



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

WEEKLY E-BULLETIN – September 2nd – 9th

Dear Parents / Guardians,

We hope you are getting ready to enjoy the Labor Day long weekend. École Puntledge Park teaching staff gathered yesterday to prepare for an exciting school year for your children. We eagerly await their return to school Tuesday morning. Here are information items for the first week of school. Some of it is a repeat from last week but we are working hard to keep you informed.

Safe and Healthy Schools - We continue to ask that all families complete a daily health check for their child. Students should not come to school if they are sick. stay home. The decision to wear a mask or face covering is a personal choice for staff, students, and visitors. Some people may choose to continue to wear a mask because they are more comfortable wearing a mask or because they, or someone in their family, may be at higher risk and want to take extra precautions. Some may choose to continue to wear them throughout the school day, or only during specific activities. A person's choice will be supported and respected.

First day of school - Tuesday, September 6th from 8:45 - 11:55 (except for incoming Kindergarten students). Students will return to last year's outdoor class meeting spot and then be welcomed to their previous class to spend the morning. New Grade 6 Late French Immersion students will be welcomed in room 102, immediately to the right of the front entrance.

Other new students to École Puntledge Park (grades 1-7) will gather in front of the school and then be shown to the Library for a welcome and orientation before being brought to a classroom of similar-aged peers. Student placement will be finalized by staff the afternoon of September 6th and class placement will be communicated to parents via email that afternoon/evening.

Class lists / Class Placement - We will have the class placement process completed in the afternoon of Tuesday, September 6th. It is our intention to email parents privately with the class placement information for each child before the end of the day Tuesday, September 6th. Please note that office staff and teachers will not be able to give out class placement information before it is emailed on the 6th. Be sure check your email Tuesday evening / Wednesday morning for up

to date information on class placement for the second day of school on Wednesday, September 6th.

The determination of which students go into which classes is a somewhat complex task. Staff consult with one another and class lists are created with the overarching goal of trying to do what is best for each and every child. Some of the factors that go into making a class list include; gender and age balance, academic needs, behavioral needs, classroom support opportunities, individual student maturity, number of students, individual needs and group dynamics. As such, we ask that if you have a concern about your child's classroom placement, please be patient and allow students to adjust to their new learning environment.

Second day of school and beyond - Wednesday, September 7th from 8:45 - 2:30 (regular schedule). Students will start in their new classes as emailed to parents the previous evening. All classes meet outside at their assigned spot in the morning and dismiss from the same place outside at the end of the day. This information will be included in the placement email. Where to meet Sept 7th will be included in the class placement email. Below is a more detailed daily schedule as we work to keep some of our structures that supported students over the past 2 years.

Attendance Management / Reporting Student Absences : We are using the SchoolMessenger app to report student absences. You can create your account by downloading the app on iTunes, Google Play or at go.schoolmessenger.ca.

Calendar - For those of you looking to plan for the upcoming school year, important dates can be found on the district calendar using the link. [Next year's school calendar can be accessed at this link \(scroll down to the 2022-2023 page\)](#).

School Supplies –

Thursday September 8th we will have free backpacks set up on a table out front of the school. Please help yourself.

For the 2022-23 school year Puntledge will be once again providing basic school supplies to students in kindergarten to grade 7. Instead of parents purchasing individual sets of supplies, families provide money to the school and the school will purchase supplies for each student. This approach will ensure equity and equality among all students and will save parents time (no shopping!) and money (ordering in bulk, our discount on school supplies is significant). The only items parents will have to provide are a backpack, a lunch bag, and appropriate shoes for gym.

- Kindergarten \$20 and Grade 1 to grade 7 the fee will be \$25
- Fees are due no later than September 23rd
- E – Transfer is the preferred method of payment
 - you can send the transfer to puntledge@sd71.bc.ca . When using this option in the comments section please make sure you use the following message: **School Supplies-Student(s) Name**
- We will also accept cheques and cash.

PAC Welcome

PAC is setting up a welcome tea tent on the forest side of the school. It's planned for Wednesday (Sept 7) at drop off, Friday (Sept. 9) at drop off and pick up and the following Monday (Sept 12) at drop off and pick up. Members of the PAC will be outside the school to meet parents and chat about how to get involved.

The first PAC meeting of the school year will be Wednesday, September 21st at 5pm meet and greet with a 5:30 start. The meeting will take place in the school library. All parents are welcome.

New Staff: since June, the school has seen some changes in the teaching staff and it is a pleasure to welcome (and welcome back) the following teachers to École Puntledge Park:

Brooke Young - K/1 Indigenous Program
Kerri Boland – 4/5 French Immersion
Lexy MacGregor K French Immersion
Lisl Clar 3 French Immersion
Rebecca McCubbin 4/5 and 2/3
Rebecca Coley 1/2
Casey Mackenzie Learning Support (English)
Lauren Simmons ISW

New Vice Principal: Christian Streit has been teaching at Mark Isfeld Secondary School Ecole Secondaire since 2020 and has also been part of the district vice principal pool since 2021. Christian has taught internationally in the UK, Russia and Indonesia. Between 1993 and 2005 he taught at Robb Road and Aspen Park. We look forward to him bringing his vast experience to Ecole Puntledge Park Elementary School. Congratulations on your new assignment

Medical Alerts- A reminder to all parents and families that several students and staff at École Puntledge Park have potentially life-threatening allergies to tree nuts, peanuts and sesame. This includes granola bars containing nuts (almonds/cashews, etc...) and any items containing Nutella or any hazelnut spread. Please do not send these items in your child's lunch or snack. If your child has a life-threatening allergy be sure to notify the school.

We have a protocol for administering medication at school. If your child will need to take any medication while they are at school please connect with the front office puntledge@sd71.bc.ca.

Care on the Roads - Tuesday is back to school in all Comox Valley neighborhoods and as such, please take care while driving. It will be very busy around École Puntledge Park around drop-off and pick-up times so please consider parking a few streets away and walking a few extra minutes.

Communications from school: We will be sending a weekly e-bulletin to inform parents of timely events, activities and reminders. The e-bulletin will usually be sent Friday afternoon. In an effort to reduce paper use, we will email information instead of sending paper home. Your updated email address is very important for the school to have so that you receive information promptly.

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 will be encouraging students to return home with all containers / wrappers / juice boxes, etc.... brought in to school.

Bear Aware – A reminder that at this time of year bears can be seen in the area. Students and parents are reminded to be cautious and use their [animal awareness to stay safe around wildlife.](#)

Daily Schedule As of Wednesday Sept. 7

Overall schedule

- Warning Bell for all students : 8:35 am
- Start of school day for all students : 8:40
- End of school day for all students: 2:30 pm

Arrival / Dismissal

GROUP 1 Schedule Div. 6,7,8, 9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,	Group 2 Schedule Div. 1,2,3,4,5,17,18,19,20,21,22,23
9:55 – 10:25 Recess Outside	10:30-11:00 Recess Outside
11:55-12:25 – Lunch Recess Outside	12:10-12:30 Eating in Classroom with teacher
12:25 – 12:45 – Eating in classroom with teacher	12:30-13:00 Lunch Recess Outside

Those with outside doors must enter / exit there – lineup at door and teacher greets students:

- Mme Bradfield, Mrs. Coley, Mrs. Makinson, Mme Boland/Coustalin, Mme Frain, Mrs Greenlaw, Mme Pilote, Mme MacLeod, Mme MacGregor, Ms Buckley and Ms Hodder/Jernslet
- Mme Black, M. Williams, M. Hartig, M. Swaney – students line up outside their classroom windows – come in through front doors one class at a time
- Mme Drake/Leblond – line up in front of building next to Wee Care entrance
- Mme Clar, Mme Stefan, Mme Sedunow – Line up under bike shelter and next to gym doors under cover. Enter / exit through breezeway
- Mrs. Young/Mrs. Devlin, Mrs. McManus and Mr. McLaughlin – Line up along back wall of school, under cover. Enter / Exit through back double doors one class at a time
- Mme McLaughlin / Leblond – Line up to enter through Indigenous Room on the forest side. Exit through back double doors

Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, September 6th First day back 8:40-11:55

Tuesday, September 6th Evening Class Placements are emailed

Wednesday, September 7th First full day back 8:40-2:30 ; PAC Welcome at drop off and pick

September 9th and 12th Before and After school Meet the PAC

Wednesday, September 14th – Wacky, Walky, Wheely Wednesdays return...bring your bike, scooter, rollers, helmets

Wednesday, September 21- 5 PM PAC Meeting

Friday, September 23 Terry Fox run PM

Friday, September 30th – No School - Reconciliation day

Thursday, October 6th – Open House / Salmon Day (to be confirmed)

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Have a great weekend!