



Riverview Park Elementary

Mrs. A. Young, Principal

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February 2024

In learning and in life, we at Riverview Park Elementary are responsible, kind, and curious.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

February	6	Scholastic Book Fair Opens, 2:35 PM in the Library Learning Commons First Day of Kindergarten Registration – Kindergarten Registration Information Staff Meeting, 2:45 PM PAC Meeting at 7:00 PM via TEAMS – Click here to join the meeting
	7	Scholastic Book Fair, 2:35 PM in the Library Learning Commons Game Ready Afterschool Program, 2:35 to 3:35 PM in the Gym
	8	*Early Dismissal for All Students, 1:35 PM Student Led Conferences, 2:00 to 6:00 PM Scholastic Book Fair Final Day, 1:35 PM in the Library Learning Commons Last Day of Kindergarten Registration – Kindergarten Registration Information
	9	Cross-Catchment Application Process OPENS at 9:00 AM – Please note that late submissions are NOT accepted. Hot Lunch (A&W), 12:20 PM
	10	Happy Lunar New Year!
	14	St. Valentine’s Day – Wear Red, Pink, or White! Game Ready Afterschool Program, 2:35 to 3:35 PM Cross-Catchment Application Process CLOSES at 4:00 PM – Please note that late submissions are NOT accepted.
	19	Family Day Holiday
	21	Game Ready Afterschool Program, 2:35 to 3:35 PM
	22	Hot Lunch (Subway), 12:20 PM
	23	District PD Day – School Not in Session
	26	Hip Hop Program Begins (PHE Curriculum for K-5 Students)
	28	Pink Shirt Day – Wear Pink! Pink Shirt Day Team Time, 8:45 AM Game Ready Afterschool Program, 2:35 to 3:35 PM
March	1	Hip Hop Program Ends (PHE Curriculum for All Students)

Principal’s Message

It is hard to believe that January is already behind us. I hope the students enjoyed the return of our Tennis Program during the last week-and-a-half of January. A huge thank you, once again, to our PAC for sponsoring this special program which helps us meet the learning outcomes of the Physical and Health Education (PHE) Curriculum. The PAC has also helped sponsor the Hip Hop Program which will get underway at the end of this month. **The PAC’s financial support of these programs has helped to reduce the cost for every student in the school.** If you have not yet paid for these special events, please do so as soon as possible via School Cash Online. If you need financial assistance, please reach out to me directly by phone or email (ayoung@sd43.bc.ca) or contact your child’s teacher.

As we begin the month of February, we are quickly hitting the half-way mark of the school year! And what a busy month it will be, with Kindergarten Registration, Student Led Conferences, Scholastic Book Fair, Valentine's Day, Hip Hop, and Pink Shirt Day. With so much going on, I know it is just going to fly by!

I include our Traffic Safety Tips at the very end of each Newsletter. **Please take the time to review these safety rules; as well, please ensure anyone who is responsible for picking up your child(ren) from school understand and follow the rules.** I would like to draw your attention to two key traffic safety rules that are not consistently being followed.

- Please **do not leave your car parked and unattended in the drop-off/pick-up zone.** If you are picking up a young child who cannot walk to meet you, please park off school grounds or in the parent visitor parking and walk to pick up your child(ren).
- Please **do not let your child(ren) exit or enter your vehicle if you are stopped in the driving lane.** You must be pulled up to a curb if your child is exiting or entering your vehicle.

Thank you for your attention to these important traffic safety rules.

Finally, as we enter into the second half of the school year, we are already looking ahead to next year. If you are planning a move, **please be sure to let us know if your child will not be returning to RVP in September 2024.** This is critical information that has an impact on our staffing allocation, so knowing this information as soon as possible is incredibly helpful.

Here's to a busy and eventful month of February!

Warmest regards,

Anita Young

INFORMATION ITEMS

Student Led Conferences

Student Led Conferences take place this coming **Thursday, February 8 from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM.** **Please note that we have scheduled a 1-hour early dismissal for all students on February 8 (dismissal time is 1:35 PM)** to accommodate for Student-Led Conferences. We do not have a sign-up procedure for these conferences, so families are welcome to come any time between 2:00 and 6:00 PM. Please note that teachers will be able to accommodate 4-5 families at a time, so if you arrive and the classroom is full, please feel free to visit the Book Fair in the Library Learning Commons or enjoy some of the hallway art displays while you wait.

Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is back this coming February 6, 7, and 8! The Book Fair will be set up in our Library Learning Commons as in past years. Students will have an opportunity to visit the Book Fair to browse the selections during their weekly Library time with Mr. Morrison. The Book Fair will be open after school each day for purchases, so please plan to stop by with your child if you are interested in buying some items from the fair. All proceeds go directly to supporting resources in all our classrooms. **A huge thank you to Ms. Sameeta Khan for coordinating this year's Book Fair.**

Kindergarten Registration

Children who are five years old on or before December 31, 2024 may enter school in September 2024. Kindergarten registration will be held between February 6, 2024 and February 8, 2024 via online forms. To access the Kindergarten Registration Forms, please click on the following link: [Kindergarten Registration Information](#)

Kindergarten Registration Process for Children with Special Needs

In the interest of providing a well-defined entry procedure for this very important group of new students, we ask that parents of children with special needs register using the on-line registration form as do all families. **As well, parents should contact the school directly to inform them of their child's needs at the time of registration.**

Cross Catchment

Parents sometimes wish for their children to attend a school that is not their catchment school. In such cases, a Cross Catchment Application is required after registering at their catchment school. School District 43 uses a random draw process for Cross Catchment applications (using in-district priority, then out-of-district).

Cross Catchment application forms, along with more information about the process, can be accessed online at [CROSS CATCHMENT - School District No. 43 \(Coquitlam\) \(sd43.bc.ca\)](#). **The Cross Catchment process is open from Friday, February 9, 2024, 9:00 AM to Wednesday, February 14, 2024, 4:00 PM. Please note that late applications are not accepted.**

Valentine's Day

Students are welcome to bring Valentine's Day Cards for their classmates to school on Valentine's Day – Wednesday, February 14. We encourage students who will be bringing cards from home to **prepare a card for each student in their class** rather than just select students in their class. This year, we are asking that students send cards only and avoid sending treats to school for classmates.

Hip Hop – February 26 to March 1

Riverview Park will be offering an in-school Hip Hop Dance Program for all classes, Kindergarten through Grade 5. This program will be taught by an experienced dance instructor. Students will learn the basic movements and steps of Hip Hop Dancing and learn a choreographed dance routine. Participation in this program will be part of the dance component of the Physical and Health Education Curriculum. Students will receive daily lessons which will take place during gym time from February 26 to March 1. Students will want to wear comfortable clothing on these days.

****Please note that you have already received a School Cash Online Notification requesting payment for the Tennis and Hip Hop Programs offered at school. The PAC has substantially subsidized the cost of these programs in order to make this more affordable for all families. If you have not already done so, please make the payment via School Cash Online as soon as possible. If you require financial assistance for these programs, please contact me via email at ayoung@sd43.bc.ca or contact your child's teacher directly.***

School Supplies and Planner Fees – Overdue

Just a reminder that if you have not already paid for your child's school supplies and planner, these items are available for purchase via School Cash Online and **are now overdue. The total cost of school supplies for the year, per student, is \$45 and the total cost for planners is \$10 per student.** In addition to covering the cost of planners, the fee for school supplies covers the cost of all learning and instructional materials for the entire school year for your child – notebooks, pencils, erasers, scissors, felt markers, crayons, craft paper, craft supplies, glue, rulers, etc. We try to keep supply costs to a minimum through our bulk ordering approach – there are many schools who charge much more for supplies annually.

I am hopeful that all outstanding school supplies and planners fees are paid for as soon as possible. If you require financial assistance to cover some or all the cost of supplies and/or the planner, please contact either myself or your child's teacher directly. As a school, we are required to pay for all the ordered supplies and planners at the time the items are received by the school, which is in the Fall of each school year. Since we have already paid all these fees for all students, there are budget challenges for our school as we try to set aside funds to cover other costs that arise throughout the school year. **Your immediate attention to the issue of outstanding fees is greatly appreciated. Again, if you require financial assistance, please let me know.**

Student Learning Survey

This annual Ministry of Education Survey will be administered to students in Grade 4 this spring. Parents are also invited to complete the survey through the following link: [Student Learning Survey for Grades 4, 7, 10 and 12 - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)

The intent of the survey is to gather feedback from students, parents, and staff regarding your experiences with the BC education system. The survey provides feedback on the implementation of curriculum changes, learning environment, student wellness and satisfaction, student belonging and engagement, and career preparation. All information gathered is anonymous and the parent survey is available in 16 languages.

PAC NEWS

PAC Meeting – February 6 at 7:00 PM via TEAMS – [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Winter Weather!

Schools are not routinely closed due to snow or other inclement weather conditions. All schools in School District 43 (Coquitlam) will remain OPEN, if possible, during winter weather, including snowfall.

However, on occasion, a district-wide or partial-district closure is required due to extreme weather. Partial-district closures affecting individual schools may occur due to the very different geography within our school district. If there is a partial-district closure affected schools will be identified.

The decision on schools remaining open or needing to be closed, because of extreme weather, occurs **before 6:30 AM** so that families can plan and make alternate arrangements.

Any district-wide or partial-district closure will be decided and communicated by 6:30 AM via the School District 43 website www.sd43.bc.ca and CKNW AM 980 radio, CKWX 1130 radio and CBC (690) radio.

Extreme weather can also impact transit. Transit schedules may face significant changes or cancellations due to the weather conditions. Parents seeking information on transit schedules need to consult the Translink website: <http://www.translink.ca/>

We encourage families to continuously check the School District 43 website for updates and changes: www.sd43.bc.ca

Learn more about SD43's process for emergency and inclement weather status updates at: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/NewsEvents/Pages/EmergencyInformation.aspx>

Traffic Congestion at Drop-Off and Pick-Up – IMPORTANT Safety Reminders!

Our morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up has been very busy, especially on rainy days. **The traffic congestion has been challenging and, in some cases, unsafe for children.** Please do your part to help ease congestion as much as possible by remembering our drop-off and pick-up rules included in this update below.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Safety Reminders

Please review the following important safety rules and please help us keep all our children safe by following these rules every day, even when you are in a hurry.

1. **Drop-Off/Pick-Up Lane:** Please remain at your vehicle at all times during drop-off and pick-up and when in the drop-off/pick-up lane.

2. **Parking and Round-About:** The five parking spots in the round-about are the only places where parking is permitted. At no time are parents permitted to leave their cars in the round-about area and students are not to be taken to the cars that are waiting in this area. When waiting in the round-about, cars are to proceed to the pick-up lane when space becomes available.

3. **Through Lane:** Please do not drop students off or pick students up while stopped for traffic in the through lane. Cars pull out quickly and unexpectedly and this is a concern for student safety.

4. **The Quick Goodbye:** As much as possible, when in the drop-off lane, ensure your child is ready to go and can exit the vehicle without your assistance. Even the extra minute or two that is required when parents need to exit the vehicle and assist students can really slow things down and add to the congestion.

5. **Street Parking Option:** Avoid the congestion all together and park on one of the streets close to the school and walk the rest of the way.

6. **Delayed Pick-Up:** For families with older children, you may wish to delay your pick-up at the end of the day by a few minutes to allow for congestion to clear. Sometimes, a matter of 5-7 minutes can make a significant difference in reducing traffic congestion.

Thank you very much for your support of these important safety rules during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. **If you have a family member picking up your child, please be sure to explain the safety rules associated with drop-off and pick-up.**