



# École Nestor News

September 22, 2011



Email: [www.sd43.bc.ca/nestor](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/nestor)

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Dear Parents:

## Principal's Message

I am currently reading John Abbott's book, *Overschooled, but Undereducated*. One phrase from the book really jumped out at me: "Without play, children don't go beyond the normal and the predictable." Although I love routine and predictability, I also think there is great power in play!

Play used to be thought of as an activity that only occurred during summer holidays and after school. However, play is at the heart of our full day Kindergarten programs and, I would argue, at the centre of vibrant and engaged learning communities. This year, I have witnessed many wonderfully playful moments that occur at Nestor. Whether building with Lego, imitating a toaster, scoring a goal in an intramural hockey game, using a Math game to learn basic numeracy skills or performing reader's theatre for classmates, these are all examples of play and learning in action!

I have dedicated my life to play, albeit behind a drum set. It is important to seek to go beyond all that is normal and predictable, but there needs to be structure and routine for such exploration. One of the most important aspects of my experience with this creative play has been a willingness to try new things and make mistakes. The taking of creative risks can only occur in a safe and nurturing environment and that is ultimately what I always hope a school can provide; I believe Nestor exemplifies this idea.



This time of year, I always think of a young Canadian who played hard – Terry Fox. Needless to say, Terry surpassed all expectations, but I do think a great deal of his inspiration came from play. Thank you for a great September and... let the games and play begin!

Mr. Sean Della Vedova  
Principal

## General School Information

### • Parking/Drop Off

We continue to have challenges with vehicles. A couple of quick reminders:



- The parking lot is off limits for students; please pick up your child in a safe area and do not cross the Staff parking area
- The drop off area is not designated for pick up
- Another pick up option is at the top of the top field (i.e. Redonda Drive)

Thanks in advance for your helping in keeping everyone safe!

- **Calendar/Website**

Probably the best source for Nestor related information and events is our school website:

[www.sd43.bc.ca/nestor](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/nestor)

- **E-Mail Addresses**

Starting with our October newsletter, we are preparing to go paperless for our Newsletters and send the newsletter out electronically to your email address. A paper copy of the newsletter is always available at the office if required. Either you or your child can pick up a copy at the office.

- **8:50 Warning Bell**

Students are to wait outside until the warning bell rings at 8:50 a.m. each morning. Thanks in advance for keeping everyone safe.

- **Agendas**

This year's agendas are **\$12.00**. Please send your payment to your child's teacher. Many thanks to those who have already paid.

- **Signing In/Out**

A reminder that if you intend to pick up your child during the school day, you must check in at the office and they must be signed out. When a student returns they are also required to sign back in. This policy ensures we know who is in attendance in the event of an emergency. Refer to your child's agenda for more information about these procedures.

- **Absence Calls**

If your child is absent, please inform the school. In the event that we do not receive a call regarding an absence, we are required to phone; this is a time consuming process and your help with this would be really appreciated.

- **Verification Forms & Sign-off Packages**

Already, parents should have received a personalized "School Verification Form" and a copy of our school 'rules' and procedures along with information regarding various District Policies including the District Code of Conduct. A reminder to please make any changes to the verification form and return the signed form to your child's teacher (with or without changes). These updates will be made into our student information system. Also a purple 'sign-off' page attached to the various school policies should be returned to the school with your signatures as soon as possible. As stated in the package, please take time to read our policies and beliefs, and then save the package in a safe place in case you have questions later on.

## Upcoming September Events

- **Professional Development Day**

Please note that the first district-wide Professional Development Day for this year has been set for **Friday, September 23rd**. Students in the District **do not attend** school on Friday.

- **School Photos**

Our date for individual school photos is Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. More information and a reminder will follow closer to the date.



- **Terry Fox Run**

Our school will be honouring a true Canadian hero when we participate in our Terry Fox Run on **Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>**. Each class will be participating in a walk / run around the school. Our “Run” will go rain or shine (unless it is very rainy) so children should have their running shoes and appropriate clothing at the school. If you wish, please donate a “Twoonie for Terry” and send it to your child’s teacher by September 30<sup>th</sup> and we will forward all proceeds to the Canadian Cancer Society.

On October 14<sup>th</sup> a group of Grade 4 and 5 students and Mr. Della Vedova (and interested parents) will run our Terry Fox Foundation cheque to the Foundation offices. Stay tuned for more information.

- **Good Stuff Awards**

Our first “Good Stuff Awards” will be held on **Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.** Our good stuff awards celebrate student success and will usually take place on the last Friday of each month. Parents are notified if their child is receiving an award so they can be in attendance if they would like. This is also a time when we can gather together as a school community, share school news and discuss socially responsible behaviours.



## Recognition of Individual Beliefs

We realize that some parents may prefer (for religious and other reasons) to have their children not participate in certain activities (i.e. Hallowe’en activities). If this is the case in your household please contact your child’s teacher so that alternative arrangements can be made when the time comes.

## Fruit & Veggie Program



Our Fruit and Vegetable Program is underway! Blueberries were delivered to all of the classrooms and enjoyed by the students. Next delivery will be at the beginning of October! You can go online to find more information about the Fruit and Veggie Program if it is new to you: [www.aitc.ca/bc/snacks/](http://www.aitc.ca/bc/snacks/)

Thank you for your support as we introduce new programs to encourage healthy food choices.

## Dates at a Glance

<b>Sept. 23</b>	<b>Professional Development Day</b>
<b>Sept. 29</b>	<b>Individual Photographs Taken</b>
<b>Sept. 30</b>	<b>Good Stuff Awards</b>
<b>Sept. 30</b>	<b>Terry Fox Run</b>
<b>Sept. 30</b>	<b>Family Movie Night</b>
<b>Oct. 7</b>	<b>Turkey Trot</b>
<b>Oct. 14</b>	<b>Terry Fox Run to Terry Fox Foundation</b>
<b>Oct. 21</b>	<b>Professional Development Day</b>
<b>Oct. 28</b>	<b>Good Stuff Awards</b>



Sincerely,

Mr. Sean Della Vedova  
Principal

# Community News



## Basketball:

The Tri-City Youth Basketball Association (TCYBA) kicks off its season with practices starting the week of September 26<sup>th</sup>. There is still space available for your child or their friends to join a team for the fall season.

Teams in your area that still have limited spots available are:

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Practice Location</u>	<u>Practice Date</u>	<u>Practice Time</u>
Grade 2/3 Girls	Irvine Elementary	Wednesday	5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Grade 2/3 Girls	Pleasantide Elementary	Wednesday	5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Grade 3/4 Girls	Eagle Ridge Elementary	Monday	5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Grade 3/4 Girls	Walton Elementary	Tuesday	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Grade 4/5 Girls	Panorama Heights Elementary	Thursday	5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Games are Friday nights (no games for grade 2/3 teams)

**TO REGISTER**, please go to our website [www.tcyba.org](http://www.tcyba.org) and click on the **BLUE** Member Login Button. Create a New Member profile prior to selecting a team to register to (Roster spots are filled on first come basis, if the team you are interested in registering to is not on the list of choices under the particular age group, then it means that the team is FULL).

If you experience any problems, please feel free to contact our registrar at [registration@tcyba.org](mailto:registration@tcyba.org). **Remember - we play indoors and we don't play on the weekends!**

## Fine Tune Your Parenting Skills

Two different parenting programs will be offered this term. The information and contact person is listed below. Register quickly to assure a space.

### How to Talk so Kids Will Listen...

#### How to Listen so Kids Will Talk

- **Rochester Elementary:**  
The 6 week program is held Tuesday nights from 7-9 PM.  
beginning October 25 and ending November 29<sup>th</sup>.  
Book cost: \$20.00 (payable first class)

### Steps to Effective Parenting.

- **Alderson Elementary:**  
The 7 week program will be held from 9:30 AM – 11 AM  
Beginning October 19 and ending November 30th.  
Book Cost \$20.00 (payable first class)

Facilitated by: Marna Omichinski / Youth Worker

To Register: Email: [momichinski@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:momichinski@sd43.bc.ca)

Phone: 604-313-8902

*6 week course on Sibling Rivalry to be held in the new year.  
Prior attendance at these parenting classes is a prerequisite.  
Dates to be posted in January/2012*