

Miracle Beach Elementary School Newsletter

Hello Miracle Beach Families,

It was a busy and fun first week. I think all the students were happy to be back at school and enjoyed seeing their friends 😊

Here are this week's information items. New items are in **Yellow**.

Week at a Glance

September 11	September 12	September 13	September 14	September 15
Yard Clean Up – Ms. Gravel's Class	2:30 – EA Meeting	9:00 - Fire Drill (no bells)	Noon – Leadership Students Meeting	Yard Clean Up – Ms. Gravel's Class Pancake Breakfast
September 18	September 19	September 20	September 21	September 22
Yard Clean Up – Ms. Gravel's Class Fire Drill	2:45 – Staff Meeting		Noon – Leadership Students Meeting	Yard Clean Up – Ms. Gravel's Class Photo Day School Supplies Fees Due

Upcoming dates to note:

- September 27 – Terry Fox Run
- September 27 – Tour De Rock
- September 30 – National Truth and Reconciliation Day
- October 5 – Grade 7 Try-A-trade

Self-Identification of Indigenous Ancestry (First Nations, Métis, or Inuit)

Indigenous Education Services in School District #71 (Comox Valley) offers various supports and opportunities to over 1,750 students of Indigenous Ancestry. Our goal is to enrich the educational opportunities for all our Indigenous students. The focus for our service is to enhance all Indigenous students' understanding of their heritage, their sense of belonging and the personal belief that they can be successful in the British Columbia public school system.

Indigenous Ancestry is determined on a **voluntary basis through verbal self-identification**. This includes First Nations (Status or Non-Status), Métis or Inuit Ancestry. We **do not require further documentation**. Ancestry may go back several generations and a Status Card is not required.

For more information or if you have any questions, please speak our Indigenous Support Worker Annette Blecic by calling the school at 250-337-5114 or email Annette.Blecic@sd71.bc.ca

Strong Start

We are extremely pleased to be offering a Strong Start program at Miracle Beach Elementary again this year! For more information, please visit the Strong Start Facebook page linked below.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550904178649>

Also, please welcome Terri-Lyn Higgs who will be joining us this year as our Strong Start coordinator. We are super excited to have Terri-Lyn joining us for the full year.

Strong Start will be starting on **October 3rd**. We look forward to welcoming all of our pre-kindergarten students to our school community.

New Radar Speed Sign

A huge thank you to Coastal Transportation and Storage Ltd. for their donation of our new radar speed sign. We have an amazing and supportive parent community that continually stepping up to support the school. Thank you for all that you do, your support and generosity is greatly appreciated!



PAC News

The Parent Advisory Council for Miracle Beach Elementary will be holding its first public meeting on **Wednesday, October 11th**. Going forward, you can expect the public PAC meetings to be held on the second Wednesday of each month throughout the school year. At these meetings we discuss how we can enhance the student experience at school and in the community. As a parent, we invite you to come and participate, vote, or just listen!

A PAC represents the parent community of a school and is there to give the school meaningful feedback, provide parent education, encourage parent involvement with student activities, promote home and school cooperation, and organize extracurricular activities for MBE students and families. At the October meeting we will be revisiting the committees needed for this school year. If you are interested in getting involved, we hope to see you there. If you would like to connect before then, please email us at miraclebeachpac@gmail.com.

If you want to keep up to date with what is happening in PAC we do have a notice board just inside the school doors which will be moved outdoors later this fall. One thing you may be interested in seeing is our existing and proposed Constitution and Bylaws that will be posted sometime next week. At the

October meeting we will review what changes are needed and why. If you would like to vote on whether to pass the proposed version, please take a look! Also, if you would like an electronic copy for review, please send an email.

Lastly, another great place to stay informed is to connect with us on the **Miracle Beach Elementary PAC** Facebook page.

We are looking forward to another great year ahead!

Heather Morris, MBE PAC Chair

Breakfast Program

We are excited to be able to offer a breakfast program to all students starting on Monday September 25th. A simple and free breakfast will be served in the multipurpose room each day of the week beginning at 8am. Students are to eat their food inside before heading outside to play.

Our tentative menu will include:

- Cereal
- Toast (with Jam)
- Fruit
- Yogurt

After School Care



Updated School Code of Conduct

Over the past school year, we updated the [Miracle Beach Code of Conduct](#). I have included it as an attachment on this email, and it is also available on our website.

Outside at Recess and Lunch

Students will be outside at recess and lunch unless the weather is really bad outside. Please ensure students have weather appropriate clothing with them at school. Also, Miracle Beach is in a beautiful rural area of the Comox Valley. As a result, we have the occasional visitor from nature. All classes will review best practice for bear and cougar safety. We encourage students to not take food outside during recess and lunch. By not allowing garbage to be on the playground and field it will help reduce visits from bears and cougars.

Emergency Response & Fire Drills

Regular fire drills and emergency response drills will be held throughout the year to practise student safety procedures. Our first full school Fire Drill is scheduled for September 13th. Classroom teachers will walk through expectations and practice with students during the first week of school.

School Supplies

For the 2023-24 school year Miracle Beach will be 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 to grade 7 the fee will be \$40

The office will accept cash, cheque, or e-transfer

Fees are due no later than September 22nd - Thank you to those families who have already paid.

Those who are choosing the e-transfer option, you can send the transfer to miraclebeach@sd71.bc.ca.

Please make sure you include the following message: **School Supplies-Student(s) Name**

School Bus

If you are new to the school bus and have not registered, please do so at

<https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/student-transportation/>

In continued partnership with our transportation provider, First Student, Comox Valley Schools, SD71, is offering First View/Parent View, a bus tracking and parent communications app for your smartphone or desktop.

- For more information and to download the app, please go to www.firstviewapp.com.
- For FirstView app troubleshooting questions, please reach out directly to via email: support@firstviewapp.com or toll-free phone number 888-889-8920.
- To create an account, you will need your student's pupil ID, along with a special code:
- The code will be provided from the district once your student is a confirmed registered regular rider with the bus company.
- The district will be sending out codes once received from the bus company.

Rules for Riding the Bus

- Be at the bus stop 5 minutes ahead of the posted schedule. The bus will not wait for those who are late
- Stay on the shoulder or sidewalk, well away from the pavement, while waiting for the bus
- Do not run beside the bus while it is moving
- Boarding the bus will be in single file
- No saving spots in line or seats on the bus
- Take your seat right away
- The bus driver is always in charge
- Remain seated while the bus is in motion
- No eating on the school bus
- No fighting, bullying or horseplay on the bus
- Do not throw litter out the window of the bus
- Always keep head and arms in the bus

Volunteering with the School

All parent volunteers will be asked to complete a Criminal Record Check before they are able to drive, volunteer in the classroom or participate in field trips. If you are thinking about volunteering at the school, please take the time to complete the Criminal Record Check process early in the school year. Criminal Record Checks are valid for 3 years once complete and will remain on file at the school.

Miracle Beach Elementary School uses the Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP) online service:

Online Link: <https://justice.gov.bc.ca/criminalrecordcheck>

Access Code: XGAX6D8B53

Also, a new requirement this year is the NEW volunteer form. All volunteers can complete the volunteer form [HERE](#).



MIRACLE BEACH ELEMENTARY

Important Volunteer Information

Want to volunteer, or participate at school events or in the class room? Review this information.

It's important to complete these steps ASAP so you can be involved. Criminal record check could take up to 3 weeks to complete.

Criminal Record Check Required

Criminal Record Checks for volunteering at Miracle Beach Elementary can be found here:

- Online Link:
<https://justice.gov.bc.ca/criminalrecordcheck>
- Access Code: XGAX6D8B53

Once the criminal record check is complete the Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP) will advise the school that you are cleared to volunteer.



DRIVING

Drivers will need to provide your drivers package to Ms. Young

- icbc.com/driver-licensing
- Copy of Drivers License
- Proof of Insurance

COMPLETE THESE STEPS

ASAP so you can volunteer when the opportunity arises.

MORE INFORMATION

Pictures



Feel free to email me at zale.darnel@sd71.bc.ca if you have any questions or comments.

I look forward to seeing everyone on September 6th. Have a great rest of your summer!

Respectfully,

Zale Darnel
Principal, Miracle Beach Elementary