



Irvine Elementary

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What a difference a week makes...

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

January	16 - 22	Program of Choice Applications (online) - Elementary
	17 - 23	Program of Choice Applications (online) - Middle
	22, 29	Beyond the Bell – Paper Innovations – 2:50pm – 4:20pm; room TBD
	24, 31	KidsCAN Theatre (TANGLED) – 12:05 – 12:45 in the gym
	24	PAC Movie Night – 6:00pm – 8:00pm (Pets 2)
	27	Professional Development Day (school based)
	30	Fruit and Vegetable Day (PAC)
February	3-5	Kindergarten Registration 8:00am-3:30pm
	3,7,10,21,24	KidsCAN Theatre (TANGLED) – 12:05 – 12:45 in the gym (there will be make up days/times for those that are missed)
	3,10,24	Piano – Introduction for beginners; Room #113; 2:55pm-3:55pm
	3,10,24	Beyond the Bell – Indoor Floor Hockey – 2:50pm – 4:20pm; gym
	3,10,24	Young Performers Workshop (grs. 1-5) – space / room TBD
	4	STUDENT LED CONFERENCES / EARLY DISMISSAL (1:48)
	5,12,19,26	Beyond the Bell – Paper Innovations – 2:50pm – 4:20pm; room TBD
	6-20	Tennis is Fun – in the gym
	7	Coffee with admin 9:00am-10:00am
	7	Hot Lunch (PAC Sponsored) - Freshii

Principal's Message

VALUE OF THE WEEK (Jan. 20th- 24th) - BELONGING (from the Circle of Courage)

I have mentioned the Circle of Courage in previous newsletters. The Circle of Courage is a philosophy, the intention of which is to build resiliency in our students. This is one by providing experiences in predominantly four domains: Belonging, Independence, Mastery, and Generosity. It is believed and hoped that experiences in these different domains will give our students the confidence and determination to continue to try and do their best, even when they experience setbacks.

Our value of the week is Belonging. Belonging means that you feel a connection to the place / environment / group that you are in or with. We want our students to practice this by welcoming and including others, and by showing, through their actions, that they want to be at our school. Wanting to belong is in all of us. Some of us have several different groups that we belong to while others have smaller, more intimate groups that they belong to. Some of us like to be a part of more active and hands on groups (e.g. running / fitness groups), while others like more passive groups (e.g. Facebook or Instagram). The beauty in this is that there are many different ways we experience belonging. We want our students to have the experience of belonging because it satisfies the need for significance - that we matter. This is why I try to interact with as many students as I can each day - just so that they feel that they are significant. If I can connect with them (which I believe I can do) it will better help them feel a connection to our school, which leads to feelings of greater comfort and safety at school, which allows for more optimal learning.

I will talk about each of the domains of the Circle of Courage over the next few weeks. What I like about this model is that it is represented by a circle (and thus represents the whole person). The circle is an important element not only for the purposes of this model, but also for the use of restorative practice, something I will also be talking about in future newsletters.

I'd like to add a self-reflection piece to this because it is important. If you have examples to share, I'd love to hear about them from you! If you're comfortable, I could share these in future newsletters (I would not include your name, so please don't worry!). This would be an interesting way for us to learn and explore our experiences together (hopefully leading to even greater belonging and connection). Please feel free to email me with your comments / stories.

Self-Reflection: Think about a time / situation / place you were in where you felt you belonged. What did that feel like? How did it affect you? How was the feeling of belonging encouraged? Was it encouraged? Have you ever been in a place where the feeling(s) of belonging came naturally? Why do you think that is or was?

What are some things / aspects that take away from belonging? If you've experienced these, how did you deal with or handle them? What affect did this have on you?

Dennis

Programs of Choice – online registration – IMPORTANT

Last week, I sent out an email about the importance of making sure that the online registration is completed for the Programs of Choice. For elementary programs, the Programs of Choice registration process closes this Wednesday (tomorrow) Jan. 22, at 4:00pm, and the online registration process for middle school programs closes this Thursday at 4:00pm. Please go to the school district webpage (www.sd43.bc.ca) to get access to these forms.

Please note the following considerations:

Elementary Early French Immersion – VERY IMPORTANT FOR OUR SCHOOL

- Parents with children currently in grades K-4 and in Early French Immersion **MUST** apply to have their incoming K sibling get priority. If they do not apply, they do **NOT** even get considered for the program.

Reggio

- Parents with children currently in grades K-4 **MUST** apply to have their incoming K sibling get priority. If they do not apply, they do **NOT** even get considered for the program. The only exception is for people living in the catchment area. They are automatically accepted.

Elementary Montessori

- Parents with children currently in grades K-4 and in Montessori **MUST** apply to have their incoming K sibling get priority. If they do not apply, they do **NOT** even get considered for the program.
- Parents with children currently in grade 5 **MUST** apply for Late Montessori to be considered for continuing in the program. If they do not apply, they do **NOT** even get considered for the program.

Elementary Mandarin

- Parents with children currently in grades K-4 and in Mandarin **MUST** apply to have their incoming K sibling get priority. If they do not apply, they do **NOT** even get considered for the program.

Middle Montessori and LFI

- Parents with children currently in grades 6 or 7 and in Late French Immersion or Montessori **MUST** apply to have their incoming grade 6 sibling get priority. If they do not apply, they do **NOT** even get considered for the program.

Kindergarten Registration / cross catchment information

Kindergarten registration takes place from February 3rd to 5th. Please be sure to register your children at this time. Parents need to register their child at their catchment school (based on their home address). If you wish to request a transfer to a different school, you'll need to complete a cross catchment application form. **The cross-catchment form is completed on line and will be available from Feb. 6th (9:00am) to Feb. 12th (4:00pm).** Please feel free to pass this information on to any parents who do not currently have children already in school, but who have children that will be starting kindergarten in September.

Student Led Conferences / Early Dismissal

On Tuesday, Feb. 4th, we will be having our student led conferences. This is an early dismissal day (students will be dismissed at 1:48). It is important during the student led conferences that you let your child lead this event. They will have an agenda to follow. This is their opportunity to show you what they have done and what they are learning. Please allow them to do this. Student led conferences are not the time to talk with the classroom teacher about how your child is doing. This can be arranged at a future date. Allowing your child to lead gives them an opportunity to build their confidence and to take an active role in their learning. More information will be provided by your child's teacher.

Because of the teacher change in Division 2, Mr. Liew will be using this time (and more if necessary) to have parent teacher interviews. This will allow him to provide parents with progress (as he will have been in the classroom for about a month) and it will also allow parents to ask any questions they might have about their child's progress. More information will follow regarding sign up time to meet.

Kindness T-shirts - "Kind is the New Cool"



Anti-Bullying / Kindness shirts are on sale!!!

Terry Fox Secondary Leadership classes have designed new black (with pink text) or pink (with black text) anti-bullying shirts, "KIND IS THE NEW COOL", with the hope of raising awareness and money to provide needed funds to "Kidsport Tri Cities" to help youth get involved in organized sports. Proceeds from the sale of the T-shirts go to Tri-Cities Kidsport. The cost of the shirts is \$10. Staying active through sports creates a positive atmosphere for our youth in the Tri Cities. Let's make a difference that lasts!

Please order yours through School cash online: <https://sd43.schoolcashonline.com/>
Order forms also available for pick up at the office if online payment is not an option for you.

*Please be sure to specify your colour and size! Orders need to be in by Tuesday, January 28th.

Thanks everyone for your "KINDNESS!"

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:

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