

COLLINGWOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD SCHOOL

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Principal: Armin Samiei (604-713-4778)
Annex Vice-Principal: Susan Worthington (604-713-5340)

Director of Instruction: Chris Wong (604-713-5000)
Superintendent: Helen McGregor (604-713-5100)

August 31, 2023

VICE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2023/2024 school year! Our staff is very excited about our start up and is looking forward to seeing familiar faces as well as those new to our wonderful school community.

This year will look slightly different due to some staffing and organizational changes. We are delighted to welcome: Mr. Burrus (P.E. and Resource Teacher), Mr. Butcher (Grade 2/3 teacher), Ms. Basi (Kindergarten teacher), and Ms. Chong (school counsellor). Ms. Urdes (SSA) will be returning from her maternity leave.

The first few weeks of September are always busy ones for students, staff and parents. Please check your emails as we will be sending home further communications regarding start up procedures and expectations for the coming weeks. The school website is also regularly updated with relevant school information so please check it often. This monthly newsletter is meant to keep you informed of all school activities.

Having this year be a success is greatly assisted by open, respectful communication between home and school. Once we are in classes, please speak with your child's teacher about the highlights as well as any concerns you may have. Teachers will have their own structures in place for communicating with families and these range from newsletters to agendas to email.

Susan Worthington, Vice-Principal

The First Week....

If your child is unable to attend the first days of school, please call the office to let them know – 604-713-5340

Tuesday September 5th – Grade 1-3 students

- Returning students are to meet in last year's class line up areas at 9:00
- Grade 1-3 students will be in session with teachers from 9:00-10:00
- **New Students** to Collingwood (Grade 1-3) should report to the office at 9:00 and will be dismissed with students from their grade at 10:00am. ***Parents of new students, please ask in the office where your child will be dismissed.***
- Please do not bring anything on this day

Wednesday September 6th – Friday September 8th Grade 1-3 students

- Students remain in last year's class and will line up and be dismissed from last year's arrival and dismissal locations.
- Please bring water bottle, snack, and lunch.
- Regular school hours for Grade 1-3 students begin on Wednesday September 6th.

Monday September 11th – Grade 1-3 students

- Students will line up and be dismissed from their new 2023/2024 classroom line up spot. Please check emails and/or student handouts for this information. We will also

have signs and staff outside to support families with locations.

Tuesday September 5 to Friday September 15 – Kindergarten students

- Kindergarten students will be following the Gradual Entry schedule sent via email in July

PAC News

Hey Parents, want an opportunity to find out what is happening in Collingwood school? Want a voice in fundraising initiatives? PAC meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. As a parent you are automatically a member of the PAC, so no special form or paperwork is needed, however there is a PAC form included in the September opening package. Everyone is welcome. Please join us!

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is a legally recognized voice of parents at the school level. A school PAC advises the school board, principal, vice-principal and staff of the school regarding *any* matter relating to the school. All parents are welcome to and encouraged to attend the monthly meetings.

Our first PAC meeting will be on Tuesday September 12th at 6:30pm. The meetings take place in the school library as well as on-line. There is child-minding available at the school.

To help communicate, PAC has a WhatsApp group for anyone who wants to stay up to date and in touch with other PAC members. Regular updates are posted here. The code to join is...
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BadDS5RCz2tHTxiQoLBgnA>

Areas of Focus

Collingwood's two school goals for the next couple of years are creating belonging through Structured

Literacy and Positive Behaviour Interventions & Supports

Collingwood is also committed to our district's goal of supporting Truth and Reconciliation.

During the first weeks of school we will be taking some time to review and teach the school Code of Conduct – Taking care of ourselves, Taking care of others, Taking care of our community. Reviewing expectations found in the Code of Conduct with your child will greatly support the efforts of staff.

Upcoming Important Dates

Tuesday September 5

- First day of School

Friday September 29

- Professional Development Day (students do not attend)

Monday October 2

- day in lieu for National Day for Truth and Reconciliation