



James Park News January 2019

Together We Can ... Learn, Belong, Take Care of each other and this place

Please help us as we strive to do our best at school

Dear Parents/Guardians

The holidays are complete, and Valentine's and BC Family are right around the corner. Similar to last year, and even though it happened one month ago, I would like to express my appreciation to you for attending our Christmas concert as well as to our wonderful staff who volunteered their time so that we were able to put on an evening concert for you. A HUGE 'Thank You', of course, goes out to our Music teacher Ms. Oliverio (and family) who showed an amazing amount of passion and dedication for this event. Outstanding!

Staffing Changes:

In case you are unaware, I would like to introduce Ms. Macdonald to our community. Ms Macdonald is Mr. Demetlika's teaching partner and teaches grade 3/4/5 Montessori on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. She also works in Student Services on Thursdays. Congratulations to Mr. D. who successfully applied to a district technology support position! He now supports teachers district wide with technology in the classroom on the days Ms. Macdonald teaches Div. 12. In addition, Ms. Montie, one of our long-time noon hour supervisors, retired before the holidays, and we welcome Ms. Samani to James Park who has replaced her.

Kindergarten Registrations

Please keep in mind that Kindergarten registrations for September 2019 will be from Monday, February 4 to Wednesday, February 6. Each day, our office will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. for registration purposes. Feel free to share this information with a family who may not have access to this newsletter and has a Kindergarten-aged child. If you are planning to apply for cross-catchment to another school, please follow the process by applying to your neighborhood school first. The cross-catchment process starts at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 7. You may apply via online or paper/hardcopy. Usually, online applications are much faster than paper registrations. The process closes on Wednesday, February 13 at 4:00 p.m.

Absences – Short Term and Extended

I recently requested via email to log absences via our website/email. Please use the ‘Absence Report’ link under ‘Quick Links’ on our school’s website to log absences. I believe this will significantly reduce the number of phone calls in the morning and free up our secretary to look after students who arrive late.

Also, each year we are approached by 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. Students may well have other cultural and travel experiences that contribute to their overall development, but the many varied daily classroom activities that 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. Rather we are providing a list of suggested activities that are designed to assist parents with planning for their child’s educational needs while traveling. They are as follows:

- Set aside a time each day for reading books
- Have your child keep a reading response journal in which he or she records this activity and thoughts about what has been read that day
- Keep a scrapbook of special places or sightseeing
- Have your child keep a “math Journal” or ledger, dealing with changes in time and currency, distances traveled, cost of fuel and meals, etc.

Please visit our school website regularly for important info, announcements and school dates.

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/jamespark/Pages/default.aspx>

School Calendar – Days to Remember!

James Park

Feb 1st	HOT LUNCH
Feb 1st	9am Assembly
Feb 4th – 6th	Kindergarten Registration
Feb 5th – 8th	Rocks and Rings (Curling) PAC Sponsored during School Time.
Feb 4th	PAC Meeting at 6:30pm
Feb 7th - 13th	Cross Catchment Process Opens 9am Feb 7th ONLINE, closes Feb 13th at 4pm
Feb 14th	HOT LUNCH
Feb 15th	School NOT IN SESSION (District wide)
Feb 18th	FAMILY DAY – School NOT IN SESSION
Feb 19th	100th Day of School
Feb 20th	Popcorn Treat Day
Feb 22nd	District PRO D Day
Feb 28th	Pink Shirt Day
March 1st	Group Photo Day
March 15th	Full Day, Last Day before Spring Break
March 16th – March 31st SPRING BREAK	
April 1st	School Back in Session
April 25th	Early Dismissal Day 1:53PM

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

School Calendar 2018-2019

DESIGNATION	
Schools open	Tuesday, Sept. 4
Pro D Day	Friday, Sept. 21
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, Oct. 8
Pro D Day	Friday, Oct. 19
Non-Instructional Day for Redesigned Curriculum Training	Friday, Nov. 9
Remembrance Day Stat Holiday	Monday, Nov. 12
Schools close for Winter vacation (last day in session)	Friday, Dec. 21
Winter vacation period	Dec. 24 – Jan. 4
Schools reopen after Winter vacation	Monday, Jan. 7
School Not in Session	Friday, Feb. 15
BC Family Day	Monday, Feb. 18
Pro D Day	Friday, Feb. 22
Schools close for Spring vacation (last day in session)	Friday, Mar. 15
Spring vacation period	Mar. 18 – 29
Schools reopen after Spring vacation	Monday, Apr. 1
Good Friday	Friday, Apr. 19
Easter Monday	Monday, Apr. 22
Pro D Day	Friday, Apr. 26
Victoria Day	Monday, May 20
Last day of school for all students	Thursday, June 27
Administrative Day	Friday, June 28

**** Please note: an additional 2 school-based non –instructional days will be selected by each school.**

***** Jan 25th 2019 School Based Pro-D James Park**

***** May 31st 2019 School Based Pro-D James Park**