

HENRY HUDSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Vancouver Board of
Education

September 2017
Newsletter

Principal's Message

A warm welcome back to everyone. It was good to see many smiling faces on September 5th. Students moved to their new classes on the second day of school. Students are now settled into their new classes and the Kindergarten students are attending full time. We are currently enrolling 392 students and there are waitlists for most grades. We were pleased to welcome several new staff.

During the summer two new classes were created and some teachers moved to new classrooms. Apart from some minor details, the new classes were completed just in time for school opening. In terms of student numbers, we remain closed to cross boundary applications. With the recent Supreme Court decision regarding class size and class composition, our classes have lower enrolment maximum numbers than in the past.

Communication between home and school is important for student success. If you have any questions or concerns, please make initial contact with your child's teacher. Given the busyness of the school day, it is best to arrange appointments to ensure that adequate time can be scheduled or information acquired be gathered. I am generally available during the school day. It is always suggested that parents meet with teachers early in the school year if they need to share information with their child's new teacher.

Our school is fortunate to have a very proactive PAC. All parents and guardians are considered members of the Hudson PAC. I strongly encourage you to attend a PAC meeting, perhaps volunteer on PAC and to keep informed of PAC business. The PAC website is www.hudsonpac.ca, please subscribe to their weekly updates and newsletters.

As a staff, we are very excited to begin a new year and working with our families to have a positive school year.

Ian Cannon
Principal

Overview of Upcoming Activities & Events

- Wed, Sep 13 – PAC Meeting
- Mon, Sep 18 – Lifetouch individual photos
- Fri, Sep 22 – Pro-D Day (school is not in session)
- Thu, Sep 28 – Terry Fox Run
- Mon, Oct 9 – Thanksgiving Day (school is not in session)
- Tue, Oct 17 – UBC Math Games (Gr 5 to 7)
- Wed, Oct 18 – PAC Meeting
- Wed, Oct 18 & Thu, Oct 19 – early dismissal at 2:00pm (Parent Teacher Conferences)
- Fri, Oct 20 – Pro-D Day (school is not in session)
- Tue, Oct 31 - Halloween



Student Health and Safety

Unfortunately we have been finding used syringes on the grounds and in the garden areas. To ensure student safety and awareness, all classes have had a safety presentation and know what to do should they find one outside. The school has requested that the Grounds Department prune back the shrubs and garden areas, and to deal with the gaps in the Cypress street side of the school chain link fences.

If parents or community members witness any illicit activities on the grounds, please contact the Police and the Office.

Hudson does not have a school nurse and all minor scrapes, bumps and bruises are dealt with by staff. The school will contact parents and guardians in the event of more serious injuries and illnesses.

Safe Arrive Program

Reporting Student Absences:

Student safety is of paramount importance at the Vancouver School District. Ensuring student safety is a shared responsibility. In order to assist schools, we ask parents to notify schools of student absences. If your child will be absent from school, please phone the school to report this absence as early as possible. Parents should leave a message on a dedicated answering service by calling 604-713-5159 . You will be prompted to provide the two-digit extension for their child's school to access the school's voice mailbox for reporting an absence. Hudson's extension is "37". Messages will be received before the office is open. School offices are busy places: consistently notifying the school in advance of your child's absence will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Safe Arrival Morning Routine.

To Report Your Child's Absence – Please contact us prior to 9:00am on the first day of the absence with this information:

- Your child's name
- Grade and Homeroom (if possible)
- When and how long your child will be absent

By phone: Call 604-713-5159, extension 37 , or

By email: hudattendance@vsb.bc.ca

Student Sign Out Procedure

When you pick up your child during the school day, please ensure that you sign them out at the school office. If you do not sign out your child, they will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. If the school staff do not locate the child, and are unable to reach a parent promptly, the school will call the Vancouver Police Department. Therefore, clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches.

Thank you for helping us keep your children safe!

Foundation Skills Assessment

This year, the annual Ministry of Education FSA's will be administered between October 2nd and November 10th. Previously they were completed after the Winter Break. Students in grades 4 and 7 participate in the numeracy and literacy assessments. Parent information brochures will be distributed no later than September 22nd.

Community Schools Team

The Community Schools Team will be offering lunchtime and afterschool programs beginning in October. For the fall term, we will offer MoreSports basketball, Art at Lunch (for grades K-2), Junior and Senior Choir, and Young Rembrandts. CST Instructors will be visiting classrooms soon to talk to students about programs on offer and to hand out registration forms. Registration forms will also be available outside the school office the week of September 18th. For more information on CST-run programs, please contact Dianne Sankey, CST Programmer at dsankey@vsb.bc.ca or 604 813 8776.

School Fruit and Vegetable Program

This multi-ministry sponsored province-wide program will once again be providing our students healthy recess snacks twice each month. Thanks to Hudson parent, Ms. Zeynep, for volunteering to coordinate the program and to students from Division 2 in assisting with snack preparation and classroom delivery. The first day of the program will be October 18th.

Student Information Packages

Please ensure you return the student verification forms and other school consent forms before September 21st. Receipts for school fees will be issued by the office and distributed by the classroom teachers. If any of your contact information changes throughout the year, please inform the office by email at HUDSON@vsb.bc.ca.

Cross Country

Cross Country practices begin Thursday, September 14th @ 8:10am. All students are welcome (K-7)! Students from kindergarten to grade 2 must accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Regular practices will occur every Tuesday and Thursday morning at 8:10am with students meeting on the basketball courts. Registration begins tomorrow morning at practice.

Please see Jenn Johnson if you have any questions!

Come on out and RUN with us!

Community News

Kindergarten - Grade 12 Free Transit – TransLink is providing students free access to bus rides from October 2nd to 6th. SkyTrain, SeaBus and West Coast Express are not included.

The City of Vancouver is sponsoring a “Zero Waste Reuse and Recycling Drop- Off” on Saturday, September 23rd from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Kitsilano Community Centre.

“The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows” – Sydney J. Harris