



# Birchland Elementary School

1331 Fraser Avenue, Port Coquitlam, BC V3B 1M5

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[www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/birchland.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/birchland.ca) email: [birchland@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:birchland@sd43.bc.ca)

Ms. Lisa Salloum, Principal

## NEWSLETTER # 6

January 12, 2012

### Dear Parents and Students:

As mentioned yesterday on our website, our school district will be reassigning me to Bramblewood Elementary School in Coquitlam as of January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012. It is with great memories and respect that I leave our amazing community of outstanding learners. I have immensely enjoyed the experiences and the people that I have had the gift of working with in this community. I thank all of you for sharing your lives and your children with me. I will truly always cherish my time here at Birchland.

Your new Principal will be Mr. Frank Pearse, who is currently the Vice Principal at Montgomery Middle School. He is an outstanding instructional leader who comes to Birchland with a broad wealth of experience and will be a very valuable addition the Birchland family. Between now and January 30<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Pearse will have the opportunity to our school to meet the staff and students and we look forward to welcoming him.

This week, our staff had the privilege of welcoming Minister of Education, John Abbott, School District 43 Board of Trustee Chairperson, Melissa Hyndes and Coquitlam MLA, Douglas Horne to our school yesterday to dialogue with staff about the innovative approaches to learning being explored in our classrooms and the outstanding positive impact that these approaches are having on student achievement.

It was important for us to acknowledge to our guests that the innovative technology being used within our classroom would not have been attainable without our parents partnering with us to to prioritize our fundraising goals and supporting your children in their learning. Thanks to all of you for your continuous and supportive partnership.

Sincerely,  
Ms. L. Salloum — Principal



### Next Meeting...

**Tuesday,  
January 24<sup>th</sup> at  
6 pm in the  
Library.**

**Please join us**

### Kindergarten Registration

**February 7, 8  
& 9, 2012**

For children who  
are 5 years old  
before December  
31, 2012.

See next page for  
additional details

### DID YOU KNOW????

- Food Bank Donations – 1,083 ½ pounds of food was brought in by the families of Birchland! Congratulations to Mr. Cumming’s class who brought in the most and won a pizza lunch. A shout out to Mrs. Kopf’s class for the highest weight per student.
- “Beyond the Bell” is running again in our school gym starting Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Port Coquitlam Parks and Rec for registration and details. 604-927-7529 or [http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/Citizen\\_Services/Parks\\_and\\_Recreation.htm](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/Citizen_Services/Parks_and_Recreation.htm)

### Bell Schedule

8:50	Students enter (bell)
8:55	Instruction begins (bell)
	PA announcements
	Attendance to office
10:25	Recess begins (no bell)
10:40	Recess ends (bell)
11:55	Lunch period begins (no bell)
12:15	Students may go to play
12:40	Lunch period ends (bell)
2:55	Student dismissal

# Kindergarten Registration 2012

All Kindergarten students must register at their neighbourhood catchment school. This year, our registration will take place on February 7, 8 & 9<sup>th</sup>. Families interested in attending a school outside of their catchment area should still register at their catchment school and then subsequently follow the “Cross Catchment Process 2012 - 2013” described below.

Please bring the following documents to register your child (ren):

**Proof of citizenship for parent & child:** *one of* birth certificate; passport; PR Card; Canadian Citizenship Card.

**Proof of BC residency for parent :** *one of*; rental contract; property purchase contract; income tax statement; property tax statement; *and two of* the following documents: utility bill; BC care card; BC driver’s licence; BC vehicle registration; Canadian Social Insurance #; Canadian bank or credit card statement; BC ID.

Only those students who are five years of age by December 31, 2012 can be accepted for September 2012.

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School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

## Cross Catchment Process 2012 – 2013

Parents have the right to choose the school their children attend subject to availability of space. Should you want to choose a school other than your neighbourhood catchment school you must submit a “Cross Catchment Form” as outlined below.

**All Kindergarten students must be registered for Kindergarten at their catchment school on February 7, 8, or 9<sup>th</sup> before completing a Cross Catchment Form.**

### Features of the 2012-2013 Cross Catchment Process:

- There are two separate forms:
  - Kindergarten Cross Catchment
  - Grades 1-12 Cross Catchment
  - **All registrations will begin February 10<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 a.m. and close February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 p.m.**
- The District is encouraging use of the electronic version of the application form accessed through the District website ([www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca)) beginning February 10<sup>th</sup>
- Paper forms will also be available at all schools and on the District Website as of February 10<sup>th</sup>. All completed paper forms must be returned **in person or by mail** to the School district Office at 550 Poirier Street, Coquitlam V3J 6A7 by the closing date. **Faxed or email copies will not be accepted.**
- Process details:
  - Requests will be processed based on the **availability of space in schools** and on a **first come-first served basis (in-district priority then out-of-district)**.
  - The system will automatically mark the time we receive the request for the online process.
  - The receptionist will mark the date and time of all paper copies as they are received at the front desk in the School Board Office.
  - The District will then enter the paper requests into the online system and record the appropriate date and time.
  - Principals will be able to access information about requests as they are received.
  - The process will close off promptly at 4:00 pm on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - The District response to cross catchment requests will be communicated in writing and/or email during the week of March 5-9, 2012.

### Important Information about Schools at Capacity:

A number of schools have reached capacity and it is anticipated they will continue to be in this position for the next few years. Therefore, based on limited space, we want to clarify that the District may not be in a position to honour requests for cross catchment to the following schools:

**Aspenwood, Glen, Glenayre, Panorama Heights and Pinetree Way Elementary Schools.**

However, please be aware that the District can only approve “cross catchment requests” up to the available space in any given school.

**Late Montessori Registration  
at Montgomery & Scott Creek Middle Schools  
(Grade 6 entry)**

**AN INVITATION TO PARENTS:** If you are considering the Montessori program at middle school in September 2012, you are invited to attend an information meeting to learn about the program. An information meeting regarding the middle school program will take place at:

**SCOTT CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL  
1240 Lansdowne Dr., Coquitlam  
Wednesday, February 1, 2012 at 7:00 pm**

**\*\*Please note that for this year only Scott Creek will be accepting Gr. 7 students who have attended Montessori at the elementary level.**

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For further information visit our website:  
[www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) or contact Rob McFaul, Principal,  
Montgomery Middle School at 604-939-7367  
or e-mail: [montgomery@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:montgomery@sd43.bc.ca) or Judy Robb, Principal,  
Scott Creek Middle School at 604-945-0156 or email: [scottcreek@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:scottcreek@sd43.bc.ca)

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**Why choose  
French Immersion  
for your child?**

*Extend their horizons through  
learning another language!*

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**French Immersion...**

- Offers all students whose first language is not French the possibility of completing the prescribed BC curriculum and learning French at the same time;
  - Helps students develop strong communication skills in both English and French; and
  - Expands cultural horizons and helps prepare students for the global economy.
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**Late French Immersion Registration  
(Grade 6 entry)**

**AN INVITATION TO PARENTS:** If you are considering **LATE FRENCH IMMERSION** in September, 2012 you are invited to attend an information meeting to learn about the program. Meetings will take place at:

**BANTING MIDDLE SCHOOL  
820 Banting Drive, Coquitlam  
February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.**

**PITT RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL  
2070 Tyner Street, Port Coquitlam  
February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.**

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For further information visit our website:  
[www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) or contact Sophie Bergeron at 604-937-6392.

**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)**



**PLEASE HELP LOOK AFTER YOUR  
NEIGHBOURHOOD SCHOOL**



Our school is an important place in our neighbourhood and we all want to do everything we can to eliminate vandalism on school grounds. Schools are most at risk on weekend evenings especially when the weather is good.

**What You Can Do**

Keep your eyes and ears open for suspicious activities on the school grounds. Signs of trouble include late night trespassers and the gathering of unorganized groups of people.

Everything you see and hear helps. Note the physical characteristics and clothing of individuals. If you see automobiles, jot down license plate numbers.

Report All Suspicious Activities to the Vandal Watch Tip Line

**604-927-7600**

*Call immediately when something raises your suspicions, do not wait for the damage to be done.*

**Your Call is Anonymous and Confidential**

No one will ask for your name or phone number. The Tip Line is available 24 hours a day. Security personnel will investigate and will take action or involve the police. Do not get involved in a confrontation yourself.

**KEEP THE TIP LINE PHONE NUMBER HANDY. MAKE SURE THE PHONE NUMBER IS GIVEN ONLY TO RESPONSIBLE ADULTS.**

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**School Closure due to  
weather conditions**

In the event of heavy snow, ice or extreme temperatures, a decision on school closures will take place as soon as possible after 6:00 a.m. that day.

- Check the district website at [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) beginning shortly after 6:00 a.m.
- Be sure to hit Refresh when checking back
- The district website posting is official – there is no need to call the school or the Board office after viewing
- tune in to CKWX 1130 AM, CKNW 980 AM or CBC 690 AM for updates

**Birchland's School Calendar 2012**

January	
18	Theme Day - CraZy Toque or hat Day
25	BPAC Hot Lunch
27	Pro D Day (School Based) No School

February	
10	Jump Rope for Heart Kick Off Assembly
15	Theme Day –Red/Pink and/or Stuffy Day
17	Pro D Day (District) No School
24	Jump Rope for Heart Day 9 am-12 pm in the gym

March	
7	Theme Day – Green Day
9	Last day before Spring Break
12-23	Spring Break
26	School Reopens
27	Report Cards go home TBA

April	
6	Good Friday
9	Easter Monday
20	Pro D Day (District) No School
25	Theme Day – Jersey Day

May	
3	Early Dismissal @ 1:55 pm Writer's Workshop 1:55-2:55pm & 6-7 pm <b>POST PONED</b>
16	Theme Day – Halloween in May
21	Victoria Day

June	
1	Sports Day
7	Parent Volunteer Tea 9-10 am
13	Theme Day – Student Choice
28	Last day of classes
29	Administrative Day/School Closes

