



BAKER DRIVE ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

885 Baker Drive, Coquitlam, BC V3J 6W9 Phone: 604-461-5323 Fax: 604 461-2894

www.sd43.bc.ca/bakerdrive

September 6, 2011

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Welcome to Baker Drive Elementary - 2011/2012!

It is so wonderful to see all of you back at Baker Drive this year. We are very fortunate to serve such a great community and look forward to working with all of our families. This year we are welcoming several new families to Baker Drive and more outstanding staff members. The beginning of our school year will look a little different this year. As per the enclosed letter from our superintendent, the union representing teachers in our district will be commencing a legal job action and thus will be withdrawing certain duties. Please know that the entire Baker Drive staff is committed to ensuring student learning and safety.

For the immediate future at Baker Drive, my understanding from the teachers is that this Job Action will affect us in that the September 22nd Open House will need to be cancelled.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Parmar (Principal) in person, by phone or by email if you have any questions or concerns.

BAKER DRIVE'S NEWEST STAFF MEMBERS!

Ms. Denean Lederer	Teacher, Neighbourhood K
Ms. Shannon Bain	Teacher, Montessori K
Ms. Karen MacKay	Teacher, Montessori Gr 1/2
Ms. Kelsey Keller	Teacher, Montessori Gr 1/2 (maternity leave until May 2012)
Ms. Christie Osborne	Teacher, Grade 1/2
Mr. Jeff Christensen	Teacher, Grade 1/2
Ms. Stacie Capt	Teacher, Music (Tuesday/Thursday AM) and Div 4 on Wednesdays.
Ms. Ashley Ambrosio	Counsellor (Wednesdays, alternative Fridays)
Ms. Michele Jackson	Custodian (pm)
TBA	Custodian (am)
Ms. Etsuko Yamada	Special Education Assistant (am)

Dates to Remember:

SEPT 6	First Day of School 9:00-9:45am All students must attend
SEPT 7	First full day of school for Grades 1-5 only
SEPT 22	Open House - (cancelled)
SEPT 23	NO SCHOOL - District Pro D Day
SEPT 27	PAC meeting 6:30 in the library ALL WELCOME
SEPT 28	Terry Fox Run - more information to follow
SEPT 30	Photo Day (individual picture)

Printed Newsletter today only!

Only the first school newsletter of the year will be printed on paper! We have also sent this to the email addresses on file for you. We are very proud about this step to reduce our carbon footprint and to save school money on paper and photocopying costs.

In order to keep up-to-date with the school and your child's classroom, please ensure that we have a correct email address for you. As well, all information sent home by the school will also be posted on our website at www.sd43.bc.ca/bakerdrive. Look for the newsletter tab under "About Baker Drive". If you did not receive this Newsletter to your preferred email address today, please inform our office asap.

Our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) sends home many important newsletters and fundraising information as well. There will be further information from the PAC on how their information will be communicated to you.

If it is still important for you to continue to receive printed newsletters, please contact our secretary Mrs. Burnett at DeBurnett@sd43.bc.ca to make arrangements for this.

Please help Baker Drive Elementary be a good neighbour and keep our children safe!

Here are some **parking reminders** to help keep our neighbourhood safe for everyone:

- Please be aware of parking and stopping regulations on the streets around Baker Drive Elementary.
- Allow 3 meters between your car and house driveways so that residents can safely exit and enter their own homes.
- Park at least 6 meters away from stop signs.
- Do not drop off your child across the street on Baker Drive, requiring them to cross the street themselves.



We are aware that there are not many spots nearby to drop off your child and watch them enter the school. We encourage families to plan enough time to park further away from the school and walk together (rain or shine) to the school.

Class Placements

Students will return to the same classroom that they reported to today for Wednesday. We hope to post permanent class placement lists by mid-day Wednesday.

However, please keep in mind that situations beyond our control can occur that delay this timeframe.

Forms Received Today - please return, and complete others electronically by Sept 9th

There are a number of forms that are attached to this package. We kindly ask that you read and fill in the applicable forms and **return to this the office before Friday, September 9th**. Kindergarten families can return to the teacher at the time of your "Welcome Conversation".

Please find enclosed the following:

- **Yellow** Emergency Release Form
- **Green** BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program **non-participation form**. Kindly return this form **only** if you **DO NOT** want your child to participate.
- Student Planner Order Form (**please return to this form to the office (not your teacher) with payment by cash or cheque for \$10.00**) Please put in a sealed envelope with your child's name and grade

The following forms must be completed online at:

www.sd43.bc.ca/bakerdrive

Click on Parents, and then Forms OR CLICK ON THIS ICON:



REQUIRED FORMS

Complete **1 form per child** each school year

School Policy Form

Read the various policies and guidelines in this online form and discuss them with your child as you complete it. This form is required for each and every student each school year.

Emergency Release Form

Needs to be completed each year, in case of an emergency (earthquake, etc)

OPTIONAL FORMS

Medical Alert Form

Complete this online form **ONLY** if your child suffers from a medical condition the school must be aware of.

Volunteer Form

Complete this online form if you think you may be volunteering at our school (e.g. school field trips or events). Even if you have filled out a paper copy of this form we are asking **for this year only** that **EVERYONE** who wants to volunteer to please complete this form. Please note this form will now only need to be completed once while your child is at Baker Drive.

Volunteer Driver Form

Complete this online form if you think you may be driving for school field trips or events. This form is required each school year for all parent drivers**.

**Please note that in order to volunteer, you must also submit a copy of a criminal record check (every 5 years). An ICBC driver's abstract is required every school year for volunteer drivers. Please contact ICBC directly and have them fax it to the school at 604 -461-2893.

Once you have completed the forms click on the **Green** submit button at the bottom of each form. Repeat as necessary. If you have trouble with any of the online forms, please contact the office at 604-461-5323. We will be opening the computer lab on Friday, September 9th from 9:00am - 10:00am to give those families without computer access an opportunity to complete the forms.

Below is a list of Division numbers to assist you in completing the online forms (note, please leave division blank if you complete before your child is placed in a class).

GRADE	DIVISION	TEACHER
4/5	1	Ms. Capel
4/5	2	Ms. David
3	3	Ms. Cooper
2/3	4	Ms. Sabourin
1/2	5	Mr. Christensen
1/2	6	Ms. Osborne
Montessori 1/2	7	Ms. MacKay
Montessori K	8	Ms. Bain
Regular K	9	Ms. Lederer

Planners

All students in grades 1 to 5 received a student planner today. School Planners are an important tool for teaching and using organizational skills. Please read the information section in the planner. Kindergarten families have received a separate handout of these policies.

We ask that families contribute to the cost of these planners by paying \$10.00 per child.

Cheques or cash can be attached to the provided form and returned to the office in a sealed envelope.

Please ensure names are put on planners.



School Supplies

Most students have ordered and received their school supply kits. If you did not order a kit, grade level supply lists are available in the office and on our website. Any retailer can be used to purchase school supplies. Please label larger supplies with your child's first name and initial.

Students can keep most of their supplies at their home until they are assigned their permanent classroom. For this week, a pencil and something to colour with in a labeled pencil case is all that will be needed for class work. Planners should also be brought to school every day this week.

This Week at Baker Drive

This week we will be teaching topics and facilitating activities around social responsibility themes. We will be introducing a school wide concept called "Filling and Emptying your Bucket". We will also be discussing the School Code of Conduct. We will

have our first school wide assembly this Thursday at 11:00 am in the gym. All staff members will also be introduced to the students. Parents are also very welcome to all of our assemblies.

Monthly Social Responsibility Themes

Each month, Baker Drive will highlight one social responsibility theme. This theme will continue through during monthly assemblies, monthly parent newsletters and will be the focus for Bear Paw draws. For September the theme is "Respect".

Cricket at Baker Drive!

Students at Baker Drive will be learning about the game of Cricket by qualified instructors from Aussie X. This program has been sponsored by RBC. Teachers will join their classes during their scheduled gym time on 4 Thursdays from Sept 29- October 20th. We are hoping to schedule a family fun night where parents and students from Baker Drive can get together for some wicket cricket! We have tentatively booked Monday, October 24th from 5 - 7 in our gym, so pencil it in! As well, Grade 4's and 5's will get an opportunity to enter a wicket cricket tournament with neighbouring schools that will be held on Friday October 28th, after school at Ranch Park Elementary. Stay tuned for more details!!

Our Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

A tremendous note of thanks to our Parent Advisory Council for the fundraising that they have done that allowed for a new screen in our gymnasium and more projectors for classrooms. All of our SmartBoards, playground equipment and much of our technology was made possible by the efforts of the PAC and their fundraising. We hope that you are able to support your PAC in any way possible for you so that more SmartBoards and other enhancements to the school can be purchased for the benefit of all students.

We are all looking forward to an exciting year of learning at Baker Drive Elementary. Your participation and involvement in the life of the school and in your child's educational journey is welcomed and encouraged. Please do not hesitate to contact the office with any questions, concerns or comments.

Welcome back from all of us at Baker Drive Elementary!

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Announcements

Hello Baker Drive Families,

Welcome back to a new school year! I hope everyone had a great summer. The first PAC meeting will be on September 27th at 6:30pm in the library. Everyone is welcome.

Thank you,
Kerri Doucet
PAC President

First Fundraiser of the Year - Entertainment Books!

Entertainment Books will go home with the kids during the second week of school. Please look for them in your child's backpack. More information of this and other fundraising opportunities will be distributed shortly.

Community Corner

(please see on-line version for some community events)

Upcoming Events at Place des Arts

1120 Brunette Avenue, Coquitlam

**Place des Arts Family Open House
Saturday September 10, 2 to 4PM
Admission: Free!**

Discover the world of art at Place des Arts annual Family Open House. Enjoy fun arts & crafts activities and face painting, take a tour of the centre, participate in hands-on teacher demos, win fabulous door prizes and get a \$10 discount on class registration during the event. Programmers will be available to answer questions.

Family Day at PdA: A Canada Culture Days Event

Sunday, October 2, 1:30 - 3:30PM

Admission: FREE!

Gather up the family and celebrate Canada Culture Days at Place des Arts. View exhibitions and hear exhibiting artists discuss their inspiration and process; discover the talents of Place des Arts' teachers and staff in the annual *Art Feats* exhibition; then participate in drop-in style visual and performing arts workshops designed for all ages! Yummy treats will be available in the Van Gogh Café. Don't be intimidated by art, get engaged in it!

Place des Arts Fall Session Classes

Place des Arts has many fall session classes for creative kids in **music** (guitar, fiddle, taiko drumming, drum set, singing fundamentals), **theatre arts** (Drama Club, Mask & Physical Theatre, Instant Theatre, Circus Arts, Speech Arts), **visual art** (drawing & painting, cartooning, mixed-media, papier mâché and fibre fun) and **creative writing**. Registration is now open and may be done by phone at 604.664.1636, in person at Place des Arts, 1120 Brunette Ave., Coquitlam or online at www.placedesarts.ca where you may also view the full 2011/12 program guide.

Class highlights for kids

Mask & Physical Theatre Class 6-9 & 10-13 years

Saturdays, Sept 24 - Dec 10

Curious about Commedia Dell'Arte or dazzled by Cirque du Soleil? Training in masks and physical theatre is fundamental to any acting program and provides actors with powerful tools for imagination and creative thinking. Create magical environments, explore movement and connect with the present moment through mask work. Each session builds upon the last, but new students are welcome to begin in the fall, winter or spring session. Teacher: Emilie LeClerc.

Drama Club 11-13 years

Wednesdays, Sept 21 - Dec 7

Join the Drama Club! This class takes a multidisciplinary approach to acting - without losing the fun! Read scenes, write scenes, create characters and even get ready for your close up with on-camera audition training. Don't dream it - be it! Teacher: James O'Shea. ***This class takes place at the Evergreen Cultural Centre; register at Place des Arts.**

Cartooning & Animation

Place des Arts offers several cartooning and animation classes for children:

Animation Studio (8-12 years)

Cartooning (5-7 & 8-12 years)

Cartooning Comics (8-12 years)

Visit www.placedesarts.ca to view the 2011/12 program guide for full descriptions.

Taiko Drumming Ensemble 9-13 years

Sundays, Sept 11 - Jun 17

Discover the heart-stomping beats and infectious rhythms of the taiko! Students will learn rhythms, stance, movement and the fundamental techniques needed to play basic taiko pieces. The ensemble will create new pieces and incorporate other percussion instruments to accompany the taiko. Practice drums, stands and bachi (sticks) will be provided during each class. No experience necessary. Teacher: Eien Hunter-Ishikawa.

Sergeant Barb Thornborough

NCO i/c Client Services

Coquitlam RCMP

604-552-7347

Do you live, work or go to school in Anmore, Belcarra, Kwikwetlem First Nation, Coquitlam or Port Coquitlam?

Are you 18 or older?

Do you have opinions about crime, safety & policing in your community?

Then the Coquitlam RCMP needs to hear from you.

Please visit www.coquitlam.rcmp.ca to fill out a brief survey.

The survey will be live from August 29 to September 23.

Survey results will help us plan police services for the next three years

Do your part for public safety...speak up!
