



Bramblewood Elementary School

2875 Panorama Drive, Coquitlam, BC V3E 2S7

Phone: 604-552-0313 Fax: 604-552-2132

Website: [https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/bramblewood/Pages/default.aspx#/="](https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/bramblewood/Pages/default.aspx#/=)

Office email: bramblewood@sd43.bc.ca

Mr. Michael Bird, Principal

Dear Parents / Guardians and Students:



Welcome back to a new school year with our school sporting a very different look. By far the most visible change to our school has been the exterior construction work around the building. Meanwhile the inside of the building is humming along as normal. Normal for September is a lot of positive excitement and planning in anticipation of having a great school year. Our caretakers spent the summer giving the school a deep clean. Teachers have been in and out of the building getting ready for the new year and our school clerical, Ms. Weedon, has been in the building since the last week of August, registering new families, sorting out office and school needs and helping me and everyone else a tonne, as she does all year. Our first week and a bit have gone well, with students getting to see each faces they have missed and everyone settling into school schedules and now into their classes for the year.

We would like to remind all families that there is no teacher supervision until 8:45 am when classes begin. All children need to be picked up at 2:45pm.

Please check out our school webpage [Home - Bramblewood Elementary School](#) which has lots of useful information, such as links to our school calendar (check out September events), and the link to submit student absences. The best to let us know about your child not coming to school is via the 'absence report' link on the right side of the home page. Please check out the site and notice all the other helpful links on the page.

Bramblewood PAC is a great way to be involved in our school and help support our students' elementary world. Their first meeting is this September 23rd, at 6:30 pm, in our school Library. We encourage all parents to attend our PAC Meetings.

Should you have any questions or concerns around your child whether they be academic or social, please do not hesitate to seek assistance from classroom teachers. Education is the shared responsibility of the home, school and community and it is imperative that we work together to create an enjoyable, engaging, and safe learning community for all of our children.

Here's to a fantastic school year!

Sincerely,

Michael Bird

Principal

Bramblewood Elementary School

BPAC

Bramblewood PAC's First Meeting:

**September 23rd
6:30 pm in person in
the school Library**

**Meeting will also be
offered as an online
TEAMS meeting.**

BPAC Contact at:
Bramblewoodparents2@gmail.com

**Pro D Day
Friday, September
19th**

**Truth & Reconciliation
Day
Tuesday, September
30th**

**Students
Do Not
Attend School
These Two Days**

Reporting Absences / Lates / Student Dismissal

For your child's safety, we are required to check attendance and place safe arrival telephone calls prior to 10 am. Please assist us by advising if your child will be absent, late or require early dismissal from school. You can do that one of three ways:

- ① Submit an online "Absence Report" ⇒ found on Bramblewood website + under quick links.
- ② Email: bramblewood@sd43.bc.ca
- ③ If options 1 and 2 are not possible, call the school at 604-552-0313

Thanks for keeping us informed at school!

Student Forms

Important: Emergency release forms will be sent home in the first couple of weeks of school. Please check your child's backpack. **Please return completed forms to your child's teacher before Monday, September 29th. All other forms are online and can be found on School Cash Online – see 'Quick Links' on the school website.**

Moved?



VERY IMPORTANT: If you have moved over summer and haven't made the school office aware, kindly do so as soon as possible by emailing: bramblewood@sd43.bc.ca or call 604-552-0313. With any move, we require 3 x residency documents showing your name and new address prior to proceeding with address change in our system.

Bramblewood: Afterschool Activities (Fall 2025)

We Check out the Do What You Luv link on the right side of the Bramblewood home page. Click the link and use the search word 'Bramblewood' and you will see a two after school classes that are available for parents to register their child to attend. Both are physical sport activities and registration is now open.

Terry Fox Run

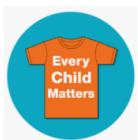


Thousands of schools across Canada raise funds for cancer research by participating in the Terry Fox School Run. Bramblewood will continue to honour Terry and his Marathon of Hope by organizing activities centered around who he was and the legacy he has left for others to continue. Our school will be fund raising and participating in the Terry Fox Run on April 10th. This date was chosen to connect to the start of Terry's Marathon of Hope which was April 12th, 1980.

Community Gathering PAC BBQ – Wednesday, Sept 23rd 4:00pm

Bramblewood PAC will also be hosting a community welcome back BBQ. The BBQ will be held on the blacktop basketball area beside the gym. The BBQ will start at 4:00pm. At 5:00 pm, school doors will open to allow students to show their families their new classroom. Teachers will be present in their room to meet families as well. Please note this is a get to meet the teacher time, not a time to hold important conversations about student well-being or progress.

"Canada's National Day for Truth & Reconciliation" - September 30th & Orange Shirt Day to be honoured at Bramblewood on Mon. Sept 29th



Orange Shirt Day began in Williams Lake in 2013 and has since spread to schools across B.C. and Canada. (Orangeshirtday.org) Bramblewood will participate, **honour and respect Orange Shirt Day on September 29th**. This is a day when we honour the Indigenous children who were sent away to residential schools in Canada and learn more about the history of those schools. Please show your respect and support by wearing an orange shirt to school. Thank you.

Pro-D Day & Statutory Day

Friday, September 19th is a non-instructional day for students as teachers are attending professional Development activities.

Tuesday, September 30th Bramblewood is closed as we honour the federal statutory holiday – “Truth and Reconciliation Day.”

Please remember to make alternate arrangements for your child for these days.

Photo Expressions – Photo Day – Wed. October 1st



Photo Expressions will be at Bramblewood on **Wednesday, October 1st** to take **individual photos**. Students are usually called for photos in order of youngest to oldest.

Classroom Photos:

Class photos will be taken on May 13th, 2026. Every child will receive a free classroom photo.

Bramblewood Parent Advisory Council Meeting (BPAC)



Welcome new families and returning Bramblewood Families!

We are your 2025-2026 Parent Advisory Council (PAC) and we are looking forward to an exciting school year full of fun activities and fundraisers to make Bramblewood the best school for your child(ren).

The PAC Executive is made up of:

- Sara Farid, Co-Chair
- Lynette Fraser, Co-Chair
- Ashley Hakin, Secretary
- Claire Zhu, Treasurer
- Olha Nesterchuk, Co-Vice Chair/Fundraising Coordinator
- Shalliz Rajsakha, Co-Vice Chair/Fundraising Coordinator
- Anni Zhai, Treat Day/Movie Coordinator
- Ryan Mymko, Past Chair

Our **first PAC Meeting** will be September 23rd, **6:30-7:30 pm**.

The meeting will be in-person at the school library or online via a TEAMS link sent to families closer to the date of the event.

PAC September Activities:

- Kindergarten Tea and Coffee: **September 11th in school MPR room**. Entrance door is about 30 metres to the left of the main office doors.
 - PAC and Principal will be hosting a welcome gathering in the library with coffee, tea, and light snacks. This is a wonderful opportunity for new K parents to meet with PAC and learn about all the amazing activities and opportunities that will be available throughout the school year
 - Please RSVP to Mr. Bird
 - Community Gathering PAC BBQ and Meet the Teacher Night: **September 17th, 4:00pm**
 - Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Veggie burgers, and Veggie dogs along with snacks and drinks will be available for sale
 - All food must be consumed outside of the school and may not enter the classrooms
- School Dance Party: **October 3rd**
 - DJ Rock 'n Beau will spinning all your favourite tunes as the kids will dance the night away at a party they will not forget!
 - <https://rocknbeau.com/>
 - Admission is FREE
 - **All students must be accompanied by a parent/guardian for the duration of the event**

- A concession stand with drinks and snacks will be available for purchase
- Stay tuned for RSVP details

Find us on Facebook at Bramblewood PAC and on Instagram Bramblewood PAC. If you are willing to volunteer for any of the above opportunities, please email us at bramblewoodparents2@gmail.com.

Bramblewood StrongStart Program

Bramblewood StrongStart is a program for children 0-5 yrs and their parents/caregivers. This program is designed to work in partnership between parents/caregivers and their children, an Early Childhood Educator, and community partners. Please feel free to email Linda (StrongStart Facilitator) if you have any questions ljang@sd43.bc.ca. StrongStart will welcome families back starting Monday, September 15th.

Playdates – Consent from Parents to the office

Due to safety and standard protocols in place, it is very important if the parent/guardian cannot pick up their child or perhaps there is a playdate set up that both children's parents need to email the office letting us know if the child is leaving at the end of the day with anyone other than the parent/ guardian. We cannot release students unless we have consent from parents/guardians of the child.

Please email bramblewood@sd43.bc.ca giving consent with your child's name, who is picking up etc. Additionally, if you use an after school care provider it is also helpful for them to be listed as a contact in our records.

Traffic Safety



Our drive-through area gets to be very busy and it is important that rules of usage are followed (see below).

IMPORTANT: If you choose to drop off on Bramble Lane, be sure to obey signage indicating “No Parking” zones. Also, please do not “U-turn” or use neighbors’ driveways to turn around in. Instead, take the time to drive to the top of the street to turn and always drop off on the side the school is on. The Bylaw Officer reminded us that he will be giving tickets to cars illegally parked. We need your assistance to ensure the safety of our students.

Please remember:

- **You must stay with your vehicle at all times. There is no parking or waiting in the drive-through at morning drop off.**
- **Please pull as far forward as possible in the drop off lane and drop off as quickly as possible.**
- **There is no parking or dropping off of students in the staff parking lot.**

Dogs on the Playground



We recognize and appreciate that pets are significant and adored members of some of our families. We need to balance this with the acknowledgement that pets can be unpredictable, particularly around high volumes of people. Therefore, we request that all dogs who are accompanying their owners on the walk to school each day are kept on leash and in the presence of their owner at all times. *We also ask that owners be mindful not to come within the pathways, waiting or playing areas of students.*

We also ask that students not pet the dogs that are accompanying owners near our site. This is for their safety, and also to ensure that students bring clean hands into their classrooms where they will be working alongside peers.

Back to School – On time!



For your child to have the best chance of success at school, they **must be on time** in order not to miss the information and opening exercises in the classroom. Research indicates a correlation between tardiness and student achievement. Late arrivals not only disrupt the learning for your child, but also their classmates. The morning bell rings at **8:45 am** by which time your child should be on the school grounds. ***Students that arrive after 8:45 am are considered late for school & should report to the office.*** Thank you for cooperating with us in this matter.

Student Planners



Every student in Grades 1-5 will receive a student planner, which is a communication tool between the school and your family. These are very helpful to students, parents and teachers. Each teacher will develop a system for using the planner that is appropriate to his or her grade level. Many thanks to the BPAC who are kindly covering the cost of the school planner for each student this year.

Toys and Other Personal Items

Items of value to a child should not be brought to school. Eventually, such items get lost, stolen, and most often end up damaged. Pokemon cards in particular are not appropriate for school and cause a disruption to the learning environment. The school provides playground balls for children to use. Students do not need to bring balls or sporting equipment from home.

Lost and Found



Please label all student supplies and clothing with the child's first and last name. Lost clothing, bags, etc. can be found hanging in the hallway near the gym. Jewelry, purses and other small items should be turned into the office and can be claimed from the office staff. Students are frequently reminded to look through the lost and found to reclaim items that have been turned in. Unclaimed items are donated to charity.

Bell Schedule 2025-2026



School Starts	8:45 am
Recess	10:15 am-10:35 am
Lunch (Students Eat Lunch Inside)	11:58 am-12:18 pm
Lunch (Outside Play)	12:18-12:45 pm
School Ends	2:45 pm

Back To School Health (From Fraser Health)

Your healthy back-to-school guide: As summer winds down, it's time to gear up for a healthy back-to-school season. Set the stage for a smooth transition back to school. Here are some practical tips to get you started.

Prioritize sleep: Ensuring your child gets enough sleep is an important part of a healthy back-to-school routine. Quality sleep helps with concentration, mood and overall well-being. In the weeks leading up to the start of school, gradually adjust your child's sleep schedule so they can adapt to the new routine. Aim for nine to 11 hours of quality sleep per night.

Eat well: Support your child's learning and development with scheduled meals and snacks. Breakfast kick starts their morning, while snacks and lunches nourish them throughout the day. Pack a water bottle to help them stay hydrated.

Boost immunity: As with any public environment, school exposes children to various germs and viruses. Ensuring they are up-to-date on their vaccinations helps protect them and others. Specific immunizations are recommended for children prior to entering Kindergarten as well as in grades six and nine. Help your child avoid the spread of illness by encouraging them to wash their hands regularly, teaching them to cover their coughs and sneezes and keeping them home when sick.

Keep active: Adding physical activity to your child's routine sets them up for success. Activities like walking or biking to school, playing sports, dancing, swimming or helping around the house are great ways for your child to stay active. Set limits on screen time and promote outdoor play as much as possible for overall well-being.

Make time for talking and connection: Going back to school can be a cause of anxiety or stress for children. Make it a point to encourage open communication and support your child to talk about their feelings and help them feel heard and understood. Integrate downtime into their routine where they can relax or focus on a special interest or hobby.

Find more school health tips and resources on Fraser Health's website: <https://ow.ly/gS1S50Pegic>

Bramblewood Elementary School Calendar 2025-26

Designation	Date(s)
School Opens	Tuesday, Sept 2
BPAC BBQ and Community Gathering	Wednesday, Sept 17
Pro D Day	Friday, Sept 19
Orange Shirt Day	Monday, Sept 29 th
Truth and Reconciliation Day – no school	Tuesday, Sept 30
Photo Day	Wednesday, Oct. 1
Thanksgiving Day – no school	Monday, Oct 13
Early Dismissal 1:45 pm	Wednesday, Oct 15
Pro D Day – no school	Friday, Oct 24
Remembrance Day – no school	Tuesday, Nov 11
Schools close for Winter vacation (last day in session)	Friday, Dec 19
Winter vacation period	Monday, Dec 22 – Friday, Jan 2
Schools re-open after Winter vacation	Monday, Jan 5
Pro D Day – no school	Monday, Jan 26
BC Family Day – no school	Monday, Feb 16
Pro D Day – no school	Friday, Feb 27
Schools close for Spring vacation (last day in session)	Friday, Mar 13
Spring vacation period	Monday, Mar 16 – Friday, Mar 27
Schools re-open after Spring Break	Monday, Mar 30
Good Friday – no school	Friday, Apr 3
Easter Monday – no school	Monday, Apr 6
Pro D Day – no school	Friday, Apr 24
Victoria Day – no school	Monday, May 18
Pro D Day – no school	Monday, June 1
Last day of school	Thursday, Jun 25
Administrative day – no school	Friday, June 26