

**Welcome back from Spring Break everyone.** It has been great to see our students reconnecting with friends and sharing stories about their break. The third term is upon us and we look forward to students continued progress through the end of June.



Each year, all staff and administration meet to create classes for the following year that will ensure the best possible learning environment for every child in the school. There are some foundational beliefs and understandings with which this process begins. Firstly, please be assured that at RC MacDonald, teachers work collaboratively to provide an appropriate learning situation for every child. Secondly, as with all reflective professionals, the teachers at RC MacDonald make changes in their approaches and strategies of teaching to accommodate the students they teach. Thirdly, a team approach is applied to working with children. Your child works with a number of teachers who support each other and work together to meet the needs of your child.

The following are some of the factors considered during our class building process:

- *Classroom teacher and school based team recommendations*
- *The overall makeup of the class being created*
- *Individual learning styles*
- *Intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development*
- *Behavioural issues*
- *Need for student services such as learning assistance, or English language support*
- *Male / female balance*
- *Pre-existing conflicts between children*
- *Pre-existing supportive relationships between children*

Although all factors are important, each is weighted differently depending upon the individual circumstances under discussion. Collaborative decisions will be made with each child in mind, and the more global view of the class composition and school organization. Teachers will review all available information regarding a child and his or her class placement. If you would like to share some information about your child from the home perspective, please note the following. ***Any communication regarding class placement for the next school year should be in put in writing and submitted to Mr. Watkins before the end of the school day on Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. Please do not state which teacher you do or do not wish your child to be placed with next year.*** Teacher assignments change from year to year, and the teacher you request may not end up teaching your child's grade level or even be at our school next year. We will do our best to place your child in an appropriate setting given all of the information outlined above. All information shared will be considered during the placement process. Please understand that the maximum amount of care and commitment goes into creating an enjoyable and effective learning environment for all students at RC MacDonald.

As we make plans for next school year we are also looking forward to a terrific third term with your children this year.

Sincerely, Mr. C. Watkins

## PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR AMENDMENTS FOR 2018/19 AND 2019/20

On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, the Ministry of Education announced the reduction of instructional hours to the 2018-19 school year to facilitate implementation of the revised curriculum. SD43 has proposed an amendment to the calendar to meet the Ministry of Education mandate. Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 has been proposed as the additional non-instructional day to meet the mandate.

On February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Office of the Premier announced the moving of BC Family Day to the third week of February beginning next year. To maintain the alignment of the 2018/19 and 2019/20 calendars that have already been passed by the board, both Family Day and a school closure day for the 2018/19 and 2019/20 calendar year have been moved back one week.

Please see the attached proposed calendar amendments. The proposed calendars will go to the Board of Education at the April 10<sup>th</sup> Public Board Meeting for final approval:

[Proposed Amended School Calendar for 2018-2019](#)

[Proposed Amended School Calendar 2019-2020](#)

## **SCHOOL SUPPLY ORDERS FOR NEXT YEAR**

Next week, students will be given a list of required classroom supplies for the 2018/2019 school year – on a Creative Children order form. ***Supplies can either be purchased individually or ordered through Creative Children using the form provided.*** An electronic version of the supply lists will be published on RC Mac's website once we receive the forms. Parents have the option of ordering on-line or sending the form back with payment to our office **\*\* by Thursday, April 26 (firm) \*\***. Kindergarten supply order forms are due back by June 4 (or can be ordered on-line ... paper copies will be given out to parents at the Welcome to Kindergarten session on May 30). The school supplies will be delivered to us in mid-late June, and we will let you know when to come pick them up.

Ordering through Creative Children is not mandatory - it is provided as an option for your convenience if you choose.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- [SD43 Summer Learning \(Elementary/Middle School\) Brochure](#)
- [SD43 Summer Learning \(April Ad\)](#)

**COMING UP AT R.C. MACDONALD:**

Como Lake Relays (2:30 – 5:00 PM @ Como Lake)	Apr 18	Wednesday
PAC Meeting (6:30 – 8:00 PM, Library)	Apr 19	Thursday
Pro-D Day (District) - <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	Apr 20	Friday
Grade 5 Parent & Student Info Night (Montgomery Middle, 7:00-9:00 PM)	Apr 25	Wednesday
RC MacDonald Public Speaking (11:00 – 12:20, Gym)	Apr 26	Thursday
Community Run / Treat Sale (9:45 AM start)	Apr 27	Friday
Mother's Day	May 13	Sunday
Victoria Day Holiday	May 21	Monday
Pro-D Day (School Based) - <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	May 22	Tuesday
District Track & Field Meet (Percy Perry Stadium)	May 25	Friday
PAC Annual General Meeting (6:30 – 8:00 PM, Library)	May 28	Monday
Welcome to Kindergarten Session (1:30 PM) (more info to come)	May 30	Wednesday
Hip Hop Week	Jun 4-8	Mon-Fri
Hip Hop Performance (time TBA)	Jun 8	Friday
<b>Early Dismissal @ 2:00 PM</b>	<b>Jun 13</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
Father's Day	Jun 17	Sunday
Talent Show	Jun 25	Monday
Sports Day	Jun 26	Tuesday
<b>Early Dismissal @ 2:00 PM</b>	<b>Jun 26</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>
Grade 5 Leaving Ceremony (1:07 PM, Gym)	Jun 27	Wednesday
Formal Report #3 goes home	Jun 28	Thursday
Last Day of School for Students	Jun 28	Thursday

The RC MacDonald calendar is online – all events that have been confirmed are available for you to see at a glance. please revisit our site as ***we will continue to add special event dates as they are confirmed.*** Our website is:

<https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/rcmacdonald/Pages/default.aspx>