

The Roy Stibbs Reporter



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<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/roystibbs/Pages/default.aspx>



September Newsletter



DATES TO REMEMBER

September

**Monday, September 16-
Thursday, September 19th**

Scholastic Book Fair
Times 2:45pm – 3:30pm

Thursday, September 19th

Welcome Back BBQ/Open House
4pm to 6 pm

Friday, September 20th

Pro-D Day – No School

Wednesday, September 25th

Terry Fox Run at 1:40 pm

Thursday, September 26th

Photo Day

Friday, September 27th

Truth and Reconciliation Assembly

Monday, September 30th

Truth and Reconciliation Day – No School

MESSAGE FROM MRS. WALTON

Dear Roy Stibbs Parents:

September is always a busy month – We welcome many new families and staff to our Roy Stibbs community. We have blossomed to 12 divisions this year. We welcome all new families and hope that you have a wonderful experience at Roy Stibbs Elementary. We encourage all families to participate in our school community. Should families have any questions or concerns, we encourage you to seek the help of staff and our Roy Stibbs Parent Advisory Committee. Congratulations to our new PAC President Mrs. Hannah Chow.

We have enjoyed getting into the swing of an array of school activities this month including, our Terry Fox Fundraising Campaign and Run, Orange Shirt Day and Truth and Reconciliation our community Open House BBQ, and our Book Fair. A busy September but so worthwhile and meaningful for all.

We look forward to hosting Parent Teacher Interviews on Wednesday, October 23rd and Thursday, October 24th where we will bring our valued parents into the school to discuss their child's/children's progress and set future goals. Friendly reminder: in order to accommodate the Parent Teacher Interviews, there will be early dismissals at 1:45 pm on both October 23rd and 24th. Please plan accordingly and inform any childcare providers in advance.

On a final note, parents are reminded as we head into flu and cold season, to be both diligent and responsible in assessing their child prior to attending school each morning. Although no formal health assessment, it is important to curb the spread of any communicable diseases such as COVID 19, flu, colds and or gastrointestinal illnesses. Everyone plays a role in a safe school environment. Should your child require Tylenol or other fever reducing medications, we respectfully ask that you air on the side of caution and keep them at home. Should your child have a medical condition and have not completed the Medical Forms, it is important you complete them as soon as possible. All Medical Alert Forms are found [here](#).

Thank you for your continued support. Wishing everyone a wonderful school year ahead.

Sincerely,

Britt Walton

Principal

ATTENDANCE/ LATE STUDENTS/ PICKING STUDENTS UP EARLY

- If your child will be absent/ late for any reason, please send an absence report (link is on our school website under “Quick Links” <https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/roystibbs/Pages/default.aspx#/=>), phone the office at 604-939-2486 or email Mrs. Tipper at roystibbs@sd43.bc.ca before 9:00 a.m. We have an answering machine to pick up the messages if you call before 8:00 a.m. or you can fill out the absence report on the school website.
- If your child is late – please come with them to the office to check in and pick up a Welcome Slip to take to their classroom teacher.
- If you are picking up your child earlier than the regular dismissal time, please come to the office when you arrive to sign your child out of the building, and we will call them down to meet you.
- We need to make sure they have been signed in or out for safety reasons.

SNACKS AND LUNCHES

Please provide a nutritious snack and lunch that is easy for your child to consume. Please do NOT plan to drop off lunches later in the day – this is an unnecessary complexity when we have over 270 students. Of course, there may be a rare occasion when you must do this due to illness or mix up, but please teach your child to check for their own lunch/water bottle/snack etc. before leaving home! All eating will be done inside (before play time). There is no sharing of food or drink with others. **If your child requires any utensils in their lunch, please make sure to pack them in your child's lunchbox.**



DROP OFF AND PICK UP INFORMATION

Please obey ALL posted traffic signs and only STOP or PARK where you are allowed to (*in front of the school stairs is a no stopping zone*). Many traffic violations were ticketed last year. Please stay out of the parking lot between 8:30 a.m. and 8:50 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. The staff parking lot only has sufficient space for our staff. If you are parking on the side streets – please use the sidewalk or grass areas to walk and do not walk through the parking lot.

MEDICAL ALERT/MEDICATION

If your child has a medical alert that you would like the school to be aware of, please email Mrs. Tipper (stipper@sd43.bc.ca) to fill out a Medical Alert Form. Please remember that all medication including Tylenol and Advil must be kept at the office with a Medical Administration form completed and signed by a parent or legal guardian. *If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office*



NUT ALLERGIES

Some of the students in our school have a severe allergy to peanuts. Because of this health concern we ask you to avoid sending snacks containing peanuts and peanut butter to school. Please remind your child never to share their food and drinks with other students so that you know what your child is eating at school. Washing hands after eating (including breakfast), especially if peanut products are eaten, is a healthy routine for all of us to establish and practice. Your cooperation in this situation will help to ensure the safety of all students in the school.



FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM

We are pleased to announce once again our school is participating in the fruit and vegetable program. Our school is involved in a province-wide healthy living initiative. One of the goals is to encourage healthy eating by providing fresh B.C. Fruits and Vegetable to the students during classroom time. The students will receive picked, washed and ready to enjoy produce for 13 weeks at no charge. If for any reason your child is unable to participate, please inform the office.



IMPORTANT FORMS

Emergency Release form (green form) was sent home with all students. Please complete/verify and return them **by Monday, September 23rd**. This information is needed to keep your child safe and to ensure that we have updated information to contact you especially in the case of an emergency.



School Policies and Procedure forms, planner fee and school supply fees will be online through School Cash Online and need to be completed **by Monday, September 23rd. Please make sure to go and sign online to complete that form.**

**Please note in the photo permission on the School Policies and Procedures this is standard. Here at Roy Stibbs anytime photos will be used for outside classroom or teacher purposes we will notify you and send a separate permission form. Roy Stibbs Photos are only taken for classroom, teacher, and newsletter purposes. If you select "no" your child will not have any photo taken used for classroom, teacher, or newsletter purposes.*

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

SD43 offers a safe and easy way for parents to pay for field trips, school fees (ie. planner, school supplies), and fill in forms that are needed each year for the school. This account will follow your child from school to school in SD43. **We need all parents to please sign up for an account.**

Here are the instructions:

Sign-Up for Cash-On-Line

Payments can be made, and Permission Forms signed at the School District's Cash-On-Line website (See link below).

1. Go to <https://sd43.schoolcashionline.com>
2. Click on "Get Started Today"
3. Create your account.
 1. Enter first and last name; click continue.
 2. Enter fields: address, phone number, e-mail address; click continue.
 3. Choose a password and security question.
 4. Make sure to OPT IN to receiving e-mail notifications for updated school information.

Thank you for your participation and remember if you have any difficulty getting on-line please do not hesitate to contact the office 604-939-2486.

PHOTO DAY

Artona will be here on Thursday, September 26th for individual student photos. We will start with the younger children and work our way up to older children.

ERASE (EXPECT RESPECT & A SAFE EDUCATION) – FALL 2024

The Erase (Expect Respect & A Safe Education) Family sessions are now open for registration. The Ministry of Education and Childcare have announced new dates and times for on-line Student Sessions this Fall, on the topic of Establishing Safe, Caring and Respectful Digital Communities (Social Media Awareness).

These sessions are intended for students in grades 5-8 and 9-12.

Family Sessions: These sessions are designed to support families and caregivers navigate the digital world (click here). Recommended for Parents/Caregivers/Grandparents and youth aged 10 and up to facilitate the conversation of safe and caring use of technology at home and in the community. (60-minute session).

Dates available: September 24, October 30, November 28, December 10, January 14, February 4, March 12, April 8, May 7 Click [here](#) to register.

This session covers all things digital, from how to be a good digital citizen, the criminal consequences of cyberbullying, and how to report and receive support in cases of sexting/sexortion. Some of the most prominent concerns currently surrounding use of social media platforms, smartphones, and artificial intelligence will be discussed.

Families will learn:

- Digital media habits, oversharing, and digital addiction
- The permanence of online posts/activity
- The significance of your digital tattoo in how others perceive you (e.g., sports teams, college admissions, and potential employers)
- The importance of caring for peers both online and offline
- Geo-locational settings and the dangers of social media and cell phone misuse
- The social and legal consequences of cyberbullying behaviour as well as possession and distribution of intimate images (sexting and sexortion)
- An anonymous student reporting tool that can help you and your friends stay safe both online and offline

PAC MEETING

Thank you to those people who joined the first PAC Meeting of the year on Thursday, September 12th at 6:30 pm. Our next PAC meeting will be held October 17th @ 6:30pm. New members are always welcome.

This is a great way to learn more about your child's school and get involved! If you have any questions regarding PAC, please email roystibbspac@gmail.com or should you want the virtual link to our upcoming meetings.

What is a Parent Advisory Council (PAC)?

It is a committee made up of a group of volunteer parents who get together for meetings on a regular basis, with the principal and other staff, to discuss ideas and issues, i.e. fundraising events, hot lunch and popcorn days, performing arts, outdoor education and special activities.

The PAC helps by contributing monies raised from fundraisers to help subsidize some field trips, audio/visual and gym equipment, musical instruments, and other special events throughout the school year.



Studies have shown that the more involved parents are in their children's lives, the more successful those children are in their schooling. Children are proud of the fact that their parent is the one helping at their Hot lunch days or at a Special event.

This is also a great way to meet new parents and find out what is going on in the school and get to know who the other students are that your child interacts with. With School District budgets being impacted the need for more ideas and support increases. There is no obligation to join the committee, just come and listen. A parent with a student in the school has a right to attend as a voting member.

LOST AND FOUND

Please label all student supplies and clothing with the child's first and last name. Lost clothing, bags, etc. can be claimed from the butterfly garden hallway. 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.



SKIP THE DISHES

Although we acknowledge lives can get busy and lunches forgotten at home, we prefer in such cases, that families simply drop off a regular lunch for their child(ren) and refrain from using Skip the Dishes. Skip the Dishes, although well intentioned, causes great disruption to the daily operations of a school. Often drivers do not know who they are looking for and office staff cannot be expected to deliver food to individual classrooms. Additionally, the drivers have little to no connection to the school and are unfamiliar to both students and staff. Please help us in maintaining smooth daily operations. Thank you for your consideration and cooperation in advance. In the rare event that your child has forgotten their lunch, and you are unable to provide one, please just give us a call and we can assist with an alternate plan to ensure your child does not go without lunch.

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.*

Should families bring dogs to the site, please ensure to pick up after them to keep our playground clean for our children.

HALLOWEEN COSTUMES

Halloween is quickly approaching, and many students may want to wear costumes to school. This is just a reminder to wear school appropriate costumes (no masks or replica weapons). Please ensure students can easily put on & remove their costume independently. Please also be mindful that costumes are culturally appropriate.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Personal belongings like sporting equipment, cellphones, Pokémon cards, stuffies and other trinket toys **should remain at home and not be taken to school.** The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Trading of such items or "loaning" of such items has the tendency to result in unnecessary and preventable conflict between students. We appreciate your support in ensuring such items do not come to school. Additionally, sporting equipment can inadvertently cause injury on an already busy playground. Should children ride scooters, skateboards or bicycles to school, they must be wearing a helmet on school property.

WEST COAST RECESS/LUNCH

At Roy Stibbs we are committed to providing our students with many opportunities to play outside. Your children will be going outside on many days when it is raining; we call this **West Coast Recess/Lunch**. Please ensure that your child has a good raincoat, proper footwear, a hat, gloves, and umbrellas during the coming fall and winter months. If you need any assistance with accessing proper clothing, please contact us at the office.



PARKING

If you are picking up or dropping off your children, do **NOT** park in the parking lot. We need you to park up on the street and **obey ALL traffic signs**. There are many times when children and families are walking in the parking lot and having parents using the parking lot as a drop off or pick-up area is a safety concern. In addition, if one of our staff members leaves during the day for a meeting, we need to ensure that there is a parking space for them to use when they come back.



KEEP IN TOUCH WITH US

We believe it is important for us to communicate with you consistently and regularly for you to be aware of what is going on at school and to keep you involved. To keep up to date be sure to read our newsletter or check the school website at: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/roystibbs/Pages/default.aspx>