



# Birchland Elementary School

1331 Fraser Avenue, Port Coquitlam, BC V3B 1M5

Phone: 604-941-3428 Fax: 604-937-8004

[www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/birchland](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/birchland)

[birchland@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:birchland@sd43.bc.ca)

Mr. Frank Pearse, *Principal*

---

April 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians,

**RE: Get Outdoors! Outdoor Education Club**

Greg Hallifax, Youth Worker from Aboriginal Education is starting a 6 week Outdoor Education Club on Thursday's from 3-4pm on Birchland school grounds. Students will participate in sensory awareness activities and work on developing their observation, problem-solving and experimental skills. For example, students will be mapping sounds they hear, exploring biodiversity, making nature perfume and making a class mural of our experiences to display in the school.

Playing and exploring outdoors are experiences that most adults today grew up with. Yet in the past few decades, the amounts of time children spend outdoors and the ways they experience their neighbourhoods, have changed dramatically. Directly observing plants and animals helps children develop an understanding of relationships and processes in nature, and also builds connections to community, social skills, team building and leadership. Although this program is run through the aboriginal education program it is open to all students.

If your child chooses to join, please ensure they wear appropriate footwear and bring a hat and coat on cooler days. On severe stormy days we will be in the art room.

**When:** Thursdays 3:00 to 4:00 pm **(If your child is enrolled in the "All About Me" Program they can still participate in Outdoor Education Club and then attend All About me from 4 -5 pm.)**

**Starts:** Wednesday April 16<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> 3 to 4 pm – Grade 3, 4 & 5

**Where:** Birchland

**Cost:** free !

Warmest regards,

Greg Hallifax  
Youthworker/Aboriginal Ed Prog.  
School District #43  
[ghallifax@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:ghallifax@sd43.bc.ca)  
604-345-9328



# Birchland Elementary School

1331 Fraser Avenue, Port Coquitlam, BC V3B 1M5

Phone: 604-941-3428 Fax: 604-937-8004

[www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/birchland](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/birchland)

[birchland@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:birchland@sd43.bc.ca)

Mr. Frank Pearse, *Principal*

## Get Outdoors! Outdoor Education Club - April 2014

My child \_\_\_\_\_ has permission to participate in the Outdoor Education Club Thursday April 16<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014 3 to 4 pm – Grade 3, 4 & 5.

Parent/Caregiver name :( Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Please indicate:

\_\_\_ My child will be walking home on their own

\_\_\_ My child will be picked up at 4:00 by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ My child will return to the "All About Me" Program at 4 pm

\*\*\*If your child is going to be picked up by someone other than indicated above, please send a separate note that day.

While school staff will take reasonable steps to prevent injuries to students, some degree of risk is inherent in the nature of activities, and may occur without fault on the part of the student, school board, its employees or agents, or the facility where the activity is taking place. By allowing your child to participate in this activity, you are agreeing that the activity described above is suitable for your child, and that there is a risk of injury associated with the activity. My child and I understand that both the district and school's Code of Conduct applies during the field trip. I will be responsible for any costs caused by my child's failure to abide by the Codes of Conduct, including any costs to send my child home.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form to office at Birchland Elementary. Maximum number of students for this club is 12.