



Irvine Elementary

Mr. D. Shannon, Principal

Telephone: 604-941-3408

Website:

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/School/irvine>

Newsletter 8 November 19, 2019



Tonight at 6:30 in the library

Our Mission Statement at Irvine Elementary is, "Working together to create a safe and nurturing environment that challenges and motivates our students and promotes a lifelong joy of learning."

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

| | | |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| November | 22,29 | Music Adventure – Piano (2:55-3:55) in room #113 |
| | 25 | Beyond the Bell – Let's Dance 2:45-3:45 in the gym |
| | 20 | PAC Meeting 6:30-8:00pm in the library |
| | 22 | PAC Movie Night – doors open at 6:00pm; movie from 6:30-8:30ish |
| | 27 | Early Dismissal Day; students dismissed at 1:48 |
| | 28 | Fruit and Vegetable Day |
| | 29 | Hot Lunch – Little Caesar's Pizza |

Principal's Message

VALUE OF THE WEEK (Nov. 18th-22nd) - FRIENDSHIP

Students Arriving Late

Thank you to everyone who checks into the office when their child arrives late to school. This is essential because if your child arrives late and does not report to the office and the attendance has already been posted or handed in, they will show up as being absent. This will result in a phone call home indicating that they are not at school and the stress that results from a phone call like this is one that we want to avoid at all costs.

Early Dismissals

If you know that your child requires or will require an early dismissal, could you please let the office know ahead of time if possible? Also, if you can write it in your child's planner, that will also help your child's teacher know. Sometimes, activities are planned that could have been changed or re-arranged. It is tough to do this when a child is picked up early and the activity has already begun. Thanks for your consideration.

Early Dismissal Day

Next Wednesday, Nov. 27 is an early dismissal day. Students will be dismissed at 1:48. This will be a time to meet with your child's teacher prior to the first term reports coming home.

Holiday Concert

Our Holiday concert will be here before you know it! Plans are already beginning to take shape as we look at the many different things that need to be done over the next few weeks.

As in the past, parents will have the opportunity to get tickets to the concert(s) online through Eventbrite. I will provide the link below. The link is currently inactive and will go live on Monday, November 25, at 8:00am. Each person that logs in to Eventbrite, will have the opportunity to get 2 tickets for either of the three performances. The performances will take place on the following days and times:

Tuesday, Dec. 10 - 9:00am-10:15ish and 1:00pm-2:15ish

Wednesday, Dec. 11 - 1:00pm - 2:15ish

The link to Eventbrite is: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ecole-irvine-elementary-school-winter-concert-2019-tickets-82285228333>

We will be asking parents to please line up outside at the gym doors (closest to Wellington Street). The doors will be opened approximately 30 minutes before the performance.

We will also be looking at doing another food drive in December so if you are able to bring a non-perishable food item to any of the concerts, we will have a place to collect them. Thank you in advance.

School Closure due to Inclement Weather

With next week currently showing that we may get snow (on my weather app anyways), it seems like a good time to remind parents about the process of school closures when the weather gets bad. As a general expectation, schools will remain open. If extreme weather conditions cause you to be unsure or if local conditions are unsafe, you may keep your child at home or arrange for an early dismissal. If schools are to be closed before morning classes begin, an announcement will be made on local radio stations (CKWX news 1130; CKNW 980) early in the morning. If schools in the district are closed for the day, you will be able to find out on our district webpage (www.sd43.bc.ca) by 7:00am (at the latest).

If there is an accumulation of snow, please remember to dress students in clothing suitable for playing in the snow, to avoid disappointment and cold fingers. Snow pants and boots are always a great idea and don't forget an extra pair of gloves or mitts. Please be sure that even on those wet days (when schools are not closed) that you make sure that your children are dressed appropriately for the weather as we will be outside as often as possible. We want students to come to school prepared for the outdoors in much the same way we expect them to be prepared to learn indoors.

While we do our best to make sure that salt is on the ground on these colder days, please remind your children to be careful in the mornings as it can be very slippery, especially on wood and leaves.

Cement can also be misleading, especially at the back of the school, where less sunlight gets through (especially in the early morning hours).

Feminine Hygiene Products

Recently, a Ministerial Order was made to ensure that schools have feminine hygiene products available for students. Work has happened throughout the district in secondary, middle, and elementary schools to ensure that schools are aligned with this order before the end of 2019. For elementary schools, not every washroom will have access to feminine hygiene products and how this is determined is done on a school by school basis.

Because our intermediate classes are located in different parts of the school, when I met with maintenance staff, we decided that for shelving, baskets, products and receptacles, these would be housed in the washroom located in the medical room. We felt that having the items in any of the regular washrooms would be more of a distraction (especially to the younger students). By having this in the medical room, it would be more discreet and allow for more privacy should any of our students need to use it.

I will be receiving more information in the next few days and will update you with any new information I receive. For those parents with older children, please communicate this information to them. While we do not expect that many of our students in elementary school will require this, it is important that we have it if it is ever needed.

Drop off on Renton Avenue

Please be sure to follow the signage on both sides of the street on Renton.

When dropping off, please move as far forward as you can to prevent congestion at the top of the hill on Renton and on Wellington. Allowing the most space possible will make the traffic flow smoother. Also, please do not park on the street during the no parking times. The south side of the street is drop off only. If you are parked (especially at or near the top of Renton) this is what will cause congestion.

As always, there is to be no stopping on Wellington to let your child off at the front stairs. This impacts the view of the crosswalk for drivers travelling in the opposite direction, and also puts you at risk for anyone who is travelling north along Wellington who does not see you. This is one of the reasons for the drop off area - to eliminate Wellington as a drop off option. Thank you.

FSA's

The Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) has been completed for our grade four students. Booklets that were used, along with a sheet that outlines how your child did in the areas of reading, writing and numeracy will be sent home in the near future. Please remember that the FSA is only a snapshot of your child's progress. Any generalizations should not be made beyond this.

Book Fair

Reading for pleasure unlocks the power of information and imagination and helps children discover who they are. Here's what you can do to help children develop stronger reading skills and a love for reading:

Set the example. Let children see you read.

Have a collection of books in your home. Update this collection routinely to keep up with changing tastes and reading skills.

Support our school's Book Fair. Allow your children to choose their own books to read.

Our Scholastic Book Fair is a reading event that brings the books kids want to read right into our school. It's a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Please make plans to visit our Book Fair and be involved in shaping your child's reading habits.

Book Fair dates:

*Saturday, Dec 7 - 8:30-10:30 during Breakfast with Santa

*Tuesday, Dec 10 - 2:45-3:30 after the Christmas Concert

*Wednesday, Dec 11 - 2:45-3:30 after the Christmas Concert

We look forward to seeing you and your family at our Book Fair! Remember, all purchases benefit our school.

Address / phone number changes

Please be sure to contact the office (604 941-3408) if you move or your phone number changes. It is critical that we have this updated information in case we need to reach you. Thank you.

School Calendar

The SD#43 School Board has approved the next three upcoming school year calendars. There were some minor changes from the proposed calendars as result of the feedback that the district received during the consultation process. The most notable of the changes from the proposed calendars was the moving back of Spring Break by one week for the 2020-21 school year.

They can be viewed at: [https://www.sd43.bc.ca/NewsEvents/AMyCalendar/Pages/default.aspx#/="](https://www.sd43.bc.ca/NewsEvents/AMyCalendar/Pages/default.aspx#/=)

School Supplies

Please ensure that you have paid for your child's school supplies (if you opted to purchase them through the school). If you require any special considerations, please let me know at dshannon@sd43.bc.ca or call 604 941-3408 to arrange an appointment. Thank you.

PAC News

PAC meetings are held in the school library and begin at 6:30pm (usually on the third Wednesday of the month). Our PAC Meeting Schedule is as follows:

TONIGHT Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2019 6:30-8:00pm (library)

Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2020 6:30-8:00pm (library)

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2020 6:30-8:00pm (library)

Wednesday, Apr. 15, 2020 6:30-8:00pm (library)

Wednesday, May 20, 2020 6:30-8:00pm (library)

Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:00-10:00pm PAC Social - location TBD

District / Community News

Below is the link to the latest approved SD43 community organization information listings:

<https://my432016.sd43.bc.ca/Departments/CommunityRelations/cid/default.aspx>