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**Director of Instruction:** Mr. Richard Zerbe  
**Principal:** Ms. Harjinder Sandhu  
**Vice Principal:** Mr. Aaron Singh  
**Acting VP** Ms. Jenny Chin-Petersen  
**PAC Chairperson:** Melissa Hayward-Cheung  
**School Liaison Trustee:** Ms. Janet Fraser  
**Newsletter #1 September 2020**



**Welcome to 2020-2021 Learning, Living and Learning Together!**



After an enjoyable and restful summer, it is wonderful to see all the students and families return to Henderson. We are enthusiastic and eager to begin our exploration of learning this year. We especially welcome new families to our Henderson School community. The current situation with Covid-19 makes it difficult to meet all of you as both Ms. Chin-Petersen and I are new to the community, but hopefully in the coming weeks we will find opportunities for virtual meetings so we are able make introductions. We look forward to meeting and developing relationships with our returning families as well. All of us at Henderson are looking forward to working together with parents and the community to continue to provide great learning opportunities that enable our children to thrive emotionally, socially and intellectually. We want the learning to allow our students to build their creativity and critical thinking.

This first week of school students reviewed health and safety protocols. This included learning their entry and exit locations. Those have now been set. We ask that when you drop your children off in the morning you stay either outside the fences or at least 2 meters back from the class line-ups. If you must come through the school yard we ask that you wear a mask and do your best to stay 2 meters away from other students and adults. At this time adults are not allowed into the building without an appointment.

We are continuing to refine our recess and lunch routines, at this time, so that we are able to maintain safety protocols and still allow the students to be enjoying their time outside in free play. We are asking all students to stay within their cohorts and play in a designated area. We will rotate the students through the designated areas so that they have access to other play areas. All eating of snacks and lunches will be done in the classroom under the supervision of the teacher. **Each student needs to arrive each day with their snack and lunch.** Please **do not** come to the school during the day with the intent to drop off lunch. We are trying to limit the number of adults our students come into contact with during the school day. Attached at the end of the newsletter is a map of the play areas. It would be helpful if you could review with your child(ren) the importance of our safety rules with regards to hand washing, mask wearing and social distancing. We thank you for your support.

This year our school inquiry question is: **What educational practices and strategies might we implement to increase student engagement, student choice and student voice?** Also we will continue to work on the district focus on Indigenous Education. Our inquiry goal in this area is: **How can we make First Peoples teaching and learning more authentic? How best can we Indigenize Henderson School?** All of our classes will be working hard on these goals in addition to all of the other areas of the curriculum and core competencies.

Classes are settling in, establishing routines and reviewing classroom and school expectations. The students and staff have begun the process of being acquainted with each other, both on a personal and academic level. As you can appreciate, this process takes a little time for everyone while they familiarize themselves with new and different learning styles. We thank you for the role you play in supporting your child's education. We look forward to the exciting year of learning that lies ahead and are ready to start Exploring! At Henderson we endeavor to provide a positive and supportive learning environment that values and respects the self-worth and uniqueness of each individual learner. We know that there are many ways to be "smart" and we all have different styles of learning. We all have strength/preference in certain areas like: naturalist, mathematical,

verbal-linguistic, musical-rhythmic, bodily-kinesthetic, interpersonal, intrapersonal, and areas we have to work harder to develop. Together we are going to work hard to develop all areas and hopefully have a lot of fun during the journey!

Each month, a Newsletter will be prepared to highlight our students' achievements, informing our parents of the latest educational developments and announcing upcoming events. A lot of time and energy goes into the composition of the school monthly newsletter and we greatly appreciate the effort it takes to read it. It is often emphasized in research that student success in education is dependent on their parents' strong commitment and involvement. Parents being informed of the school's year round activities and projects is one way of showing interest in their children's school life. This year we are continuing to be environmentally responsible by posting Newsletters, Calendars and Important updates on our website. We will also be emailing links out to all parents/guardians that have provided an email address. Please continue to keep involved by reading our newsletters and follow us at: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/john-henderson/Pages/default.aspx> and on Twitter @hendersoneme1.

We as a staff are energized and rejuvenated. We know many new, positive and rewarding learning experiences await! We are excited to see where our curiosity and passions will take us this year!

Thank-you for your support at Henderson School.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Harjinder Sandhu  
Principal

Mr. Aaron Singh  
Vice-Principal

Ms. Jenny Chin Petersen  
Acting Vice-Principal



## **Staff Updates**

We would like to welcome the following new staff members to our school community:

Ms. Jenny Chin Petersen, Acting Vice-Principal and Resource Teacher (Mr. Aaron Singh is on leave)

Mr. Jack Ly, Evening Building Engineer

Mr. Rod Ratzlaff, Grade 2/3 Teacher

Mr. Kevan Chao, Kindergarten Teacher (to arrive later in the year)

Ms. Larissa Suylma, Kindergarten Teacher (She is with us until Mr. Chao arrives)

Ms. Seema Shukyla, Grade 4 Teacher (Ms. Joan Jung is on leave)

Ms. Sarah Walker, Kindergarten Teacher/Resource Teacher (Ms. Amanda Bonetti is on leave)

Ms. Lyncyray Cobarrubia, SSA (Mr. Cody Boneham is on leave)

Introducing our wonderful staff...



**Administration**

Ms. Harjinder Sandhu	Principal
Mr. Aaron Singh	Vice-Principal
Ms. Jenny Chin Petersen	Acting Vice-Principal
Ms. Jane Fether	OAA
Ms. Thalia Kroll	OSB

**Room No.**

Office  
Office  
Office  
Office  
Office

**SSA Team**

Ms. Geraldine Asvinvichit  
Mr. Cody Boneham  
Mr. Steven Flett  
Mr. Howard Green  
Mr. David Knight  
Ms. Sonia Gautam  
Ms. Sarb Pannu  
Mr. Parm Sagal  
Mr. Ken Batty  
Ms. Nusrat Sarmin  
Ms. Lyncyray Cobarrubia  
Ms. Neetu Padda (ExSEL)  
Mr. Ed Nesling (ExSEL)

**Classroom Teacher**

	<b><u>Div.</u></b>	<b><u>Grade</u></b>	<b><u>Room No.</u></b>
Mr. Johnny Wu	1	6/7	206
Ms. Ashley Bodnar	2	6/7	209
Ms. Sonia Jagpal	3	6/7	204
Mr. Greg Alstad	4	6	113
Ms. Tanya Kos	5	5	117
Ms. Brenda Koch ExSEL	6	4/5/6	116
Ms. Sundeep Sahota	7	4/5	210
Ms. Joan Jung (Ms. Shukla)	8	4	115
Ms. Elizabeth Woodward	9	4	114
Mr. Bill Connaughton/Ms. Dana Birkenthal	10	3	203
Mr. Ian Poole	11	3	176
Ms. Jasvinder Grewal	12	2/3	173
Mr. Rod Ratzlaff	13	2/3	181
Ms. Elaine Li	14	2	174
Ms. Pawan Sumra	15	2	205
Ms. Marnie Candido	16	1	101
Ms. Marguerite Leahy	17	1	104
Ms. Sheri Hawksworth	18	1	106
Ms. Jennifer Marsland-Root	19	KF	103
Ms. Megan Guenter/Bonetti(Walker)	20	KF	102
Mr. Kevan Chao (Ms. Sulyma)	21	KF	105

**Inner City Team**

Ms. Lillie Rowell

**Youth and Family Workers**

Ms. Catherine McCambridge  
Ms. Carla Fletcher YFW<sup>ExSEL</sup>  
Ms. Natalie Labelle YFW<sup>ExSEL</sup>

**Supervision Aides**

Ms. Elizabeth Roller  
Ms. Meena Thakur  
Ms. Jas Uppal

**Resource Teachers**

	<b><u>Room #</u></b>
Mr. Aaron Singh (Ms. Chin Petersen)	Resource 124
Ms. Leslie Roosa	Resource 131
Ms. Vicky Edmonds	Resource 127
Ms. Dana Birkenthal (W)	Resource 128
Ms. Sarah Walker (M,W,F)	Resource 128
Ms. Aoife Levy (M-Th)	Resource/Prep 112
Ms. Andrea Shelford (T,W,Th)	Resource/Prep 120
Ms. Kimberly Seto	Prep 108
Ms. Kim Matterson (M-W/F)	Library/Prep 111
Ms. Kam Purewal (Th/F)	Library/Prep 111

**Multicultural Workers**

Vandana Nagpal (T)-S.Asian  
[vnagpal@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:vnagpal@vsb.bc.ca)

Audrie Leung - Chinese  
[aaleung@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:aaleung@vsb.bc.ca)

Yung Quach - Vietnamese  
[dquach@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:dquach@vsb.bc.ca)

Joy Jose - Filipino  
[jjose@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:jjose@vsb.bc.ca)

Claudia Sandoval - Spanish  
[csandoval@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:csandoval@vsb.bc.ca)

**SWIS Worker**

Sunita Joshi – South Asian  
[sjoshi@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:sjoshi@vsb.bc.ca)

**Other Staff**

Ms. Indira Dhari (M/F & W/Th am)	Area Counsellor	116
Ms. Lauren Linkie (Th)	Speech Pathologist	
Ms. Simone Leung	Psychologist	120
Ms. Wendy Ryan (W)	Indigenous Education	203
Ms. Zabeen Hussain	Strong Start	179
TBA	Comm. Health Nurse	

**Engineering Team**

Mr. Robb Go	Building Engineer	118
Mr. Jack Ly	Custodian	118

**Additional Support**

JO CST Mr. Tyson Shmyr  
JO SLO Constable Jon Vegt

# Henderson Code of Conduct

Henderson has a set of guidelines for conduct and these are the expectations for all our school community. It is based on our motto and our mission statement: to encourage students to respect themselves and others and to strive to do their personal best in all ways.

And our Code of Conduct is: **Be Safe. Be Fair. Be Kind**

These guidelines reflect the school's philosophy. Henderson is a safe and caring place, where everyone tries their best, treats others kindly, respectful and behave safely. It is a place where students, staff, families and the community work together to share ideas and create a wonderful place to learn. There is a rising expectation that as students develop with age, they will show increasing maturity, self-responsibility, decision-making ability, and leadership.

We are also working on our online skills be responsible **Digital Citizens**. More information regarding Henderson's Code of Conduct please see our website <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/john-henderson/Guidance-and-Support/Code-of-Conduct/Documents/Code%20of%20Conduct.pdf>

## Henderson Before and After School Care

If you are looking for Child Care spaces for before and after school at Henderson School, please make enquires by contacting the South Slope YMCA at 604-939-9622. After school care is also provided by Sunset Community Centre. They can be contacted at 604-718-6512.

# School Forms and Fees



There will be a number of important forms sent home in early September, these include forms that request emergency contact numbers, pertinent health issues, neighbourhood field trip permission, lunch permission and media permission. These forms need to be returned to your child's classroom. If information changes throughout the year, please update the school immediately by calling the office. The school must be able to contact parents at all times.

We sent out information on school fees and how to pay them online in June. School fees for all ages are \$35.00, agendas for Grades 2 to 7 students are \$8.00 and Math workbooks for participating classes are \$20.00. You will be able to access and pay fees online as of Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Please do not send money to school. We will be collecting fees through cash online.**



**Lunch** Please make sure you send your child each morning with a nutritious and satisfying snack and lunch.

When packing lunch we want you and your child to think about your child's health: Is the lunch nutritious? And we want you to think about the environment: Is this lunch going to provide a lot of waste for the landfill or recycling? This year we want to cut down on our waste!



# IMPORTANT SAFETY ALERT



## Please do not send tree nuts to school. Please avoid nut products in your child's lunches.

*This year we have students in our school with severe and life-threatening allergies to peanuts and/or tree nuts. Because of the seriousness of this allergy, we are asking you to refrain from sending peanut or tree nut products to school for snacks or class parties.*

*We are asking that our lunchrooms and classrooms be a peanut/tree-nut - **aware zone**. Due to shared tables, computer equipment and art supplies in the classroom, as well as the ease with which food residue is transferred from one student to the other, we would like to keep our classrooms "**nut-aware**." Our goal is to make school a safe place for all of our students. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding. If you have any questions, please contact the school.*

## Student Valuables at School



Parents are reminded that there is **no VSB insurance coverage** for student belongings. Students who bring iPods, cell phones and other devices do so at their **own risk**. These items are to be kept off and in back packs during the school day, unless being used under supervision of a staff member for lessons. When personal items are brought to school they can easily get lost, broken or misplaced. Please keep this in mind, especially with collector cards and electronics.



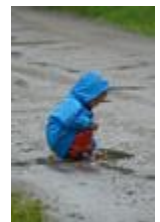
## IT is TIME to PLAY!



Studies show that students who are engaged in regular physical activity perform better in class. We have two scheduled breaks in our day for students to eat and exercise. Please make sure your child has healthy food each day and is dressed to play outside. **We expect all students to be outside every day. If it is cold out, they should be wearing a jacket.** During



rainy days we have many puddles and mud around the school. It would be a good idea for students to have raingear for playing outside (rain jacket, rain boots and even rain pants!) You might also want to send an extra pair of sweats and even runners to keep in their classrooms "just in case" for those muddy, wet days. **We will only call for 'Inside Days' when the weather is extremely bad. Students should be dressed for going outside everyday rain or shine!**



### Bell Schedule

8:55 a.m. Warning Bell  
09:00 a.m. Class Begins  
10:45 a.m. End of Group A Recess  
11:05 a.m. End of Group B Recess  
12:12 p.m. End of Group A Lunch  
1:00 p.m. End of Group B Lunch  
3:00 p.m. Dismissal



### Break Schedules:

**Recess -**

**Lunch Break -**

### Group A

10:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

11:25 pm. to 12:12 pm.

### Group B

10:50 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.

12:13 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

## Student Supervision

Please **do not send your children to school early and please pick them up at 3:00 as we have limited supervision from 8:45 to 8:55 am and from 3:00 to 3:15 pm.** You are responsible for your child after you pick them up. We are encouraging everyone for health and safety reasons to go straight home after school. If a student wishes to play on the school grounds at 3:15, they must be accompanied by you or have gone home and received permission from a parent/guardian before returning. It is the parents'/guardians' responsibility to supervise play after 3:15 pm.

## Student Safety and Traffic



We encourage families to walk or bike to school to reduce automobile congestion. Students can bring a lock and secure their bikes in the bike storage area. Please go over the traffic safety rules with your children. With the "back to school" excitement, children can forget these important pedestrian rules. If you are dropping children off, please make sure that it is not in the no stopping areas. **The staff parking lot is only for VSB employees and school deliveries. Do not enter**

**or drop off your child in this area.** It can be dangerous as vehicles back up and small children are difficult to see. To help our staff keep track of adults who are on our school grounds and in our school; if you are coming to the school for an appointment, please come to the office to check in and get one of the guest badges. This will help our staff who are maintaining our health and safety protocols.

# Safe Arrival

### Reporting Student Absences:

Student safety is of paramount importance at the Vancouver School District. Ensuring student safety is a shared responsibility. In order to assist schools, we ask parents to notify schools of student absences. If your child will be absent from school, please phone the school to report this absence



as early as possible. Parents should leave a message on a dedicated answering service by calling 604-713-5159 ext. 36. Messages will be received before the office is open. School offices are busy places: consistently notifying the school in advance of your child's absence will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Safe Arrival Morning Routine.

**To Report Your Child's Absence – Please Call 604-713-5159 ext. 36 prior to 9 am** on the first day of the absence.

### Student Sign In/ Sign Out Procedure

It is important that your child arrive on time to start school each morning with his/her peers. The morning routine helps your child stay connected to his/her classmates and sets a positive tone for the day. And at this time it also helps maintain our Health and Safety protocols. When your child is late for school, it not only disrupts his/her learning, but also the learning of his/her classmates. Please do your best to ensure your child arrives to school on time each day. If you are going to be late please contact the Safe Arrival number and let us know. When your child arrives at school, please ensure he/she signs in at the office. Any time you are bringing your child in after 9:00 am we need you to check in with the office. Your child will need to enter on the east side of the school.

When you pick up your child during the school day, please ensure that you have contacted the school in advance and you sign them out at the school office with either Ms. Fether or Ms. Kroll. If you do not sign out your child, they will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. If the school staff do not locate the child, and are unable to reach a parent promptly, the school will call the Vancouver Police Department. Therefore, clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches.

*Thanks for your help in keeping our students safe.*

# Remembering Terry Fox-Keeping His Dream Alive



This year marks the 40th year that the Terry Fox Run has been held in communities across the country. For those of us who followed Terry's journey or had the good fortune of meeting him, we could not help but be inspired by this remarkable individual. He is a Canadian Hero, for in him and through his actions, we saw courage, a sense of purpose, empathy, persistence, resilience, compassion, determination, imagination and positivity. Terry exemplified the values we want our children to exhibit. When he was challenged in his life, he could have felt sorry for himself, but instead he thought of helping children who faced the same disease that he faced. He could not bear to see their pain and so he wanted to help find a cure for them. He inspired us to take on his Marathon of Hope. He wanted to raise \$1 million for cancer research and in his name that goal

was passed. Each year more money is added to that total and researchers continue to make advances in treatments. One day soon we hope researchers will find a cure. It is for these reasons we continue to share Terry Fox's story and dream with our children each year. Terry was a remarkable young man, and his story showcases the positive impact that one individual can have to a community. He aimed big and in the end what he has achieved is remarkable. By remembering Terry and raising money for cancer research, may we also inspire our children to persist, aim big and strive to change the world for the better. During this year's campaign, our goal is to collect donations for this cause online. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

We will launch this year's campaign next week and we will host our Learning Group runs around the school during our afternoons the following week. Our event needs to look different this year, but our support of Terry and his cause remain constant.

## Bedtime Routines A Part of School Readiness

Learning is hard work and requires a lot of energy. Children who are more rested are better prepared and ready for learning at school. Some children will need extra sleep to adjust to the new routines and demands of school. Although some children need less sleep and others need more, most feel and act better when they go to sleep at a regular bedtime. Most children need between 10 and 12 hours of sleep per night. Children often become cranky, impatient or have a shorter attention span when they are not getting enough sleep. A routine bedtime helps to set regular sleep patterns and good sleep habits. Please help support your child's learning by establishing a bedtime routine that consists of 8 pm or 9 pm bedtime.



# STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE - The Family Accident Reimbursement

## STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE - The Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP)

The kids plus student accident insurance program has changed and is now called The Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP). This coverage is still provided by Industrial Alliance and is a voluntary plan which offers coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses and critical illness. The FARP is ideal for supplementing costs not covered by provincial health insurance or existing employer extended health and dental plans. Families can register online to participate in the Plan by using the URL provided:  
<https://www.solutionsinsurance.com/aonbc>

There is no administration required on the part of the school. If any of your families have questions about the program, they can contact Industrial Alliance directly using the following contact information: Phone: 1.800.266.5667 or Email: [solutions@ia.ca](mailto:solutions@ia.ca)

# Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Parents play an important role in the school and we encourage parents to participate as much as they can. Henderson School is well supported by our PAC. The PAC provides wonderful support in many areas of the school—planning and organizing special events, fundraising for fieldtrips and school needs and communicating with parents and the school. They are always open to new members and welcome both new families and returning families to become involved. PAC meetings are held 7 or 9 times per year. PAC meeting times will be announced in future newsletters and our website.



# Mark Your Calendars



- **September 25th — Pro-D Day—No School for Students**
- **October 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> —Terry Fox Run**
- **October 12th —Thanksgiving—No school**
- **October 15th — Great Shake Out - Earthquake preparedness drill**
- **October 23rd — Professional Day – No School**
- **October 30th — Hallowe'en Dress Up**

