



Connaught Heights Herald

Home of the **HAWKS**

October 2018

Interim Principal Janet Grant

Small School, Big Education!

Upcoming Events in October

- **Oct. 2, 16, 30**
PAC Breakfast
- **Oct. 3** –
Collaboration Day
Early Dismissal-11:30
- **Oct. 8** – Thanksgiving
- School closed
- **Oct. 12** –
PAC Hot Lunch
- **Oct. 17** –
PAC Meeting
- **Oct. 18** –
Shake out BC
- **Oct. 19** –
Pro-D Students do not attend
- **Oct. 26** –
PAC Costume Dance
- **Oct. 29** –
Photo Retakes
- **Oct. 31** –
Halloween Parade

Principal's News

Message from the Interim Principal

We have had a fantastic start to the school year and I am thoroughly enjoying your children and the opportunity to meet many of you. I want to begin by thanking our PAC for organizing the coffee "Meet and Greet" on the first day of school and the "Welcome Back BBQ" last week. It is initiatives such as these that really contribute to the wonderful sense of community in our school.

Our enrolment is up slightly from the initial projection of 155. We have 161 students and I am pleased to say that we started the school year with all our staff positions filled (including a music specialist teacher and qualified Montessori teacher!). This contributed to a very smooth start-up with all our classes settled by early Wednesday morning the first week of school.

We had a fun opening assembly on September 18th, a successful Terry Fox Run on September 27th and a meaningful Orange Shirt Day assembly on September 28th. Every time we come together as an entire school I'm filled with pride at how wonderful our students and staff are at this special school.

The Curriculum Implementation Day was very productive on September 21st. The focus was on meaningful assessment and all staff participated in very informative sessions throughout the day. As a school, we are now revising the *School Learning Plan* to revisit and refresh our plans for the coming school year. We've had focussed discussions at our staff meeting and will continue the discussion and planning on the October 3rd Collaboration Day. Please be reminded that students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. that day. I look forward to sharing our revised *School Learning Plan* in the near future.

As always, please do not hesitate to call or drop by the school if you have any questions or comments.

Yours sincerely,
Janet Grant

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Collaboration Day

Wednesday, October 3rd

Early dismissal at
11:30am

Inclement Weather

Now that Fall has arrived, we are experiencing a change in weather. We are fortunate enough to have a lot of undercover area outside. Because of this, students are able to go outside year round and get some fresh air. Please be sure to send your child with warm and appropriate clothing.

Younger students may wish to have an extra set of clothing at school for any slips or falls that may occur.

Terry Fox Donations

Thank you for all of the generous donations that came in for the Terry Fox Run! We raised **\$187.35** for the Terry Fox Foundation.

Way to go Connaught Families!

PRO-D

Friday, October 19th

No school for students

ALLERGY ALERT

As we have several students with severe allergies, please be aware what you are sending to school in your child's lunch and snack. Divisions 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8 are all peanut, tree nuts, and sesame seed free classrooms.



School Cash On-Line

Thank you to the many parents who have registered for *School Cash Online*. As you know, this on-line tool is used for consent forms as well as payments. 95% of our parents have signed on so far!

If you have not registered and submitted your child's Student Consent Forms – please visit www.schoolcashionline.com. Without Consent Forms submitted, students will not be able to participate in some classroom activities such as computer lab, class walks or Fruit and Veggie Program. If you need assistance, please contact the office.

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WE SCARE HUNGER

Help us come together to collect food to help scare away hunger. We will be accepting donations for our local food banks on October 31, 2018 this year. Boxes will be set up outside the gym so that students can drop off their canned goods on the way into the Halloween assembly. Thank-you for helping us support our local community.



Kindergarten Screening

Vision, Hearing,
And Dental screening
October 15th and 16th

PAC EVENTS

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST
Tuesday October 2, 16 & 30th

PAC HOT LUNCH
Friday, October 12th

PAC COSTUME DANCE
Friday, October 26th

FOUNDATION SKILLS ASSESSMENT

During October and November, the Provincial Foundations Skills Assessment (FSA) will be conducted in our school for students in **Grade 4**. The FSA is an annual, province wide assessment of general skills in reading, writing and numeracy. It is conducted by schools according to the procedures developed by the Ministry of Education. There have been some changes to the FSA this year. For more information, please refer to the Ministry of Education website, [Ministry of Education - FSA](#).

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

October 7 – 13. 2018

Fire Prevention Week occurs from October 7 - 13, 2018. This year's focus is "Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere." Students in Grade 3 will be visited by our local firefighters for a fire safety talk. In addition, the fire department will be on hand as we run a fire drill.

Parents' Night Out

The Parents' Night Out Committee and New Westminster Police Department present *[Understanding and Managing Anxiety for Children and Youth](#)* – a free talk with Dr. Kristin Buhr on how to better understand and support children who are experiencing anxiety.

Register at <https://newwestpno.eventbrite.ca>.

For more information, please call Rick Bloudell @ 778-874-5457.

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Emergency Drills

Emergency Preparedness

In the unfortunate event that we face an emergency situation at Connaught Heights School, we take every opportunity to ensure that we are as prepared as possible. As a staff, we are reviewing all our emergency procedures and we have a schedule of practice drills for the school year that includes fire, earthquake and lock-down procedures.

We ask that the following emergency procedures be followed by parents:

- Please do NOT phone the school following a disaster; we must have the phone lines open for emergency calls. Calling to the school will serve to overload the phone lines.
- Following any major emergency, please refrain from driving to the school. Streets and access to the school must remain clear for emergency vehicles.
- Turn on your battery operated radio or car radio to any local station for emergency information and directions. You may also tune into the New Westminster Public Safety Radio station, CHNW 88.7 FM.
- As soon as it is safe to travel, we request that parents or local emergency contacts travel by foot to the school to pick up their children. Traveling by foot will alleviate traffic congestion and also keep the roads clear for emergency vehicles.
- In the event that you need to drive to the school, please park at least 3 blocks or more away from the school to allow emergency vehicles a route in and out of the school.
- When at the school, please report to the school's student release area. The student release area is the upper gravel field. In the event that this is not a safe place, the alternate student release area will be the lower grass field (adjacent to the primary playground structures). Do NOT go directly to your child as we must account for all students using our student release procedure.
- Please ensure that we have the most up-to-date emergency contact information for yourselves and your emergency contacts. We ask that you ensure that your emergency contacts are aware of the school's emergency procedures. All parents or emergency contacts who come to pick up your child must sign the students out at the designated student release area.

Here are some resources to support families with emergency preparedness:

<http://www.getprepared.gc.ca/index-eng.aspx>

<https://www.newwestcity.ca/emergency-management/personal-preparedness>



BELL SCHEDULE

8:48 a.m. Warning Bell

8:50 a.m. Instruction

10:30 a.m. Recess

10:45 a.m. Instruction

12:25 p.m. Lunch

1:15 p.m. Instruction

2:48 p.m. Dismissal

SHAKE OUT BC

**Thursday,
October 18th**

**Earthquake
Drill**

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COSTUMES

Just a reminder to keep any costume-related weapons at home on October 31st. While we appreciate your child's enthusiasm to display a complete costume, we are asking all students to keep such accessories at home.



*Connaught Heights
Costume Parade*

*October 31st at 10:45
Families Welcome!*

Halloween Safety

Just a few reminders for a safe and happy Halloween:

- Wear reflective items and ensure you have ample lighting and vision to guide your way
- Be sure your child is accompanied by an adult or older sibling
- Inspect food items with your child before they eat
- Develop a plan for how the treats will be eaten
- Remember to brush and floss your teeth!
- Review fireworks regulations and safety

Have fun and be safe!



PAC COMMUNITY COSTUME DANCE PARTY

FRIDAY, October 26
(More information to follow)

SCHOLASTICS BOOK FAIR

Our annual book fair this year will be held on

**November 30th
to December 4th**

Perfect timing for some holiday shopping!



PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is an open group who represent the parents and students of the school. They meet regularly throughout the year and provide an opportunity for parents to be involved in their child's school life. The PAC provides parents with a voice to liaise with school staff, the principal and the School Board in matters concerning education. Your involvement is welcomed and encouraged. Dates for the PAC meetings are usually the third Wednesday of every month in the evening at 6:30pm.

Our next PAC Meeting is Wednesday October 17th at 6:30 p.m. (Child care provided). We hope to see many of you there!!

We would like to thank our PAC for hosting our Welcome Back BBQ. We were thrilled that so many parents were able to attend.

The PAC is looking for a number of volunteers to help out this year. If you are able to help out in any way, please contact the PAC at pacconnaught@gmail.com

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PICTURE RETAKES!

Monday, October 29th

Upcoming Events in November

- Nov. 2 – Student Led Conferences
Early Dismissal @ 1:30pm
- Nov. 9 – Remembrance Day Assembly
- Nov 12 - Remembrance Day – School Closed
- Nov. 16 – Hot Lunch
- Nov. 26 – Pro D – No school
- Nov. 30 to Dec 4 - Scholastic Book Fair
- Nov. 30 – PAC Craft Night



OCTOBER 2018						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2 PAC Community Breakfast – 8:15am	3 Collaboration Day - Early Dismissal @ 11:30	4	5	6
7	8 Thanksgiving	9	10	11	12 PAC Hot Lunch	13
————— Fire Prevention Week —————>						
14	15 Kindergarten Vision/Hearing/ And Dental screening	16 PAC Community Breakfast	17	18	19 Pro D Day No School for Students	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 PAC Community Event – Costume Dance Party	27
28	29 Photo Retakes	30 PAC Community Breakfast	31 Halloween Parade			

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

<http://connaughtheightsschool.ca/>

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!

CONNAUGHT HEIGHTS PAC
PRESENTS

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Join us for a healthy breakfast
every other Tuesday

October 2, 16, 30

November 13, 27

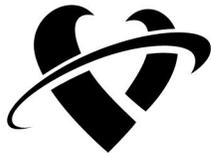
December 11

8:15am - 8:45am

The breakfast is an opportunity for families
to socialize, try new foods and build
community.

Any questions email:
chpaccochair@gmail.com

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NOTE FROM YOUR PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the new school year! My name is Shannon Chand and I am the Public Health Nurse assigned to Connaught Heights.

My office is located at the New Westminister Health Unit. The health unit is open Monday to Friday from 08:30 am to 4:30 pm. Please feel free to contact me there.

I am available to assist school staff and parents in identifying children with health concerns. These concerns may be physical, emotional or social. My help might involve assisting with referrals to other agencies.

Please report all students with a suspected communicable disease (e.g.: measles, mumps, pink eye, rubella) to myself for follow up if necessary. Also, it is important to inform the school if a student receives long-term medication, has any medical concerns, or has a life-threatening allergy.

I am looking forward to working with you all this year. Please do not hesitate to phone me if you have any questions or concerns about your child, or need some health information. You may reach me at (604) 777-6730.

Shannon Chand RN, BSN

Public Health Nurse

Fraser Health

Public Health Services

218-610 Sixth Street

New Westminister BC

V3L 3C2

www.fraserhealth.ca

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Public Health Services

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Fax: 604.517.6011

Email:
[connaughtheights@
sd40.bc.ca](mailto:connaughtheights@sd40.bc.ca)

Check us out on the
web!

<http://connaughtheightsschool.ca/>

Follow us on Twitter:
@connaughtelem

New Westminster Montessori Society

The New Westminster Montessori Society supports the public Montessori programs at Richard McBride and Connaught Heights Elementary Schools. The Society is composed of the parents whose children are in Montessori preschools and elementary schools in New Westminster.

Please send any inquiries to info@newwestmontessori.ca

Connaught Heights PAC

The Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is an open group who represent the parents and students of the school. They meet regularly throughout the year and provide an opportunity for families to be involved in their child's school life. The PAC provides parents/guardians with a voice to liaise with school staff and the Principal in matters concerning education. Your involvement is welcomed and encouraged. Dates for PAC meetings are usually the third Wednesday of every month in the evening at 6:30pm in the school library.

Email: pacconnaught@gmail.com
Blog: <http://chpac.blogspot.ca/>

Mosaic Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS)

Settlement Workers, employed by Mosaic, provide information and services for newcomer families and youth with Permanent Resident status. We help families adapt to life in Canada through 1-on-1 consultations, workshops for children, parents, grandparents, field trips, volunteering opportunities for adults and youth, and leadership training for youth.

Services and supports are available in different languages such as: Tagalog, Korean 한국어, Mandarin 普通话, Farsi and Turkish.

Interpretation can also be arranged if necessary.

For more information, please contact: Maniya Rafiei

PH: 778-628-0111

Email: mrafiei@mosaicbc.com