

JOHN HENDERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

451 East 53rd Avenue

Vancouver, B.C. V5X 1J3

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August 28, 2023

Welcome back to school!

We hope that everyone was able to find some joy and rest this summer. We can't wait to begin another year of learning with you!

The first day of school for 2023-2024 is Tuesday, September 5th and we will be in session from 9:00 am to 10:00am. **If your child will be absent on this day, please make sure you have completed the late return form and submitted it to the office, or you have called the office.**

On the first day, please return to your last year's classroom for the first day back. We will not be moving into our new classes until the following week, hopefully Monday, September 11th. All students new to Henderson in Grades 1 to 7 are to report to the library. (The library is located on the east side of the school and has an outside exterior door for exit and entry). New Kindergarten students should have already received an email asking you to arrive at 9:45 to your new classroom.

Everyone at Henderson School is excited to welcome students back to school on September 5th! We are looking forward to a great year of learning, sports, arts, dance and other extracurricular activities.

At Henderson we will continue to use the assigned entry and exit doors we did last year and teachers will meet their classes there for pick up and drop off their classes for dismissal at the same spot. We have found this routine has helped us start off our day smoothly and quickly.

- **Mr. Chao's, Ms. Bodnar's (now Ms. Griffiths), and Ms. Jagpal's (covering is Ms. Parmar) classes** will meet at their designated spots on **St. George Street**.
- **Ms. Jung's and Ms. Smith's classes** will meet at **their outside classroom doors** on the **west side, beside the basketball courts**.
- **Ms. Baker's (now Ms. Lievens) and Mr. Alstad's classes** will meet at **their outside classroom doors** located on the **east side of the building**.
- **Ms. Sahota's, Ms. Leavy's (covered by Ms. Roosa), Ms. Juliene's and Mr. Poole's classes** will meet at their **designated spots on East 53rd Avenue**.
- **Ms. Leahy's and Ms. Hawksworth's classes** will meet on the **east side** of the school at **their designated spots along the walls of the undercover area**.

- **Mr. Ratzlaff's, Ms. Sumra's (now Mr. Lung), Ms. Grewal's and Ms. Li's classes** will meet on the **east side of the school** at **their designated spots** beside the building or by the tree or just at the far east side of the undercover area.
- **Ms. Candido's, Ms. Bonetti/Ms. Martin's, Ms. Marsland-Root's and Ms. Guenter's classes** will meet at **their outside classroom doors** on the **west side of the school**.

Again, this year, all students will go outside during break times. Recess from 10:30 to 10:50 and lunch from 12:10 to 12:57. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather! There will be no indoor rainy-day options.

Please make sure your child has a recess snack and lunch each day. There is no sharing of food amongst students. We have a number of students and staff who are allergic to nuts, seeds, seafood, and eggs. Please refrain from sending food that contains ingredients.

For those students who participate in the Food4School Program, we ask that you bring a lunch for Wednesday, September 6th. We will not be distributing school lunches until Thursday, September 7th.

The Food4School Program is available to help children who require nutrition services at school. The program does not provide for special diets. If you would like to learn more about this program, please contact the office.

We all look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, September 5th from 9:00 am to 10:00 am for all Grade 1 to 7 students. We will be welcoming our new kindergarten families later the same day, Tuesday, at 9:45 am for their check-in. If you have any questions, please contact us in the office.

Attached to this email is a letter sent out on behalf of the VSB with information around enrollment. Please contact us if you have moved this summer and are no longer returning to Henderson School.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Harjinder Sandhu
Principal

Amber Logie
Vice-Principal