

# THE 2 WEEK PEEK



ECOLE ROCHESTER SCHOOL 10 September, 2015

Welcome back to a new school year!

Welcome back everyone!

On behalf of all Rochester staff, I welcome all our new and returning families. Our first week at Rochester features “family group week.” Students in grades 1 – 5 are participating in a variety of activities designed to help them get to know other children and teachers while learning more about Rochester culture and values. Your child will meet in their family group team for periods of the day this week and at various times throughout the year.

First week is always a busy time and this year is made more hectic with some reorganization with our numbers. A number of unanticipated family moves during the summer and even into September affected our French Immersion enrolment in all grades but especially in grades 1 and 2. Even a few children can make a difference to the overall school organization and the ‘ripple effect’ of lower primary grade numbers affects all grades.

**As of today, we are down one division in French Immersion and must now reorganize class combinations in grades 1, 2, and 3 French Immersion. We will be staffed for ten very full French Immersion Divisions instead of the eleven here in the last few years.**

**Our English program numbers remain solid, and full, and we will retain the anticipated seven English Program divisions.**

We planned to move children in their new classes sometime Friday afternoon. We may still meet this timeline but **we will not move children into regular classes until we are ready**. This may mean postponing new classrooms entry until sometime Monday. Our teachers are working on reorganization this afternoon and tomorrow and we will do our best. Your understanding is appreciated as we work through this “new development.”

In most cases our classrooms are at capacity! There is simply little room to move students between classrooms. As a result, we will not be entertaining requests to switch students. We will let you know if this timeline needs to change.

September is always a hectic time for families and, despite these unexpected organization developments, school life will become “normal” again soon. I trust the 2015-2016 school year will be a happy and successful one for you and your child.

John Goheen  
Principal

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## Important Information

### School Supplies

School supplies ordered from the new Staples program will be delivered to your child on Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> otherwise, please send all labelled school supply items ready to use in class, on **Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>**.



Student planners will be distributed next week as well. Planners are **\$8 each**. Please do not send any payment to the school until your child receives the planner next week. Once your child receives their planner, payment can be sent directly to the school office or your child's teacher. **NOTE: If paying by cash, please send in EXACT change (the school office does not carry change). If paying by cheque, please make this payable to Rochester Elementary.**



### Severe and Life Threatening Nut Allergies

With more than 70 new Kindergarten children and many new students in grades in 1-5, we are always dealing with changing health related circumstances. This year, we have two children with LIFE THREATENING Nut allergies and others with severe nut allergies. Those classrooms with children with these serious nut allergies will be classified as "NUT PRODUCT FREE" Zones. Your child's teacher will let you know if their particular classroom is a "nut product free" area.

If your child is in one of these classes, please do not send any nut products for lunches or snacks.

**If you wish to be a parent volunteer at Rochester**, please come to the school office to complete a Volunteer Package or find them on our website and print. If you have submitted a Criminal Record Check in the previous years, please check at the office to ensure that this is still valid. All other volunteer forms need to be done yearly (i.e. ICBC Abstract, volunteer application form, etc.).

### On the calendar:

September	EVENT
Monday, September 14th	District Lunch Program begins
Tuesday, September 15	Rochester Breakfast Buddies open (Tuesday and Thursday this week)
Thursday, September 24	Meet the Teacher: Informal meet and greet at 6:30 – 7:30
Friday, September 25	District Professional Development Day (NO CLASSES)
Tuesday, September 29	Individual Photos
Friday, October 2	Terry Fox Run

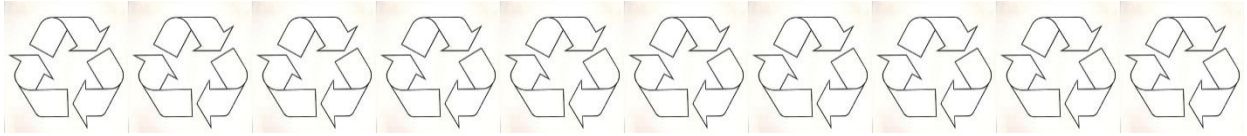
Please check our school website regularly! Important dates, information, and attachments are added frequently.

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

### Breakfast Buddies Update

Our morning breakfast program returns next week. We are open Tuesday and Thursday next week. We are looking for parent volunteers to help expand this program to other days. Please contact Breakfast Buddies Coordinator Marna Omichinski if you can help.

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Dear parents and caregivers,

Welcome Back!

This year, we are continuing our recycling program with a **“Pack out what you pack in”** approach. This means that everything a student brings to school in their lunch will come back home; packaging, yoghurt containers, yoghurt tubes, juice boxes, Ziploc bags, etc. We will encourage students to take home any completely uneaten food while any but food waste will go into the green waste bins for composting.

In one class last year, we reduced our waste from 2 garbage cans emptied twice a day, (that’s 400 garbage bags) to 1 garbage can emptied once a week (40 garbage bags). Since no food should go into the garbage, this should be a reasonable goal.

Thank you for your help with keeping extra garbage out of our landfills.

