



## **ÉCOLE PUNTLEDGE PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

401 Willemar Avenue, Courtenay, B.C. V9N 3L3

Phone: (250)334-4495

Principal: Mr. Noah Burdett

Vice-Principal: Mr. Christian Streit

School hours are 8:40-2:30 Monday to Friday

### **WEEKLY E-BULLETIN – September 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>**

Dear Puntledge Families,

We had a wonderful first week of school! There were lots of smiles, an abundance of energy and an eagerness to learn and grow. All signs point to another exciting year at École Puntledge Park!

Thank you for reading through the lengthy document as we gather all the pieces needed for a successful start up and school year.

Here are a few items for your consideration this week:

#### **Safe and Healthy Schools**

##### **Illness**

We continue to ask that all families complete a daily health check for their child. Students and adults should not come to school if they are sick. Please stay home. The decision to wear a mask or face covering is a personal choice for staff, students, and visitors. A person's choice will be supported and respected.

##### **Dogs**

Thanks for keeping your dog leashed at all times on school property, especially during the crowded dismissal time. Also, if your dog is a jumper/ biter or barks at people / other dogs, stay away from crowded dismissal areas.

##### **Bikes Around School**

We've seen a few close calls with both adults and kids riding their bikes around crowded areas at arrival/dismissal time. While we absolutely encourage biking to school and in the school parking lot Wednesdays, we ask that bikes be used extremely cautiously around the grounds at arrival time in the morning and dismissal time in the afternoon.

### Wildlife in the Area

We've had a lot of wildlife reported in the area lately. Through the Fall, there will likely be more sightings of cougars and bears. It is best to assume there will be wildlife regularly near our school and please review with your child information about possible encounters. This site has some good information and guidelines to follow.

<https://www.adventuresmart.ca/wildlife/>

Parking Lot – Please click here for [parking lot expectations](#) and [plan](#).

### **Wacky, Wheely Wednesdays**

Will start up again this **Wednesday, September 14 th** in the school parking lot. Students are invited to ride their bikes, scooters, skateboards, rollerblades before school and during the morning and lunch recesses. Supervision begins at 8:25 am and students must wear a helmet (we have some at the school office if needed). A reminder that the school parking lot will be closed Wednesdays until 1:00 pm. WWW will continue every week until November.

### **Student Verification Forms**

Please return the completed Student Information Verification Form sent home with your child this past week. These forms are important in ensuring we have the correct contact information for parents and guardians.

### **Volunteering at Puntledge Park**

The School District's updated volunteer policies require **all volunteers** with Puntledge Elementary to complete a criminal record check.

There is no charge to volunteers the checks are valid for 5 years and the results are usually confirmed in 2-4 weeks. Please keep your proof of submission until results are confirmed.

\*You can not copy and paste the access code.

If you would like to volunteer in any capacity, please fill out a criminal record check.

Please use the [online CRC process here](#).  
The access code is: 4HN64GAEQ9.

Please note if you completed a CRC last year please contact the office at [puntledge@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:puntledge@sd71.bc.ca) to confirm we have it on record.

**Volunteer Drivers**– If you think you’ll be volunteering as a parent driver this school year, you can get a head start on the vetting process.

Here’s what you’ll need:

- Driver’s Abstract from ICBC
- School District Volunteer Driver Form
- First 2 pages of insurance is required, showing minimum of \$1 million liability
- Copy of Driver’s License.

**All information should be sent by email** to [puntledge@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:puntledge@sd71.bc.ca). Scanning documents or taking a picture will work to send via email.

## **PAC News**

**PAC Welcome Back Tea** – Monday before and after school **September 12th**. Outside on the forest side of the school. Look for the tent. Please Come and meet other Puntledge parents, see familiar faces and learn about PAC! Refreshments provided.

**PAC Meeting** - Wednesday, September 21st @ 5pm in the School Library.

**Volunteers** - Your PAC is always looking for volunteers to help out. If you are interested please email [puntledgeparkpac@live.ca](mailto:puntledgeparkpac@live.ca)

## **Strong Start**

We are fortunate to have our strong start with us again this year. Please see the attached image for more details [Strong Start](#). Wednesdays from 8:45 – 11:45.

**School Supplies** -Costs are \$20 for K and \$25 for grades 1-7. We accept e-transfers at [puntledge@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:puntledge@sd71.bc.ca) or cheques/cash through the office.

**Pack it in / Pack it out** - In our continued effort to reduce waste and encourage a more mindful approach to eating / packaging / recycling / composting, we will be promoting a pack it in and pack it out approach to student lunches and snacks. Staff and lunch monitors will be encouraging students to return home with all containers / wrappers / juice boxes, etc.... brought into school.

**Forest / Boundaries** – Please ensure your child is not playing beyond the fenced boundaries along Arden Creek. The creek and its' banks were severely eroded and much work has gone into restoring this salmon spawning habitat. The cedar fence and laid gravel path delineate the boundaries.

### **Dates to Remember**

**Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>** – PAC Welcome Back Tea before and after school in the school forest

**Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>** – Wacky, Walky, Wednesdays return...bring your bike, scooter, rollers, helmets

**Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>** – Walk through Fire Drill with no Bells

**Wednesday, September 21<sup>h</sup>** – PAC meeting @ 5:00 pm in the Library

**Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Terry Fox Run

**September 26 – 29<sup>th</sup>** – Reconciliation Week

**Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>** – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (No school)

**Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>** – Photo day

**Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>** – Open house and Salmon Day

Have a great week!