

Mr. A. Zarchikoff, Principal

Mr. R. Belleza, Trustee Liaison

Woodward Connects: Newsletter #12
May 15, 2023

Dear Woodward Learning Community:

The days are moving very fast and are filled with wonderful learning activities for all the students. The students from Divisions 1-5 enjoyed a trip to the Circus on Friday as we welcomed professional circus performer, Sand, to the school as she did juggling activities in the gym with a French language theme. All the staff and students enjoyed the personal challenges and the ability to experience new French vocabulary.

Divisions 1 & 2 had a wonderful outdoor education experience at Sasamat Outdoor Centre. Thanks to Mr. Yodogawa, Mr. Loewen for their leadership in this area and the support of Ms. Bath, Mr. Nakashima, and Mr. Greenfield. A very big THANK YOU to our PAC for the support of all these events!

Under the direction of Mr. Sars, Division 1 & 2 impressed the Gateway audience at the Music in the Schools event with the original composition of "Richmond Rocks!"

There are many things that contribute to the vibrancy of our Woodward Learning Community. These events are supported by the leadership of the staff and with the important contributions and leadership of our PAC.

Remember: What is the PAC
And Who Can Join?

The purpose of the PAC: Parent Advisory Council

- To work collaboratively with the principal, teachers, and staff to provide input to enhance the children's education, well-being and provide the students with enriching opportunities.
 - Provide a voice and act as a point of resource for the parent community
- Build a strong and supportive community for our school and families through PAC programs, events, and activities.
 - Provide financial support for the goals of the PAC, as determined by the membership and staff of the school.

How Does A PAC WORK?

- PACs with a strong parent/guardian participation, have an important influence on school life and the feeling the community has towards the school and education. Increased parent involvement results in increased student achievement, accomplishment, satisfaction, and bonding.

Who Can Join PAC?

• All Woodward parents and guardians are automatically members of the Woodward PAC. Congratulations, you're already in! If wish to know more about the PAC or volunteer for a school event, please contact the PAC Executive at woodwardpac@gmail.com.

2022-23 PAC Executive Members

Chair: Gina Mahil

Co-Chair: Pooja Kalsi

Treasurer: Lori Takenaka

Secretary: Rav Reel

The sunny weather brings joy but challenges to all. As students are outside, they need to be mindful wearing a hat, using sunscreen, and drinking water before they feel thirsty.

Many students are riding their bikes to school. This is an important reminder that it is a legal requirement to wear a bicycle helmet. But more importantly it is a safety issue! We all buckle up in the car. Let's make sure our students buckle up their helmets as well!

Please remember - Parking lot safety is everyone's concern. Please do not double park and block parked cars in the lot. There are many district staff that work from our school, and they need to be able to always access their vehicles. The pick-up times are the most crowded and parents are reminded that they can park on the street instead of entering the parking lot. The Handicap parking zone is for cars with the proper sticker. Do not stop on the cross walk if you are dropping off or picking up. This creates a safety hazard. If you do enter the parking lot, please stay in the lane for pick-up and circle around as necessary. There are arrows to direct traffic in the lot, please follow them to maintain the proper flow of traffic.

Upcoming Important Updates

Monday, May 15th to Wednesday May 17th all classes will participate in the Elevate Frisbee workshops. This is a great opportunity to enhance our physical fitness while learning the game of Ultimate. Students will be outside and do need, hats, sunscreen, and water bottles.

Wednesday, May 17th Div. 2 Tinker 3D printer workshop in class

Thursday, May 18th Grade 3- 7 student's athletes will be experiencing the thrill of our Zone track meet at Minoru track. Mr. Yodogawa coordinated with the staff to prepare our student athletes. Students have gone home with their permission forms. All family members are welcome to come out to Minoru to cheer on our Wildcat athletes! Students will be dismissed to their parents at Minoru unless other arrangements have been made. **Students must check out with Mr. Nakashima** at the track before leaving with their parents.

Friday, May 19th is a Professional Day and students do not attend, the staff will engage in learning opportunities to enhance their professional practice.

Monday, May 22 is Victoria Day, a National Holiday and schools are closed, we will reopen on Tuesday, May 23 at the regular time.

Tuesday, May 23 Vancouver Coastal Health vaccinations for Kindergarten, Grade 1, 6 & 7 students. The clinic will take place in our Multipurpose room and families have been contacted by VCH if a vaccination is needed.

Wednesday, May 24 Family Teams activity. Each month our Leadership group leads a family teams' activity to foster and develop our school community spirit. This month's activity is, "Friendship Rocks" students will decorate a rock with an expression of friendship and the rocks will be placed along the Shell Road trail by our student leaders once completed.

- Div. 2 Tinker 3D printer workshop

Thursday, May 25 at 9:30 is our annual, "Welcome to Kindergarten." Invitations have been sent to all the families as we welcome the newest "Wildcats" to Woodward.

Friday, May 26 at 6:00- 8:00 **SPRING FAIR IS ALMOST HERE!**

Mark this wonderful event on your calendars. You won't want to miss it. If you would like to volunteer or help support this great PAC event, or any other PAC events, please email our amazing group at woodwardpac@gmail.com.

Monday, May 29 Div. 3 Richmond Art Gallery fieldtrip. Div. 5 Science World fieldtrip.

June Reminders:

Monday, June 5 at 11:00AM Band Concert and Band Concert at 6:30PM. All parents and family members are invited to attend either one or BOTH!

Friday, June 16 is Sports Day. The PAC has sent out food order notices. All family members are invited to come and watch this fun event. As this is a condensed day students will be dismissed early at 1:15.

Monday, June 19 Div. 3 Gulf of Georgia Cannery and Steveston Park fieldtrip.

Thursday, June 22 Div. 1 & 2 South Arm Fieldtrip

Monday, June 26 Div. 2 & 3 Woodward Water Park Event

Tuesday, June 27 Grade 7 Farewell Assembly at 1:45, all parents and families are invited. More details to come.

Wednesday, June 28 Div. 1 Steveston Bike Ride.

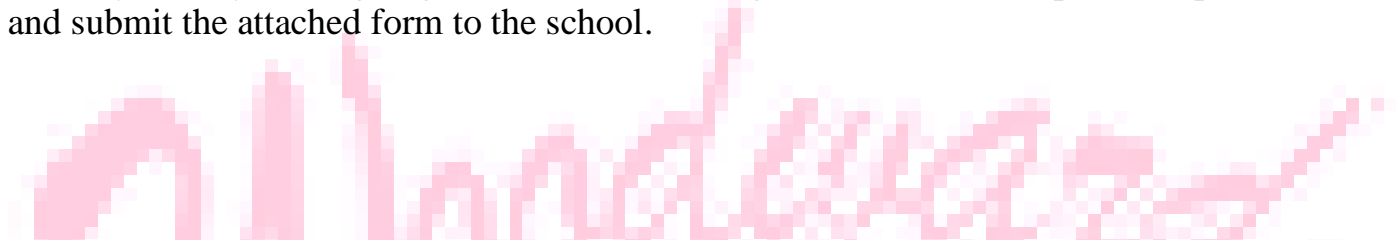
Thursday, June 29 Last Day for all students. Final Assembly at 1:45, all parents and families are invited.

First day of the new school year is September 5th, students will attend for one-hour from 8:45am-9:45am.
Tuesday, September 6th is regular day, 8:45-2:45.

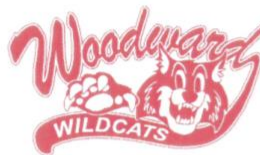
Friday, June 30th Last day for staff.

Notice of Late Return

Just as we are planning for the year end events of this school year, we are planning for next school year. If you are going to be late in returning to the school in September, please fill in and submit the attached form to the school.



SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM



Welcome to Woodward – Home of the Wildcats

At Woodward school we have a “safe arrival program” where parents are required to call the school to report any absences or late arrivals. Please call the safe arrival program before school starts to report any absences or late arrivals. Please call the school line 604-668-6296, and leave a message with your child’s name and division and whether your child will be arriving late or absent. You may call this number 24/7 anytime i.e. late evening, during night, early morning, etc. as you are NOT required to wait for the school to open.

Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring the safety of your child!

MAY CELEBRATIONS

At Woodward School, we are committed to values of Equity, Inclusion, Diversity and Decolonization. If you have any questions, feel free to connect.

Asian Heritage Month

May is also Asian Heritage Month. This year's theme, Recognition, Resilience, and Resolve, embodies pan-Asian diversity and the invaluable achievements of communities of Asian descent in all parts of Canadian society. It also acknowledges their resilience and perseverance in continuing to overcome adversity through Canada's history. Did you know that in December 2001, the Senate of Canada adopted a motion proposed by Senator Vivienne Poy to officially designate May as Asian Heritage Month in Canada. In May 2002, the Government of Canada signed an official declaration to designate May as Asian Heritage Month.



Buddha Purmina 2023 May 26, 2023

Buddha's Birthday or "Buddha Day" is a Buddhist festival that is celebrated in most of East Asian and South Asia commemorating the birth of the Prince Siddhartha Gautama, later the Gautama Buddha, who was the founder of Buddhism.



Jewish Heritage Month

It was officially recognized in 2018 by the Government of Canada in the Canadian Jewish Heritage Month Act. This month was also recently given a City of Richmond formal proclamation by Mayor Malcolm Brodie. Canadian Jewish Heritage month recognizes the contributions that Jewish communities have made to Canada.