

HENRY HUDSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

1551 Cypress Street, Vancouver, BC V6J 3L3 Phone: 604-713-5441 Fax: 604-713-5443

Vancouver Board of Education

May 2017 Newsletter

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the rain continues for what seems like months, we have now entered the final two months of the school year.

In the last newsletter I mentioned the ongoing hardship for families trying to enroll their children in Kindergarten and the dilemma of not having enough space. Since then, the School District has reorganized our classes for next year and created a second English Kindergarten class. This allowed us to offer placement to all in-catchment families that were on the waitlist. Many families opted to stay in the overflow schools. We still have a few placements available for in-catchment Kindergarten students only and it is anticipated they will be filled for the beginning of the next school year. There will be no K/1 split classes. The school continues to maintain waitlists for the other grades.

The repairs to the children's washrooms have now been completed and we anticipate a successful Coastal Health re-inspection. We continue to struggle with the condition of the grass playing field, weeks of endless rain have saturated the field and puddles and mud have become the norm. Hopefully with a forecast of some dry days next week the field will be ready for our Sports Day. On some days it has been necessary to close the grass field for safety reasons.

The recent earthquake drill went well; the sun was shining and the students were able to be on a dry part of the field for the duration of the drill. I was very pleased to have a number of parents voluntarily participate in the student reunification process and receive much feed-back from parents and staff that will lead to an overall improved process. In that regard, the earthquake drill served its purpose. Next year, the reunification drill will most likely be expanded.

During the past few weeks, City of Vancouver By-Law officers and VPD members have been issuing traffic tickets to vehicles stopped and/or parked on the streets around the school, in particular on York Street. Please be aware of the posted signage. The school does not call the city to report violations and we do not have any jurisdiction over the city by-laws.

Thanks for your support,
Ian Cannon
Principal

Overview of Upcoming Activities & Events

- Mon, May 15
 - Lifetouch Panorama photo
 - Div 8 & 9 – Field trip to Science World
- Wed, May 17
 - VPD Bike Safety
 - Clean up Your Act
- Thu, May 18 – Superstar Assembly
- Fri, May 19 – Sports Day
- Mon, May 22 – Victoria Day, no school in session
- Tue, May 23
 - Div 2 – Field trip to Vancouver Art Gallery
 - Div 15F – Field trip to City Farmer
- Fri, May 26
 - Div 6 & 7 – Field trip to Science World
 - Welcome to K event
- Mon, May 29 – Sr Choir at Terminal City Club
- Mon, May 29 to Fri, Jun 1 – iRide all week
- Wed, May 31 – Div 4, 5, 13F – Mike's Critters
- Thu, Jun 1 – Div 4 & 13F – Field trip to Lynn Canyon Ecology Centre
- Fri, Jun 2 – Div 14F & 15F – Field trip to Stanley Park



Community School Teams (CST)

Dear Hudson Parents: if your child is registered in a Community Schools Team Afterschool Program (Choir, Young Rembrandts, MoreSports Soccer), please let Dianne Sankey know if they will not be attending on the day of the program. She can be reached at 604 813 8776 or dsankey@vsb.bc.ca. The staff at these programs have to spend an unnecessary amount of time paging students, running to afterschool care, or looking in the playground to track down students who have forgotten to attend the program or who have not been at school that day. This is unfair to students who are on time and keen to start the class as the staff is busy trying to either track down students or calling parents. Please remind HOOSC to bring your child to the classroom after they have signed in if they attend HOOSC. Please remind your children the morning of the program that they should attend. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Bike to School Week coming up - May 29th-June 2nd!

Finally the weather is getting better and Hudson encourages our students to be active in their choices to get to school every day, including using their bikes and the many bike paths around Vancouver. The week of May 29th marks an initiative sponsored by the non-profit HUB (bike hub.ca) which coincides with Bike to Work Week. Due to our participation in past years, we were offered a free bicycle education package for our oldest grades by HUB in April. Students practiced bike safety, basic bike mechanics and ended the experience with group rides on roads around Hudson.

Traditionally, we kick off Bike to School Week with a Biker's Breakfast and attempt to track the number of students riding their bikes to school during this week. Prizes are offered for schools with most ridership, best stories, etc. I am looking for volunteers to help with this initiative: to help organize activities to make it fun for students to bring their bikes to school, to chaperone some students in their neighbourhood who wish to take bicycles to school during this week, to gather sponsorship to help fund prizes and activities and to bring new ideas to this long-time initiative. Please contact Chantal if you can help (minten@novuscom.net).

Cycling BC's iRide will also be coming to Hudson May 29th, June 5th and June 19th for 3 Mondays of cycling workshops for grades 5, 6 & 7's. Parents & guardians, please watch out for information regarding necessary waivers. (This is a low-cost initiative paid for by the PAC).

Any comments or questions regarding these programs, please feel free to be in touch with Chantal at the above email.

Earthquake Drill

Many thanks to our parent volunteers who participated in the reunification drill. Many of you provided excellent feedback for improvement that will be instituted next year. Despite the wet field and puddles, the students were comfortable throughout the course of the drill. Next year we will be participating in two earthquake drills; the "Great Shakedown" and the VSB's "Big One" at 2:00pm.

Sports Day

Our Sports Day is scheduled on Friday, May 19th starting at 9:15 am and ending in the early afternoon. Students will be at the school until 3:00 pm. We ask that all dogs be left at home. If it is raining or the field is unsafe, Sports Day will be rescheduled to Thursday, May 25th. On May 19th, please check our school website if you are unsure if Sports Day is cancelled or not. PAC will be sending home a Sports Day reminder in their weekly email blast.

Yearbooks

There is a limited supply of 200 yearbooks for sale, on a first come, first served basis. With the feedback we received last year, there will be no option to order online. Instead, order envelopes will be provided to the students to take home. Please return order envelopes with payment to the office. Yearbooks are \$15 each. Please pay by cash or cheque. If paying by cheque, please make cheque payable to Hudson School.

School Sports

After a fantastic season of early morning practices, afternoon tournaments, and good-natured competition on our badminton ladder, the Hudson Badminton Teams played in their final tournament at Tupper Secondary. Each student played seven different players in their court and everyone gave their best efforts to win as many games as they could. Congratulations to all our team members for a great season.

Student placings in their court:

Team A

Max – 1st
James – 2nd
Whitfield – 2nd
Sebastian – 3rd

Team B

Frankie – 1st
Ayden – 3rd
Gabbie – 3rd
Paris – 3rd

Wrap up game play at 12:10pm on Thursday, May 18th in the gym (bring your lunch). Please return your jersey at that time. Please remember to wash the jerseys in cold water and hang to dry. This will increase the jersey lifespan.

In Track and Field, the junior team just successfully completed their first mini meet in the rain at Camosun Park. The senior team, while small in number, continues to be a dedicated group of student athletes. The Track and Field schedule is posted throughout the school and on the school website. Extra permission forms are available outside Room 108.

*"Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning."
- Albert Einstein*