



James Park News

September 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,

Welcome Back to Another Exciting School Year!

If you are brand new to James Park, a special, warm 'Welcome' to you and your family. Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you have any questions about the school. In addition, I encourage all parents to get involved at James Park – as much or as little as you can afford. I believe that a high level of parent involvement leads to more opportunities for our students! Please contact our Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Ms. Krause lyndsaykpac@gmail.com or at 604-355-8372 if you are interested in volunteering for your school. I/we appreciate all you do!

School Start Up and New Staff

Our first week is behind us and we were able to move students into their homeroom divisions last Friday afternoon. Like last year, we focused on school values and expectations during the first week of school. I am expecting that our teaching staff focus on values such as safety, kindness, respect, trust and learning throughout the year as these represent James Park's core values.

We have had several changes to our staff this year and below is a list of new staff members or staff members whose assignment has changed from last year:

Teaching Staff: Div. 1 (4/5) - Mr. Veitch and Mr. Lee, Div. 3 (4/5) – Ms. Jorgenson and Mr. Lee, Div. 4 (2/3) – Ms. Burke, Div. 5 (2/3) – Ms. Verhaeghe, Div. 6 (2/3) – Ms. Adebowale, Div. 8 (1/2) – M.s Bailey, Div. 10, (K/1) – Ms. Matterson/Ms. Kennedy, Div. 11 (K/1) – Ms. Weiseman/Ms. Kennedy, Div. 14 (3/4/5 Mont.) – M.s Lai
Student Services: Ms. Camele, Ms. Westman, Ms. Wachowski (full time), Mr. Martin, Mr. Demetlika (teacher-librarian and learning commons teacher), Ms. Kim

Educational Assistants: Ms. Allen

Youth Worker: Ms. Halcro (full time)

We should be able to update our staff directory on our school's webpage shortly. Please visit the site for a complete list of James Park staff. <https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/jamespark/Pages/default.aspx#/>



Staff and Parent BBQ

All parents and their children are invited to attend our annual Meet the Teacher BBQ on Thursday Sept 19th evening from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Please join us for a FREE hot dog or burger. This is a great, informal opportunity to meet your child's teacher as well as other parents!

CHEQ Surveys for Kindergarten Parents

If you haven't had time to complete the survey, please take a moment to do so. The survey provides the school district and our community with important information about early childhood experiences, services and experiences that could be organized in Port Coquitlam. Your participation in this 30-minute survey is much appreciated! Surveys can be completed at home (you need your login from the office) or here at school.

Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) for Grade 4s

Like last year, the FSA test for grade 4 students are at the beginning of the school year. Grade 4 teachers will administer the test during the month of October and the first week of November. The test will require students to complete literacy and numeracy tasks; most are paper-pencil tasks yet two parts are completed electronically online. Grade 4 parents can expect the results by the end of November. Please talk to your child's teacher or to me if you have any questions or concerns about the assessment.

For more information on FSA, visit: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/assessment/foundation-skills-assessment>



As a HEALTHY SCHOOL we strive to promote a vibrant and healthy school through strong partnerships and collective action

Happy September!!

With summer coming to an end, schedules and routines changing, you may have questions or be looking for helpful tips. The [Fraser Health School Health](#) website has a wide variety of resources for you to access, nutrition, exercise and sleep to name a few. Also, check out the [Healthy Back to School Guide](#) for more great ideas. I look forward to an exciting school year! ~ **Diana**

A promotional graphic with a yellow background. On the left, there are various school-related icons: a notepad, a computer monitor, a red apple, a ruler, a keyboard, a mouse, a pair of glasses, a red book, a calculator, a hand holding a yellow star, and a pencil. On the right, the text reads: 'Give yourself a gold star in school health this year.' Below this, it says: 'Our new School Health and Child and Youth web resource can help you keep your K-12 students — and schools — happy and healthy.' At the bottom, the URLs 'Fraserhealth.ca/schoolhealth' and 'Fraserhealth.ca/childandyouth' are listed. The Fraser Health logo is in the bottom right corner.

Give yourself a gold star in school health this year.

Our new **School Health** and **Child and Youth** web resource can help you keep your K-12 students — and schools — happy and healthy.

Fraserhealth.ca/schoolhealth
Fraserhealth.ca/childandyouth

fraser health
Helping health. And schools too.



Parent Volunteers

Have you considered volunteering at James Park? If the answer is "Yes", we would love to hear from you. As mentioned above we are looking for parent volunteers (drivers for field trips, coaches, assistance with special class or school-wide events). If you "only" have one hour on a certain day, why not volunteer and listen to a child read a book to you? Please speak to your child's teacher if you are interested. Depending on the volunteer work you provide you may need a volunteer form and submit a (free of charge) criminal record check. If you are interested in driving for field trips, you must also submit a driver's abstract. Please contact our office to obtain the volunteer form or if you have any questions.

Absence Reporting

When your child is going to be absent from school or will be late you can go to our web page - <https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/jamespark/Pages/default.aspx> - and use the **Absence Report** button and fill out the form (right hand side). If you don't have access to a computer, please call the school (604-942-6658). If no one answers, please leave a voice mail with your son or daughter's name, grade, division and expected duration of the absence.

Self-Identification

Please see the PDF on James Park Website regarding what this is exactly. *Coquitlam School District 43 is committed to the academic success, cultural connection and socio-emotional development of all Aboriginal Learners. We have one of the highest Aboriginal graduation rates in the Province and are very proud of the work of all our educators and the Aboriginal Education Department. We wish to continue this excellent work and improve even more. As such, self-identification is important.*

Thank-you and please direct any questions to Aboriginal Education District Principal Gayle Bedard.

School Calendar – Days to Remember! James Park

Mon, Sept 9 th	Community School Programs Registration OPENED
Friday, Sept 13 th	Individual Student Portraits
Thurs, Sept 19 th	Meet the Teacher BBQ
Friday, Sept 20 th	District-Wide Pro D Day (No School in Session)
Thurs, Sept 26 th	Terry Fox Run (9:10 start)
Mon, Sept 30 th	Orange Shirt Day – Every Child Matters

After School Programs – Programs Start Sept 30th until Nov 22, 2019
Register on James Park Website under Community Programs button.

***** Community Development Facilitator*****

Laura McKinley lmckinley@sd43.bc.ca

604-209-1424

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
SCHOOL CALENDAR 2019 - 2020

Schools Open	Tuesday, September 3, 2019
Non-Instructional Day (Common District Day)	Friday, September 20, 2019
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 14, 2019
Non-Instructional Day (Common District/ Common Provincial Day)	Friday, October 25, 2019
Remembrance Day Stat Holiday	Monday, November 11, 2019
Schools Close for Winter Vacation (last day in session)	Friday, December 20, 2019
Winter Vacation Period	December 23/19 - January 3/20
Schools Re-open after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 6, 2020
School Not in Session	Friday, February 14, 2020
BC Family Day	Monday, February 17, 2020
Non-Instructional Day (Common District Day)	Friday, February 28, 2020
Schools Close for Spring Vacation (last day in session)	Friday, March 13, 2020
Spring Vacation Period	March 16 – March 27, 2020
Schools Re-Open after Spring Vacation	Monday, March 30, 2020
Good Friday	Friday, April 10, 2020
Easter Monday	Monday, April 13, 2020
Non-Instructional Day (Common District Day)	Friday, April 17, 2020
Victoria Day	Monday, May 18, 2020
Last Day of School for all Students	Thursday, June 25, 2020
Administrative Day	Friday, June 26, 2020

Please add your two School Based Non-Instructional Days below:

1 st School Based Non-Instructional Day:	Monday, January 27th, 2020
2 nd School Based Non-Instructional Day:	Friday, May 29 th <u>2020</u>