



Director of Instruction: Mr. Richard Zerbe
Principal: Ms. Harjinder Sandhu
Vice Principal: Mr. Aaron Singh
PAC Chairpersons: Melissa Hayward-Cheung and Monica Singh
School Liaison Trustee: Ms. Janet Fraser



Thank you for a wonderful year of learning!

It is hard to believe that another year is drawing to a close. It has been a very busy year! This year like any other and has been full of exciting learning, many creative projects, lots of inquiries and sharing of histories and cultures. But what will stand out for all of us, as we reflect back now, and later on in our lives, was the pivot we needed to make last spring and how our collective response to the pandemic shaped our first year together. Our lives changed when we found ourselves in a pandemic. Covid19 brought with it many challenges to the way we live our lives and our traditional ways of learning. But together, we have navigated our way through a very different in-person way of learning at school this year and for some learning remotely continued. During this time, there has been tremendous growth in our ability to adapt, learn new skills, and further deepen our home/school collaboration.

Thank you to our families, our wonderful students, and staff for all the efforts that have been made to create new routines to make learning safe and accessible for everyone. I know the return to in-person learning has been quite the adjustment for everyone. It has not been easy for parents/guardians to wait outside and not engage in the learning at school. We appreciate your patience and flexibility. We thank you for continuing to be supportive and engaging with us online for formal meetings. We appreciate all you did to ensure that our safety protocols were followed: the care you took to complete the health checks each morning, supporting mask wearing for all students, sending students with everything they need to spend the whole day with us from 9 to 3, checking your emails for all our notices going home and coming in when we needed you to pick up something or someone and for self-isolating as needed. It was reassuring to know we could count on you.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank all of the students, staff, and parents for your contributions throughout this year. All of you have helped create a caring environment for learning and teaching here at Henderson. There is this wonderful sense of inclusiveness, respect and community. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with you and can't wait until next year, when we will have more opportunities to engage and come together in person. We know that each of us have been affected by the pandemic and we hope in the coming year we can continue to heal together.

It never ceases to amaze me all the gains and growth that occur over the course of a year. I am proud of all the efforts and achievements. I hope all students are as proud of their accomplishments as we adults are. There is no greater joy than to watch our children discover their passions, solve problems, learn new skills, gain knowledge, achieve their best, and enthusiastically participate in all the opportunities that have been provided. Even in these challenging times our students have risen to the occasion.

To the families and staff that will be leaving Henderson this year, we wish you all the best in your new communities.

Good luck to our grade 7s as they begin their high school journey. This year they missed many of the traditional events that they/we have all come to expect. And although our celebration of their elementary school years will take place differently this year, we want them to know how proud we are of them and are honoured to be a part of their journey. We know they will take with them many fond memories of their years at Henderson and we also hope that they know we have high hopes for them all. They are capable and we can't wait to hear about all they will go on to accomplish. We wish them all much happiness and success.

Wishing everyone a safe and fun filled summer!  Ms. Sandhu



In **our school plan for 2021-2022** we have identified the following **inquiry question/goal**:
What educational practices, strategies, programs and school wide common language might we implement to increase students' skill development in Social Emotional Learning (SEL) to better self-regulate and thus be more equipped to engage in learning?
How can we make First Peoples teaching and learning more authentic?

Each child is an adventure into a better life-an opportunity to change the old pattern and make it new. -Hubert H. Humphrey

A Fond Farewell

The end of our year also means the departure of some staff. Leaving us this year are temporary contracted teachers Emily Gresham, Vanessa Adebawale, Jenny Chin Peterson and Seema Shukla. We also have

contract teachers that will be moving schools: Kam Purewal, Bill Connaughton and Dana Birkenthal, will all be moving to other schools in Vancouver. Also moving on will be the SSAs: Jeanette Fong, Mary Wong and Fatih Havayioğlu. We thank them all for their contributions to the Henderson community and wish them all the best! Retiring this year, after thirty years at Henderson is Elizabeth Woodward. We wish her all the best as she starts a new chapter in her life, where we hope she will enjoy her newfound time to do the things she loves. She will be missed!



THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS



Thank you to our volunteers. We know that there were not as many opportunities to contribute this year, but thank you for pitching in when you could. Your involvement in your children's education has a positive impact on their success as a learner and enhances the learning experience of all our students, as well. Thank you for the very important role you play in our learning community. **Thank you to our Parent Advisory Committee**

We would like to thank the 2020-2021 PAC Executive Members: **Melissa Hayward-Cheung** and **Monica Singh** (Co-chairs), **Holly Wolfe** (Treasurer), **Simmi Gopal** (Communications), **Naveen Gopal** (DPAC rep), **Pinder Gill** (Fundraising Coordinator), **Miriam Maxcy**, **Satara Wolfe**, **Gurvir Sandhu** and **Holly Salmon** (Members at large) for your commitment and dedication to your roles and our school. We are lucky to have you! We appreciate all the little extras you provide to support teaching and learning. The families appreciated the leadership you provide!

Late Returning Students

If a student currently enrolled in a Vancouver school, expects to return to their Neighbourhood School later than Wednesday, September 8, 2020, but prior to September 30th, the parent or legal guardian must fill in a form by June 30, 2021 in order for the student to remain enrolled in the school. Forms were sent home in an email. If you for some reason did not receive one, please contact the school office. If we are unaware of late returns, due to limited space and resources all students' attendance must be verified by noon Thursday, September 10, 2021, otherwise spaces may be filled with other students on waitlists.

School Opening 2021-2022

School is scheduled to re-open for the 2021-2022 school year on Tuesday, September 7th. **The first day for students is Wednesday, September 8th.**

All students are expected to arrive at 9:00 am and report as follows:

- Last year's Grades K - 6 to last year's classrooms; All new students Grades 1-7 to the library
- All new Kindergarten students please refer to gradual entry schedule.

We will be in session for only a short time. **Dismissal will be at 10:00am.** We hope to have all students settled into their new classrooms by the end of the first week. Thursday will be the first full day for students in grades 1 to 7. * Should there be any changes, you will be notified.

A child's life Is like a piece of paper on which everyone who passes by leaves an Impression.

School Organization 2021-2022

We are unable to comment on the placement of students for the upcoming school year. One of the main reasons for this, at this time, is the ebb and flow of students in and out of the school. We will be unsure of the exact placement of students until the children are **all counted** on the first day in September. As well, although we know that everyone is anxious to know who their classroom teachers may be next year, any changes that take place due to enrollment may not only affect the students, but the teachers teaching a particular grade. **At this time**, the division of classes and the classroom teachers are as follows:

Division 1, Gr. 6/7: Mr. Johnny Wu - Room 206
Division 2, Gr. 6/7: Ms. Ashley Bodnar/TBA - Room 209 (Ms. Bodnar will be on leave until January)
Division 3, Gr. 6/7: Ms. Sonia Jagpal - Room 204
Division 4, Gr. 5/6: Mr. Greg Alstad - Room 113
Division 5, Gr. 5: Ms. Katie Smith - Room 117
Division 6, District: Ms. Brenda Koch - Room 116
Division 7, Gr. 5: Ms. Sundeep Sahota - Room 210
Division 8, Gr. 4/5: TBA - Room 114
Division 9, Gr. 4: Ms. Joan Jung - Room 115
Division 10, Gr. 3/4: Mr. Ian Poole - Room 176
Division 11, Gr. 3: Ms. Aoife Leavy - Room 203
Division 12, Gr. 3: Mr. Rod Ratzlaff —Room 181
Division 13, Gr. 2: Ms. Jas Grewal - Room 210
Division 14, Gr. 2: Ms. Elaine Li - Room 174
Division 15, Gr. 2: Ms. Pawan Sumra- Room 205
Division 16, Gr. 1: Ms. Marnie Candido – Room 101
Division 17, Gr. 1: Ms. Marguerite Leahy - Room 104
Division 18, Gr. 1: Ms. Sheri Hawksworth - Room 106
Division 19, Kindergarten: Ms. Jennifer Marsland-Root - Room 103
Division 20, Kindergarten: Ms. Megan Guenter - Room 102
Division 21, Kindergarten: Mr. Kevan Chao - Room 105

These grades are subject to change based on our enrollment in September. This is one of the reasons it is imperative for us to know if students are returning to the school, moving or returning late. Thank you for your consideration.

HOW I CAN HELP MY CHILD READ:

- Get your child to talk
- Help your children understand the story
- Praise your child
- Encourage your child by listening
- Relate the book to your life
- Ask your child good questions while reading
- With younger children, point to words when you read
- With older children, take turns reading
- Let them practice
- Choose books carefully
- Let your child re-read favourite stories to you or a friend again
- Have fun!



**Go Visit the
Vancouver
Public
Library (VPL)**

If you want to touch the past, touch a rock. If you want to touch the present, touch a flower. If you want to touch the future, touch a life.

School Calendar 2021-2022

Number of Days in Session 186
Number of Days of Instruction 178
Number of Days of Non-Instruction 7 Non-Instructional Days;
1 Administrative Day (June 30)

School Opening Day Tuesday, September 7, 2021
First Day of School for Students – Wednesday, September 8, 2021
Thanksgiving Day Monday, October 11, 2021
Remembrance Day Holiday Thursday, November 11, 2021
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation Friday, December 17, 2021
Winter Vacation Period Monday, December 20, 2021 – Monday, January 3, 2022
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation Tuesday, January 4, 2022
Family Day Monday, February 21, 2022
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation Friday, March 11, 2022
Spring Vacation Period Monday, March 14 – Friday, March 25, 2022
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation Monday, March 28, 2022
Good Friday- Friday, April 15, 2022
Easter Monday- Monday, April 18, 2022
Victoria Day Monday, May 23, 2022
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance Wednesday, June 29, 2022
Administrative/School Closing Day Thursday, June 30, 2022



Professional Development Day-School NOT in session for students

Tuesday, September 7, 2021	- In-Service Anti-Racism Training Day
Friday, September 22, 2021	- Professional Development Day
Friday, October 22, 2021	- Professional Development Day
Friday, November 26, 2021	- Indigenous Focus Professional Day
Monday, January 17, 2022	- Professional Development Day
Friday, February 18, 2022	- Professional Development Day
Monday, April 25, 2022	- Professional Development Day

THE VALUE OF PLAY FOR YOUNG LEARNERS

“Children need the freedom and time to play. Play is not a luxury. Play is a necessity.”

– Kay Redfield Jamison

Children learn to interact in the world around them through explorative play. Through play children develop their creativity, imagination, dexterity, coordination, curiosity, and problem solving skills. Play is important to a child’s development of physical, cognitive and social emotional learning skills.

You might wonder how this is possible. Think about watching your child soon after they learned to move. Remember when everything they came across, they used their five senses to make sense of them: seeing (curious of everything they come across), touching (grabbing, shaking, manipulating), tasting (everything went into their mouth), smelling (maybe things went under or into the nose), listening (if it made noise, they continued to make it). Maria Montessori believed, “*The hands are the instrument of a man’s intelligence.*” And, as young children struggle to create a desired effect with a toy, they discover that it isn’t always easy. They realize that there is perhaps a problem to be solved and that they have to practice to acquire and improve the skills necessary to achieve their goal.

Play becomes a social enterprise once you add another child.

We hope that this summer, as restrictions open, that you will be able to enjoy all the natural beauty we have at our finger tips here in Vancouver. Enjoy the mountains, hiking trails, beaches, parks and water parks. Following are links for some ideas, places to go and things to do:



<https://www.tourismvancouver.com/activities/family-kids/>

<https://vancouver.kidsoutandabout.com/content/top-20-places-take-kids-and-around-vancouver>

<https://healthyfamilyliving.com/low-cost-free-summer-activities-in-metro-vancouver/>