby Water Polo Club is now accepting registration for our Boys and Girls Beginners Water Polo (6-13 years of age). Our program runs from Sept to April. Practices are at Bonsor Recreation Complex, 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby, on Saturdays from 5-7 pm. Games are played on Sundays with locations to be announced.



Not sure if you'd like it? Come give the game a try. Boys and girls are invited to join us for a free introductory water polo clinic on Saturday, October 1 or 8 from 5 to 7 pm. Please reserve a spot as space is limited. Contact Zoran Maletic at 778-328-2657

or email contact@burnabywaterpolo.com for more information or visit www.burnabywaterpolo.com
<http://www.bcssc.org>

BURNABY CAPRICE SYNCHRONIZED SWIM CLUB

Burnaby Caprice Synchro offers synchronized swimming programs for all levels of athletes, for younger boys and girls just learning the sport to those competing on the national level. Synchronized swimming is a wonderful mix of swimming, music, dance, gymnastics and drama. It develops water orientation, balance and aquatic skills. Synchro also promotes cardiac, respiratory and muscular fitness while focusing on improving the athlete's strength, power, endurance and flexibility.

We believe in a "holistic" or "whole person" approach to athletics; at Burnaby Caprice, we incorporate a STEPS approach:

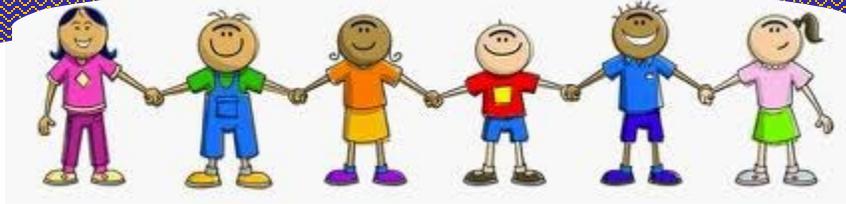


- Synchronized skill development
- Teamwork
- Expression through music and movement
- Physical fitness and personal growth
- Spirit and sportsmanship

We are having a FREE come-try-synchro at Eileen Daily Pool on Wednesday, October 5 from 730-830 pm. To register for this program contact Eileen Daily Pool.

The next 10 session come-try-synchro starts on October 8. For more information go to our website or e-mail the club info@bcssc.org

COMMUNITY NEWS



Flip Through Your Leisure Guide



Now available online at burnaby.ca/active

- » Printed copies available in our centres
- » Registration starts for most programs

 [cityofburnaby](https://www.facebook.com/cityofburnaby)

 [@burnabyparksrec](https://twitter.com/burnabyparksrec)

 [burnabyrecreation](https://www.instagram.com/burnabyrecreation)

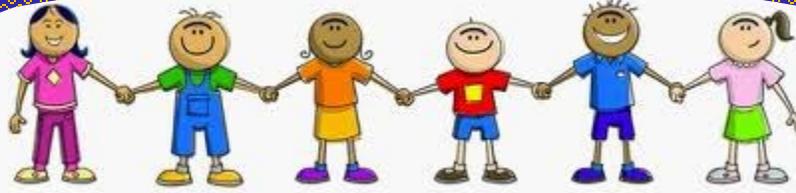


BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY'S FRESH START 2016

In celebration of our 60th anniversary, Burnaby Public Library want you to "Be Curious..." and start borrowing again! Here's an opportunity to have the overdue fines owing on your library account waived. Visit the service desk of any Burnaby Public Library branch between Monday, September 19 and Sunday, October 2, 2016, and we will waive the late fees currently owing on your library account, up to a maximum of \$100. This is a one-time special amnesty for fines accrued prior to September 19, and is only valid between September 19 and October 2, 2016.



COMMUNITY NEWS



**Don't Wait —
Check the Date!**

Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years



**Fire Prevention Week
Oct. 9-15, 2016**

Age matters when it comes to your smoke alarms.
Check the manufacture dates on your smoke alarms today!

<p>1 Remove the smoke alarm from the wall or ceiling.</p>		<p>October 6, 2016</p>	<p>2 Look at the back of the alarm for the date of manufacture.</p>
<p>3 Smoke alarms should be replaced 10 years from the date of manufacture.</p>			<p>4 Put the alarm back on the ceiling or wall if it is less than 10 years old.</p>



A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire.



Test smoke alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.



If the smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside. Go to your outside meeting place.



Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement. Larger homes may need more alarms. For the best protection, make sure all smoke alarms are interconnected. When one sounds, they all sound.



Call the fire department from a cellphone or a neighbor's phone. Stay outside until the fire department says it's safe to go back inside.

For more information about smoke alarms, visit usfa.fema.gov and firepreventionweek.org.

U.S. Fire Administration



NFA is the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week since 1922