



École BANTING MIDDLE School

Spring 2018

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Greetings Banting Friends and Families,

Middle school is always busy, but this time of year feels especially so. These last two months are about reflecting on the past year and looking forward to the



next. We are in the process of transitioning our incoming grade 5 students into Banting and our grade 8 students to their respective high schools. Class building is always a complex process and our team spends a lot of time considering what is best for each student. For next year, we are again full (not accepting any cross boundary transfers) and will have twenty (20) divisions. With the gradual phase out of our Late French Immersion, for the first time in many years, we will have equal amount of French divisions and English divisions. Again next year, we will need to comply with Supreme Court of Canada ruling restoring previous teacher contract language. Explorations next year will again be English and French mixed. Following the contract language has made it challenging for teachers to meet up and plan/collaborate curriculum and teaching ideas together. To remedy this, our staff has come up with the idea of shortening our lunch break by 5 minutes each day, and starting school 25 minutes later every Wednesday for the 2018-19 school year. No curriculum or class time would be lost, and students could still arrive at the usual time every Wednesday as there will still be supervision. We will be presenting this idea and discussing it at the next PAC Meeting on Wednesday May 16 at 6:30, in the library. Additionally, we are still looking for a PAC chair, secretary and treasurer for next year. Please contact me at the school if you are interested.

As the weather warms up, just a reminder for students to wear clothing that is suitable for moving around comfortably as they go through their days. Students whose clothing choices amount to degrees of nudity (e.g. exposed buttocks, midriff, pectorals and breasts), will be asked to put on different attire. Respectful workplace attire is the guideline. Parents and students can check the policies in the agenda for the full dress code.

Lastly, we had an opportunity to tour the new school this past week. We do have a Banting "closing celebration/Banting reunion" for all past and present staff and students planned for June 21, 2018 from 4:00 – 9:00. Mark it on your calendar as it promises to be a fantastic event – more details to come your way. We are still unsure when the move over will occur, but at present, November seems to be not a bad prediction ☺ You can see the videos here (Done by Mr. Trask's iPhone – very amateur, but world class commentary):

First Floor - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xPSDOvg6DI8>

Second Floor - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vqvcZWmVDvA>

As always, please check our calendar and our announcements frequently to keep up with life and events at Banting.

Happy Spring!

Bill Trask

Principal

Genevieve McMahon

Vice Principal

BANTING MIDDLE CALENDAR 2017-2018

April 2018

25	Mini Track Meet #1 - Como Lake Middle 3:30-5:30
25	Open House and Info Night for Parents of Incoming Grade 6 Students 6:30 to 8:00 pm
26	Basketball Jamboree for Grade 5 Students 3:30 to 5:30 pm

May 2018

1	Immunization #2 - Grade 6 students
2	Mini Track Meet #2 - Eagle Mtn Middle 3:30-5:30
8	Grade 6 Immunization Catch Up Day
9	Middle School 101 for Grade 6 Parents Library 7:00 pm
11	District Track Meet
16	PAC Meeting - Library 6:30 pm
21	Victoria Day SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION
30	"Trash" - Matinee Performance at 1:30
31	"Trash" - Evening Performance at 7:00 pm Gym

June 2018

11	Pro-D Day - SCHOOL BASED CLASSES NOT IN SESSION
12	Staff Appreciation Lunch
13	Grade 6 for a Morning - Grade 5 students to Banting from 9:30 to 11:30 am
14	Year End Music Concert 6:00 - 8:00 pm
20	PAC Meeting 6:30 pm Library
21	Farewell Banting Gathering GYM 4:00 - 8:00
22	Cultus Lake - Schoolwide Field Trip 8:30 - 3:00
27	Grade 8 Leaving Ceremony
27	Grade 8 BBQ 12:00 - 12:30
27	Grade 8 Dance 12:30 - 2:00
27	Year End Dance for whole school 2:00 - 3:00
28	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL Report Card pick up 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.
29	Administrative Day

Outstanding Activity Fees

If you have received a yellow notice reminding of outstanding Student Activity Fees in the amount of \$35.00 for your child, they are now overdue. Student Activity Fees are requested at the beginning of each school year to cover off several items that are of a school-wide nature. That includes the cost of your child's planner, the use of a lock for his/her locker, several extra-curricular activities including school-wide celebrations and special events such as pancake breakfasts and special guest speakers for assemblies, to name a few.

In September, you were also sent a request from Banting PAC to donate \$35.00. The two items are completely separate and cover different initiatives within the school. We endeavour to remedy that confusion in the future. Fees are payable via cash, cheque or at www.schoolcashionline.com. You can find the online option available under Quick Links on our Banting homepage. To those of you who have already submitted your payments, thank you! Your contribution is appreciated and enables us to continue to provide your child with quality experiences involved in middle school life.

Traffic Update

The Miller Park drop off lane is open again. As a friendly reminder, please note there is no stopping or dropping off in this lane. It is a drive through only, Thank you!

Student Absence Reporting – NOT just for Illness!

For any absence, illness, vacation or early dismissal please go to Banting's home page, go to Quick Links, and click on Absence Report. All absence reports are processed in the school office throughout the day, and even though you may have emailed the teacher as a courtesy, it is best to fill out this form or call the office.

If your child needs to leave for any kind of appointment during the day, please select the Early Dismissal option on the Absence Report site and indicate what time you need your child ready to be picked up. Students must ALWAYS sign out in the office, if they are leaving for any reason. In case of an emergency, we need to know who is, and who is not in the building, so that everyone is accounted for.

We understand last minute appointments. In cases like this, please call the school as far in advance as you can. We will do our best to locate your child, however, please keep in mind that often your child is in another team teacher's classroom, or in an explorations class, or even outside during the good weather. There are only 2 individuals in the office for the entire Banting student population, and some lead time is optimal in order to fulfill your request.

L'eau Blue

M Kimura, Mme Mazzei, Ms. Davis, Ms. Chiew

L'eau blue has had a busy month of April as we've concluded our dance unit in PE and started track and field in the warm weather. Across both French and English we have been working on a geometry unit in math learning about surface area of various prisms. We have an upcoming team field trip planned to go swimming at the Coquitlam Aquatic Centre in mid-May. There are also some exciting end of year trips appearing on the calendar soon including our French Grade 7s trip to Quebec and our English Grade 8s going to Camp Elphinstone.

Terra Vert

M Blizzard, M Hashmi, Mme Lepine, Ms. Knowles, Ms. Ruhr

Springtime in Terra Vert

Learning springs eternal in Terra Vert! Insights blossom daily in our verdant Banting ecosystem, both indoors and out. We're having fun learning in all our classes, from Language Arts to Earth Sciences to Track and Field. On May 4th we'll be walking to Dr. Charles Best Secondary for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and to Mundy Park for a midspring afternoon's picnic. In June we'll be hiking back up to SFU for chemistry and human anatomy workshops. Lots left to look forward to in the two months ahead!

Rouge Fire

Ms. Cleto, Mr. Loewy, Mme Anderson, Mme Ballard, Mme Kadhim

The Red Team students continue to work hard in their classes while having fun getting to know each other more. As the year has gone on, Red Team students have embraced many opportunities to show leadership around the school by involving themselves in sports, clubs and by setting examples for the other Banting students. In PE, students have worked on creating their own dance routines and a few groups will be chosen to share these dances with the entire school. In June, we have our year end field trip to Westhill Park to look forward to.

Soleil Gold

Ms. Enga, M Campbell, Mme Nicolson, Mme Zepeski, Mme Jordan

Soleil Gold is so happy Spring is here and we can get outside again! We are looking forward to our walk to see Charles Best's production of a Midsummer Night's Dream – May the Fourth be with you. Meanwhile, we are fully engaged in Term 3 and learning. In Social Studies, the Grade 6 English are expanding their understanding of Globalization, while the FRIM classes are learning about mapping, human and physical geography. In English, Divisions 9 and 11 went deep into News Literacy using the program Checkology; everyone has been working on increasingly complex grammar and developing personal strategies to improve. We are starting short stories, with a focus on mental health. In HACE, students are exploring STEM careers using the online program Everfi, and looking at trade career options. In Francais Langue, the focus is on future and conditional tenses in grammar, and a novel study that everyone seems to be enjoying! In PE, students just finished their dance unit, and they are starting on a short track and field unit as the track and field season is well underway. Finally, in Math, students are working on geometry and calculating the area of two and three dimensional shapes.

Silver Sky

Mr. Veltri, Ms. Sidhu, Mme Fenrick, Mme Riccardi, Mme Romilly

It has been a productive few months on the Silver Team. On the English side, students have been working on descriptive paragraphs and editing skills. They are learning how to expand their vocabulary in an effective and powerful way. Students have continued to work on their media unit in Social Studies. Classes have also focused on learning about Earth's Crust and Pangea; we have viewed various informative documentaries to support our learning. In math, students are focusing on percent's, fractions and decimals. They have also learned how to convert them and solve for percent of a number. The French Immersion students have been working on conjugating verbs and the Passé Composé and l'Imparfait. They have also been reading a short story "Satsquatch" to increase their vocabulary. In Science students have been investigating and learning about different body systems. In math, students have focused on decimals and fractions along with order of operations. And finally, in Social Studies students have been creating group projects on the topic global citizenship. The Silver team is also looking forward to their upcoming field trip to Charles Best Secondary to watch a production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

PAC NEWS

Banting PAC is seeking a new President, Treasurer and Secretary for the 2018-2019 school year. These Executive Positions must be filled in order to receive funding from the provincial government. If there is not an executive in place, Banting PAC will lose this funding. If you wish to step up and volunteer your time, it will be necessary for you to attend 10 meetings over the school year (typically the meetings last 1-2 hours) so your commitment is minimal. Part of your responsibilities include finding volunteers for PAC activities, taking minutes at the meetings as the Secretary and the Treasurer is responsible for the budget. The next and final PAC meetings of this school year are May 16th and June 20th in our Library at 6:30.

News from Explorations Team

Ms. Lee, Mr. Kantola, Ms. Paxton, Ms. Allan, Ms. Cairns

The fifth and final rotation of explorations classes are starting on May 4th. The students will be taking their last explorations for the year.

Students will be acquiring new skills and knowledge. Learning about different types of bridges and building their own bridge are something to look forward to in Tech Ed. In Inquiry, students will explore and share an interest of their own choosing. Making whistles will be only one project to create in Visual Arts. Performing arts students will write their own music along with learning to play the guitar. Finally, in Home Arts, cooking and weaving are skills to be learned.

As you can see, there is still lots to learn until the end of the year. I am sure your child is already sharing with you what they have already learned.

If you have questions about your child's progress in Explorations, please feel free to contact the teacher either by email or phone.

Student Services Corner

Dear Readers, I am reprinting this column as this is an issue which keeps coming up!

Dear Student Services Corner:

I just met with my daughter's teachers last week and am very concerned about her academic performance. She tries really hard but still struggles. She is going into grade 8 this fall and I don't think that she is ready. I know that there is a summer school option, but what I would really like is to set up a tutor for her. When I went on line to find one, most of them are in the \$30 range per hour and I cannot afford this. Summer Learning will not work for us as we are going to be away for some of that time. Do you have any suggestions?

~ **Out of Ideas**

Dear Out of Ideas

I would encourage you to sit down with your daughter on a regular basis and have her review what she needs to do each night to be successful. Having a classmate whom she can contact if she misses anything or needs more explanation, works well for many of our students. Regular communication with her teachers is also very helpful. Have you considered hiring a high school student to tutor your child? Many high school students are very eager to work this summer, have flexible schedules and typically charge between \$14 and \$17 per hour. Please contact me if you would like more information.

Best of luck!

If you have a question or concern and would like to

Going on vacation? Missing School for a Sporting Activity? Banting Homework Policy

Each year we are approached by an increasing number of parents who wish to take their child out of school for extended periods of time. Usually this is for reasons associated with family plans or family business. We do not have a procedure for granting students a "leave of absence". Rather it is assumed that parents will make decisions in the best interests of their own child. We are respectful of the fact that many of our families have family members far away, and spending time with them is important. Difficulties arise, however, when parents wish to have some sort of reassurance that their child will not be "behind" in their work when they return. If your child misses school for extended periods of time, he or she will be "behind" in classroom work. Missed classroom time can mean the loss of significant teaching and learning for the child, particularly in the areas of cooperative or group project work, classroom discussions, oral exercises, partner work, and hands-on activities (e.g., science, math). It is not always possible to recreate these learning situations for one child upon his/her return to school. It is your right to take your child out of school due to family circumstances, but once you have exercised that privilege, you must also accept the responsibility of your child's education during that absence.

Students may well have other cultural and travel experiences which contribute to their overall development, but the many varied daily classroom activities they will miss cannot be duplicated through worksheets or workbooks. We are not in the position to provide assignments for children who have extended absences due to family plans, sporting events ..etc. Rather we are providing a list of suggested activities which are designed to assist parents with planning for their child's educational needs while traveling.

Ideas:

- Set aside a time each day for reading.
- Have your child keep a reading response journal in which he or she records this reading activity and thoughts about what has been read that day. There are many ways of structuring this, depending on how much time the parent and child are willing to devote.
- Keep a scrapbook of special places or sightseeing. This can include postcards, pamphlets, drawings, etc., with some student writing or labelling. Maps with routes marked on them and short paragraphs about the historical significance of certain landmarks would be useful additions.
- Have your child keep a "math journal" or ledger, dealing with changes in time, currency, distances travelled, cost of fuel and meals....lots of real life practice with numbers and your child can help to check the bills when you get home .

Utilize one of the many educational websites available. A few examples – Khan Academy for math, Duolingo for French, and there are many excellent educational documentaries on Google or Netflix.



Learning for All

Engaging and quality learning opportunities await your child this summer!

Summer School Programs 2018
Registration opens April 27th

**Elementary
Skill Building**
Friday, April 27th

**Middle School
Skill Building**
Tuesday, May 1st



**Secondary Program
Secondary Skill Building
and Remedial**
Tuesday, May 1st

**Grade 10 Advanced (High
School) Credit and Online
Fast Track**
Friday, May 4th

**Grade 11 Advanced (High
School) Credit and Online
Fast Track**
Tuesday, May 8th

**Grade 12 Advanced (High
School) Credit and Online
Fast Track**
Friday, May 11th

- Students must have an account on our online system BEFORE registering for courses.
- Please visit our website and create/update your account now.
- To create an account you will need your child's PEN number, which is available at your child's home school.

Courses are Tuition free for BC Residents.



Courses
Start July.
For exact dates,
times and
locations
visit our website.

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www.summerlearningcoquitlam.ca

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) SUMMER LEARNING Support for IEP and Learning Needs Students

SD43 Summer Learning will provide supports for students who have an Individual Education Plan ("low incidence" Categories A through H), having significant learning needs (i.e., disabilities of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional, or behavioural nature).

For important information about these supports visit our public Summer Learning website at <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/SUMMER/>