

September 2022 News

Division 11



Dear Parents and Guardians,

I would like to extend a word of welcome to all of you and to let you know that I am pleased to be your child's teacher. We have been busy working together to develop routines and establishing new friendships within our class! After the summer, a full day at school can be very tiring. You may find your child extra tired and a little irritable during this time. This is quite normal. You can assist your child by ensuring that he/she gets plenty of rest, water, and healthy foods. Here is some specific information regarding our schedule and the events in our room.

- **Home Routine** If your child has a pickup or bus schedule that varies from day to day, or week to week, please let me know. A great tool that has been successful in the past is to attach a clear luggage tag to the outside of your child's backpack that contains his/her schedule. Occasional variances in your child's schedule are best communicated by sending a note in the Bee Folder or calling the office, 250-847-4464.
- **WP's Parking Guidelines** Please remember to use parent parking when dropping off and picking up your child. **The front of the school is for Buses only!** Please do not enter the staff parking lot. Due to varying schedules, staff members are arriving and departing the school at various times, and some have had difficulty finding a spot due to parents parking in these spaces. Thank you for your cooperation.
- **Morning Routine** A gentle reminder that your children can be dropped off at school by 8:20 a.m. when teacher supervision begins on the school yard. School begins promptly at 8:55 am. It is important to note that your child will have a successful day when he/she arrives at school well-rested and on time! When the bell rings, they will line up along the sidewalk at our outside door and I will come to greet them and bring them into the school. Please remind them that they are permitted to come into the school before the bell to use the washroom or to go for breakfast. We would like the children to use the main front entrance when coming in for breakfast or to use the washroom in the mornings.
- **Breakfast** is important for healthy brain function. If your child will not eat breakfast at home, they can eat at school from the breakfast program before school. As well, we have a school lunch program available for those students who need a lunch.
- **Snacks and Lunches** Getting used to the routine of a school day is often challenging for students at the beginning of the year. Students are encouraged to bring healthy foods to eat at lunchtime and at our recess breaks in the morning and afternoon e.g., **cut up fruits and vegetables, raisins**. It is important to have nutritious food throughout the day so that we have a healthy mind and body. It is a good idea to bring a water bottle (**leak proof**) to school and students can refill their water bottle at the water fountain. In an effort to prevent illness, they will be sent home nightly to be washed. Students need a lunch kit to help them organize their 2 snacks and lunch.

□ **"Bee Folders" - Bring Everything Everyday**

The BEE FOLDER is a way of communicating daily announcements, school, and class newsletters, completed work, and homework. Please look at the BEE FOLDER everyday with your child. Your child is required to take this folder home every afternoon and is also responsible for bringing it back to school in the mornings. I will be checking the folders every day. Also, all school and class newsletters are posted on the Walnut Park website.

- **Absences** If your child is absent, I will send any missed work home. If your child can complete the work at home and return it to me, it helps reinforce the message that "school is important." Some work is easy to complete at home and some is not. Please use your discretion.

- **Home Practice** The most beneficial activities to do at home are daily reading to/with your child and games which involve counting and language. Students are asked to re-read and explain work completed in class to a family member.

□ **School Supply Fees**

The school supply fee is \$35. Please pay at the office or send to school with your child. Make cheques payable to Walnut Park School. It is important for the children to have indoor shoes to wear in the school and for gym. Your child should wear shoes that he/she can put on by themselves e.g., slippers or velcro. A child should only bring shoes with laces if they are proficient at tying their own laces. Also, please send a box of Kleenex that can be shared with the class. Thank you.

□ **Library**

Your child's library day is Tuesday. Each week your child will go to the library and Mrs. Richmond will read the students a story. Then they may each choose a library book to bring home. Please encourage your child to return library books on this day.

□ **P.E.**

We have P.E. three times a week in the gym on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. The students do not need gym strip; however, it is convenient to have another set of clothing to change into in case of muddy or wet clothes. An extra set of socks also comes in handy.

□ **Music**

The students participate in musical activities twice a week with Mrs. Burgess. Our music days are Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

- **Birthdays** are important celebrations. We will celebrate by singing the birthday song and providing a little something e.g., bookmark or pencil. Please do not send any birthday treats of any form to share with the class. Thank you for understanding.

- **Terry Fox Run** is on Thursday, September 22nd at Walnut Park. Students will gather outside and run/walk together as a whole school. Students are asked to wear red and can bring a non-perishable food item for a Foodbank donation.

Learning Focus

Core Competency: Through activities in the classroom students are learning about 'Wolf' who teaches us to be respectful communicators (listen carefully to each other, work as a team, share ideas, be friendly and kind to others)

Math: Number concepts to 20, extending to 50 and Graphing

Themes: Apples, Home and School Communities

Language Arts: Star of the Day: We are reviewing letter sounds through our names and interviewing each other to learn more about one another. Students will be expressing what they learn about one another through drawings, labels, and sentences. When it is your child's turn to be the STAR, he/she will bring home a note. Students are asked to create an 'All About Me' bag (decorate a brown paper lunch bag and fill it with 4 things that tell us about them). This is a great way for students to practice oral language skills in front of an audience.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this newsletter. All school information can be found on the school website: <http://wpsweb.sd54.bc.ca/>. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, concerns, or comments regarding your child. You may call me at the school to book an appointment 250-847-4464 or print a brief note and put it into your child's Bee Folder.

Upcoming Activities

Monday, September 19 th	Federal Holiday (Queen Elizabeth II)
Thursday, September 22 nd	Terry Fox Run
Tuesday, September 27 th	Photo Day
Thursday, September 29 th	Orange Shirt Day (Students will wear orange)
Friday, September 30 th	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Holiday)

Looking forward to a wonderful year,

Wendy Coish

