



## Parkland Elementary School

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Hi Parkland Families,

We are already mid-way through April and signs of Spring are all around us. Recently we had our Hip Hop program and assembly and it was a great success. The past couple of weeks our students have been involved in Speeches – our students presented themselves well and we enjoyed being a part of our Zone Speech Festival this year. Congratulations to Logan Chaloner and JE Lee who did a great job at this event.

This week we have Como Lake Relays and soon our Intermediate students will begin preparations for our District Track Meet! On May 1<sup>st</sup> it will be Music Monday and our students are preparing to sing this year's song as a school community. There are many upcoming events – make sure to read this newsletter carefully and keep your eyes on the school ecalendar for information.

### Upcoming Events

- **April 19** – Como Lake Relays
- **April 20** – Backwards Day!!
- **April 21** – Professional Development Day (no school for students)
- **April 22** – PAC Pub Night (John B Neighborhood Pub)
- **April 28** – Class and Panorama Photos
- **April 28** – PAC Movie Night
- **May 24** – District Track and Field Meet

As always, please remember to check our ecalendar for a complete list of events. Events on this list are subject to change – changes will be made immediately on the online calendar:

[Parkland ecalendar](#)

### Are You Moving?

It is really important as we work to determine our school organization for September that if you are planning on moving to a new school or district, you let us know as soon as possible. If students are changing schools, it is most valuable for us to articulate with your child's new school about setting up a suitable placement. If you know of families who have moved into our area, please encourage them to come in and register as soon as possible.

### School Organization and Class Placement for September

Classroom placement for September is a process that begins soon. In this process we employ the best possible judgment in assigning each child to a class for September 2017. We work to balance each class in terms of grade level, gender, friendships and learning needs. **If you have information that you would like us to consider, please inform Mrs. Strang in writing before the end of May.** We ask that you refrain from making specific teacher requests but rather let us know the type of learning environment will best meet your child's needs.

## Taking care of the Earth – Litterless Lunch initiative

Earth Day is on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. As a school we have been talking about things we can do to take better care of the Earth. Reducing the amount of Garbage we produce is one important way we can do this. Each of our classes is looking at how much garbage we create each day and looking for ways to reduce this. For this reason we are focusing this month on bringing "litterless lunches". Please assist your child in:

- Bringing food in reusable containers
- Bringing recyclables home so that they can be properly recycled
- Bringing uneaten food home so that conversations can be had in regards to eating enough and about why food that is sent is not being eaten if this is the case. If you find that your child is not eating properly at school please let your child's teacher know so that we can monitor their eating habits at school more closely.

## Backwards Day – Thursday, April 20

Our Grade 5 leadership students have decided that just for fun we will be doing things backwards on Thursday! Students are encouraged to wear their clothes backwards and do other things backwards ☺

## Grade 5 – Transition to Grade 6

Information sessions are held at all Middle Schools for Parents of Grade 5 students moving on to Middle School. Please be sure to take note of the date for the middle school your child will be attending.

**Monty, Maillard, Hillcrest and Como Lake Middle Schools** have all set their date to **April 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**Moody Middle** is on **May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Please check school websites for exact times and specific details about these events. If you can't find the information you need, please email me directly.

## New Digital Media Resources

MediaSmarts, the Canadian not-for-profit charitable organization for digital and media literacy has developed some new guides that may be of interest to you:

- [Getting the Most Out of Video Games Guide](#)
- [Digital Citizenship for Parents](#)
- [A Guide for Trusted Adults: Practical Tips and Tools for Supporting Girls and Young Women Navigating Life Online](#)
- [Talk Back! How to Take Action on Media Issues](#)

The [Canadian Centre for Child Protection](#) wants to make parents aware of concerns in a popular gaming environment called Roblox. Roblox is a user-generated gaming environment where children are encouraged to create adventures using their avatar, play games and connect with friends in this multiplayer environment that claims to have over 44 million active users. The Canadian Centre's [Cybertip.ca](#) program has received a number of reports concerning requests to meet up in person, and /or sexually suggestive chat messages being sent to children under the age of 12 within Roblox.

♥ ♥ ♥ Gratitude ♥ ♥ ♥

## Our Students and our Teachers

We have been working hard with our students to practice appropriate manners during assemblies and other large group gatherings. Recently at our school we hosted our Zone Public Speaking Festival. Our students received a number of compliments from people who attended in regards to their respectful audience behaviour. Well done everybody!!

## School District and Community Programs

We frequently receive information about programs available in our community (after school programs, Professional Development Day and other holiday programs) and post them on our website in the tab under "[Parents – Communication](#)". We also post parenting workshops that are available in the [PAC page](#) of our website. Please check there often as new opportunities are posted as they become available.

Please also see the information attached with this newsletter about [Summer Learning](#) opportunities available for our students.

Please remember to **check our online calendar frequently** as so you don't miss any of the important dates.

As always, if you have any questions about the information in this newsletter or about other things that are happening at Parkland please don't hesitate to email me: [astrang@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:astrang@sd43.bc.ca).

Thanks for Reading!!

Anita

**Anita Strang**

Principal

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