



James Park News

January 2018

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 over and Valentine's and BC Family are right around the corner, 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 welcome Ms. Wilson to our community. Ms Wilson is our new administrative assistant, replacing Mrs. Dalgarno who is enjoying her well-deserved retirement. Also, we say 'Welcome Back!' to Ms. Weiseman who has returned to her K/1 classroom from her maternity leave as well as to one of our educational assistants Ms. Ponsart who has also returned to James Park. We are sad to see Mr. Djekanovic leave our school. He will be joining the district's Integrated Services Team (IST) on February 1. Mr. Djekanovic will be replaced by Mr. Stainton on the same date. Welcome, Mr. Stainton!

Respect at James Park

We have been specifically focusing on 'Respect' over the last month. Staff used a number of children's books as discussion starters about 'Respect'. Books your child's teacher may have used were: Be Bigger, What if Everybody Did That?, The Recess Queen, Red - A Crayon's Story, Stand Tall Molly Lou Melon, and The Sandwich Swap. The purpose of highlighting this important topic is for students to think about respect: What does it mean? Look like? Sound like? Feel like? We hope that this discussion is an extension of what you are doing with your children at home on a daily basis. We also recently conducted a school-wide write/draw on the topic. Students' work will be assessed at the beginning of February, collated and summarized in our Achievement Plan for Learning (APL) document available on our school's website.

Family Reading Nights

I hope you will consider bringing your child to family reading night. What's that? Good question! The idea is to emphasize that reading is important and to allow emergent readers to listen to another reader prior to bedtime. Students must bring one parent, may wear their pajamas and bring their favorite stuffed toy to this event. Please refer to the corresponding email or contact the office for more information. We hope to be able to offer Family Reading Night every other Monday evening from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m. If successful, we will inform you of future dates.

Extended Absences

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. (see next page)

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>

Sincerely,

Marco Jankowiak
Principal James Park Elementary

PAC NEWS

As a parent or guardian you are automatically a voting member of the PAC (Parent Advisory Council). There are a wide variety of ways for you to get involved with the PAC – Volunteering, fundraising, delivering hot lunches, sort and shelve books in the Library, attend meetings, being a Classroom representative, helping with the Fruit and Veggie Program, helping organize and run Carnival day, setting up and taking down tables and chairs at special events, attending performances and events, and more. **We would love to have your help! Any PAC is only as good as the volunteers who help it succeed!**

What does PAC do?

PAC helps with funding a lot of the “extras” that make up school life at James Park. Some of these extras include:

- Buses for Fieldtrips
- Special School-wide programs such as dance or gymnastics
- New Sports Equipment
- Special Presentations from theatre groups, magicians, and more.
- Emergency Preparedness
- Health Management (including lice checks)
- Breakfast Program

[More PAC news NEXT PAGE – Treasurer Opening!!](#)


Hello Parents/Caregivers of James Park Students!

There is a recent [opening for Treasurer](#) in your Parent Advisory Council and nominations are now open. If you are a parent/caregiver of a student at James Park you are already a member of PAC, but this is an opportunity to volunteer at the school and help make a positive difference for our kids there, and bring some fresh ideas to the PAC! The ideal candidate would have some knowledge of bookkeeping procedure such as keeping accurate and current record of all receipts and expenditures of the PAC, be able to balance accounts and reconcile monthly bank statements. A full list of duties is available in our Constitution and Bylaws on the school’s website at: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/jamespark/Parents/PAC/Pages/default.aspx>

We are also looking for two parent volunteers to conduct a review of our financial records. James Park PAC’s Constitution and Bylaws require a parent led review when there is a change in the Treasurer’s position. A review is just to confirm all the expenses are reasonable and have the appropriate documentation to support them. This is not a long-term commitment and should take no more than a few of hours! Any interested parties could direct inquiries to Lyndsay Krause(lkrause013@gmail.com), President, or Judi Zaklan(jamzaklan@gmail.com), Secretary.

School District 43

2018



Free Ready, Set, Learn Event for Families & their 3-5 Year Olds

Children will participate in a variety of play-based learning activities, listen to stories and receive a gift for attending. Parents will be able to learn and play with their child as well as meet with early childhood education experts and local community agencies. Adding even more fun to the festivities, enjoy an award-winning show by children’s entertainer Will Stroet. Morning shows will be at 10am and afternoon shows will be at 1:30pm.

Drop into any one of the following events. It’s all free!




Morning Events:

Monday, March 5
9:00-11:00
James Park Elementary

Tuesday, March 6
9:00-11:00
Seaview Elementary

Monday, March 12
9:00-11:00
Leigh Elementary

Tuesday, March 13
9:00-11:00
Central Elementary











Afternoon Events:

Monday, March 5
12:30-2:30
Roy Stibbs Elementary

Tuesday, March 6
12:30-2:30
Walton Elementary

Tuesday, March 13
12:30-2:30
Rochester Elementary



Making your summer plans yet?

Think ... *Summer Learning!*



Elementary: July 10-27 9am-12pm

K to 1 Transition, Fine Arts, French Immersion, Integrated Studies, Montessori, Math, Reading & Writing, Coding (Info Tech), Science - Outdoor Focus

Middle: July 10-27 8:45am-11:45am

Art, Band, Creative Writing, Drama, Home Ec/Culinary, Integrated Studies, Language Arts, Mathematics, Montessori, PE/Leadership, Coding (Info Tech), Science Grade 6/7 (Ecology/Outdoor Focus), Tech Ed

Secondary Skill Building & Remedial: July 10-27 8:30-11:30am & 12:00-3:00pm

English, English for School Success, Math, Music, Science, Fitness, Tech Ed

Advanced (High School) Credit: Face-to-face & Online blended (Fast Track):

July 4 - August 10 8:00-11:30am & 12:00-3:30pm

Gr 10, 11, and 12 courses in English, Mathematics & Sciences. Canadian Studies 10, Career Life Education (Planning), Fitness & Conditioning 11/12, PE 10/11, Social Studies 10/11, Composition 11 & Communications 12

See our website for full info: www.summerlearningcoquitlam.ca

- ⇒ Tuition is free for BC residents (International fees apply otherwise)
- ⇒ 13 school locations throughout the Tri Cities
- ⇒ Registration opens in late April, create/update your account today



School Calendar – Days to Remember! James Park

**** School Team Basketball practices are every Wed. 3-4pm**

****Choir Practices are Wed at 8:15am – 8:45 and Thursday at Lunchtime**

Fri, Feb 2nd

Hot Lunch

Mon, Feb 5th

Family Reading Night 6 – 6:30pm

Fri, Feb 9th

School Not in Session

Mon, Feb 12th

BC Family Day – School Not in Session

Wed, Feb 14th

Valentine's Day

Fri, Feb 16th

Jump Rope for Heart & Hot Lunch

Fri, Feb 23

Non Instructional Day (District Wide)

Fri, Mar 16th

Last Day in Session before Spring Break

Mar 19 – March 29th

Spring Vacation Period

Fri, March 30th

Good Friday – School Not in Session

April 2nd

Easter Monday – School Not in Session

April 3rd

School re-opens today

Fri, Apr 20th

Non Instructional Day (District Wide)

Mon, May 21st

Victoria Day – School Not in Session

Tues, May 23rd

School Based Non-Instructional Day

Thurs, June 28th

Last Day of School for all Students

Fri, June 29th

Administrative Day