Connaught Heights Herald

Home of the HAWKS

September 2018

Interim Principal: Janet Grant

Small School, Big Education!

Upcoming Events in September

- Sept. 4 - First Day of School; PAC Welcome Coffee
- Sept. 14 - Individual Photos
- Sept. 19 - PAC Welcome BBQ and PAC Meeting
- Sept. 21 – Curriculum Implementation Day
- Sept. 27 – Terry Fox Run
- Sept. 28 – Orange Shirt Day

Principal's News

Message from the Interim Principal:

Dear Parents,

It is my privilege to welcome all new and returning families to Connaught Heights this school year. I look forward to working with your children and all the wonderful staff at the school as Interim Principal. After twelve years at the district office (most recently as Associate Superintendent--now retired), it is wonderful to experience, once again, the joy of being a school principal. Connaught Heights has a very special place in my heart as I had my first Principalship here nineteen years ago!

As you know, I'm replacing Sandra Cottingham who is currently on a medical leave. Please take the opportunity to say hello and introduce yourself when you get the chance. I look forward to meeting you.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let me know. We're off to a great school year!

Yours sincerely,
Janet Grant
604 517 6012

School Goal

To nurture a positive school culture that will empower and engage all learners to exceed their full potential.

School Vision

At Connaught Heights, we want all learners in our school community to be open-minded, thoughtful risk takers who solve problems empathetically, develop resilience and nurture creativity within themselves and others.

First Week of School Procedures

On the first day of school, all returning students should line up outside their teacher's **classroom from last year** at 8:48 a.m. They will be dismissed at 9:50 a.m. for the day. Students will continue in the same class for Wednesday morning which will be a full day (except for Kindergarten students) from 8:48 a.m. to 2:48 p.m. We hope to place all the students in their new classes on Wednesday. Please make arrangements for a designated meeting spot with your child after school until you learn the location of the new classroom.

Kindergarten students (Montessori and Regular program) should go to the gym at 8:48 a.m. on the first day of school. They, too, will be dismissed at about 9:50 a.m. for the day. Instructions regarding the gradual entry schedule will be reiterated at this time.

If any student is new to the school, they should go to the school office.

PAC Welcome BBQ

Wednesday September 19th 5:00 pm

Followed by PAC MEETING @ 6:30 in Library!

TYPICAL SCHOOL ROUTINES

The first bell in the morning is at 8:48 a.m. At that time, students line up outside their classrooms and their teachers begin classes at 8:50 a.m. Please note that there is limited supervision only in the inner courtyard of the school from 8:40 until 8:48 a.m.

At recess and lunch break, supervision is provided by teachers and/or support staff. There is no supervision on the grounds after 2:48 p.m. Please let us know as soon as possible if extenuating circumstances will cause you to be late in picking up your child after school.

Connaught Heights Staff

Please visit our website https://connaughtheightsschool.ca/contact-us/staff-contact-information/ for a list of staff for the coming school year.

We are pleased to welcome some new staff to our school this year: Ms. Bei Peng (Montessori Kindergarten on Thursdays); Ms. Andjela Mikoletic (English Language Learner Teacher); Ms. Melanie Gunderson (Child Care Worker); Ms. Narmatha Arunthavarajah (Grade 2/3 Montessori) and Ms. Jocelyn Liu (Music Teacher).

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE! http://connaughtheightsschool.ca/

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER! @connaughtelem

ABSENT AND LATE PROCEDURES

If your child will be absent or late, please leave a message any time at 604-517-6010 or alternatively, you may use e-mail: connaughtheights@sd40.bc.ca. Please include the following information:

- Child's name;
- Teacher's name;
- Expected date/time of return to school;
- Reason for the absence.

If we do not hear from you, the school office will call home or emergency contacts to verify your child's whereabouts. As you can appreciate, this is an important safety precaution. Please keep the school office informed of any changes to your address or phone numbers so office staff may reach you promptly. Likewise, we need to know of any changes to your emergency contacts. Thank you.

NOTE: All students arriving late to school must report to the office before going to class. This will eliminate unnecessary and sometimes upsetting phone calls to parents who have sent their child to school.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

- ✓ Fieldtrips
- ✓ Spirit Wear
- ✓ School Supplies
- ✓ **NEW** - Non Payment Items including consent and fieldtrip permission forms

Register today! Visit www.schoolcashonline.com Please see page 8 for more information as to how to sign up to make online payments at Connaught.

TRAFFIC

Schools are very busy places at the start and end of the school day. We ask that drivers follow the reduced speed limits and watch carefully for our children. Please note that the area in front of the school on London Street is for drop off and pick up only. We ask that you not park there.

The parking lot at the back of the school is of staff only. Thank you.

There is a crossing guard at Eighth Avenue and 22nd Street for students who walk to school.

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

LITTER-LESS LUNCHES

Connaught Heights continues to work towards more 'green' efforts. In addition to our regular recycling program, recycling compostable materials is now available at school! We are also looking to 'litter-less' lunches as we help students develop everyday habits that help the earth. Some suggestions to support litter-less' lunches include:

- Use a lunch bag
- Provide reusable lunch or snack containers
- Cloth napkins
- Pack a water bottle
- Remember to pack cutlery!

Please remember to label all your items!

TERRY FOX RUN

Our Terry Fox Run this year will be on Thursday, September 27th. We are asking families to send their child to school with a toonie (Toonies for Terry). All money will be donated to the Terry Fox Foundation in support of cancer research.

STUDENT SUPPLIES

This year all the teachers will be purchasing school supplies in bulk. What this means is that parents are invited to pay a fee directly to the school which will then be used to purchase appropriate school supplies. The amount of the fee varies depending on the grade and the program (e.g. Montessori or Regular):

- Montessori Kindergarten: $ 50.00 ($ 30.00 for supplies; $ 20.00 Cultural Activity Fee)
- Montessori Grades 1 – 5: $ 40.00
- Kindergarten (Regular): $ 40.00
- Grades 1- 5 (Regular): $ 35.00

While we are hoping that this will make it easier for parents by eliminating school supply shopping at this busy time of year, parents may still choose to purchase supplies for their children if they so wish.

The preferred method of payment is online using *School Cash Online.* Please see the flyer in this newsletters for directions. Of course, cash will also be accepted the first weeks of school.

REDESIGNED CURRICULUM

As you are aware, the Ministry of Education has redesigned the curriculum in exciting ways. If you are interested in learning more about the changes, please visit: https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/

All staff throughout the district will be having a Curriculum Implementation Day on Friday, September 21st to support this initiative. NOTE: Students will not attend school this day.

MEDICAL INFORMATION AND ALLERGIES

If your child has any medical issues or allergies of which we need to be aware, please let the office know right away. We need to have the appropriate information from your child's doctor so we may respond accordingly.

It is possible to have staff administer medications at school provided you and your doctor have given us authorization to do so. There is a special form that must be completed and signed by both you and your doctor.

There are adults and students at the school who have a variety of allergies. A letter will be sent home about any allergies present in your child's classroom. We ask that you refrain from sending these to school. Also, please do not send food for the class without checking with the teacher first. Thank you.

HEALTH

As children return to school, it is important that they learn about precautions that can help safeguard everyone's health. We ask for support from parents in teaching the following:

- Stay home when you are sick;
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing;
- Wash your hands often with soap and water;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth;
- Practice other good health habits: get plenty of sleep, be physically active, drink plenty of fluids, manage stress and eat nutritious food.

FRIENDLY PET REMINDER

To support the health and safety of students and others on school property, animals are not allowed on school district property without prior approval. The exception, of course, is service animals.

If you bring pets when you pick up your child, please arrange a meeting spot just off the school grounds. We appreciate your support with this matter.

Curriculum Implementation Day

Friday, September 21

Students do not attend

Annual Consent Forms

We ask that parents sign on to the online **School Cash Online** whether they intend to pay for school fees in this manner or not. This is because all the consent forms (Walking Field Trips; Media, Photos and Video Release; Digital Technology User Agreements etc.) will be accessed through this online tool the first couple of weeks of school. While the name of the online tool is School Cash Online, it may be used for other purposes as well. Please see the flyer in this newsletter for directions on how to register.

Parents' Advisory Council

In addition to the many ways for parents to volunteer at the school, we also encourage parents to consider becoming active members of the **Parents' Advisory Council (PAC).** The Connaught Heights PAC is a very active group that makes a tremendous difference in our school.

We invite you to join the PAC. The meeting schedule is on the school website.

You may contact the PAC Executive at pacconnaught@gmail.com The next PAC meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 19th at 6:30 p.m.** (right after the Welcome Back BBQ).

Visiting the School

Parents are always welcome at school and we look forward to having parent volunteers this school year. Please note that ALL VISITORS must wear identification so that they are identifiable to students and staff as permitted visitors. Visitor tags will be provided when you sign in at the office and we ask that you return these tags when you sign out at the end of your visit. Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep our school safe.

And, if you're interested in volunteering in the school, please fill out a Volunteer Form. They are available from the school office or the website:

http://connaughtheightsschool.ca/

Student Agendas

A big thank you to our PAC for their financial contribution that covered the full cost of the student planners this year!

PICTURE DAY!

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th

Upcoming Events in October

- Oct. 3 – Collaboration Day Early Dismissal
- Oct. 8 – Thanksgiving (students do not attend)
- Oct. 17 – PAC Meeting
- Oct. 19 – Pro D
- Oct. 26 – PAC Community Event

SEPTEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 Labour Day – School Closed	4 First Day of School PAC Welcome Coffee	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Individual Picture Day	15
16	17	18	19 Welcome BBQ 5:00pm PAC Meeting 6:30pm	20	21 Curriculum Implementation Day – student do not attend	22
23	24	25	26	27 Terry Fox Run	28 Orange Shirt Day	29
30						

School Supplies 2018-2019

Please visit http://connaughtheightsschool.ca/parents/notices-information/supply-lists/

Connaught Heights Herald

SchoolCashOnline

For safety and efficiency reasons, New Westminster Schools would like to reduce the amount of cash & checks coming into our school. Please join the thousands of parents who have already registered and are enjoying the convenience of paying ONLINE! It takes less than 5 minutes to register. Follow these step-by-step instructions to begin to receive email notifications regarding upcoming events involving your child(ren).

NOTE: If you require assistance, select the *SUPPORT* option in the top right hand corner of the screen.

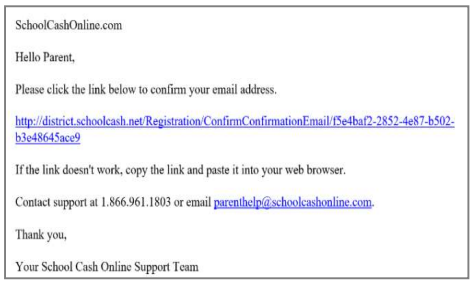
Step 1: Register

a) If you have not registered, please go to the *School Cash Online* home page https://newwestschools.schoolcashonline.com/ and select the ***"Get Started Today"*** option.

b) Complete each of the three Registration Steps
For Security Reasons your password, requires **8 characters, **one uppercase** letter, **one lowercase** letter and a **number.***

Step 2: Confirmation Email

A registration confirmation email will be forwarded to you. Click on the link provided inside the email to confirm your email and *School Cash Online* account. The confirmation link will open the *School Cash Online* site prompting you to sign into your account. Use your email address and password just created with your account.


SchoolCashOnline.com

Hello Parent,

Please click the link below to confirm your email address.

http://district.schoolcash.net/Registration/ConfirmConfirmationEmail/f5e4baf2-2852-4e87-b502-b3e48645ace9

If the link doesn't work, copy the link and paste it into your web browser.

Contact support at 1.866.961.1803 or email parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com.

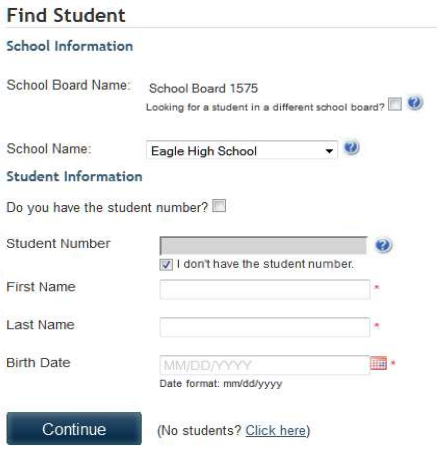
Thank you,

Your School Cash Online Support Team

Step 3: Find Student

This step will connect your children to your account.

a) Enter the School Board Name – New Westminster Schools
b) Enter the School Name – Connaught Heights Elementary
c) Enter Your Child's First Name, Last Name and Birth Date.
d) Select ***Continue.***
e) On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select ***Continue.***
f) Your child has been added to your account.



Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student

If you have more children, select ***"Add Another Student"*** and repeat the steps above. 8 children can be added to one parent account. If you do not wish to add additional children, select "***View Items For Students"*** option. A listing of available items for purchase will be displayed.

Connaught Heights Elementary School

Code of Conduct

Connaught Heights Elementary School's Code of Conduct has been established to maintain a safe, respectful, and enthusiastic learning community. The purpose of our Code of Conduct is to codify for students, staff, parents, and the community, all of our shared values and beliefs. As well, the Code of Conduct informs all the members of the school community about our shared obligations and responsibilities while at school and when going to and from school. Connaught Heights Elementary School promotes the values expressed in the BC Human Rights Code respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law as set out below.

Conduct Expectations

Respect yourself and others:

- Be polite: treat others the way you want to be treated.
- Behave in a courteous manner.
- Use appropriate language.
- Play safely.
- Recognize and defend the rights of others to be different.
- Follow the directions of staff.

Achievement:

- Do your best at all times.
- Encourage classmates and teammates to do their best.
- Appreciate the efforts of others.
- Celebrate everyone's successes.
- Make the school a more enjoyable place.
- Find the positive in all situations.

Unacceptable Behaviour

Unacceptable behaviour includes actions that:

- hurt yourself or others physically or emotionally
- are unsafe
- damage school property
- directly contravene the Code of Conduct

Connaught Heights Elementary School will seriously treat behaviour or communication that discriminates based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, age, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity and expression (prohibited grounds set out in the BC Human Rights Code). Factors, such as the frequency and severity of misconduct, are taken into account when determining appropriate consequences for infractions. A focus on consequences that are restorative, rather than punitive, will be made wherever possible. As well, the age and maturity of the student involved and the student's ability to appreciate the impact of their actions will also be considered. Lastly, a student's medical, cognitive, and personal profile must be considered when considering appropriate consequences and interventions.

Connaught Heights Elementary School

2201 London Street

New Westminster, BC

V3M 3G1

Phone: 604.517.6010

Fax: 604.517.6011

Email: connaughtheights@sd40.bc.ca

Check us out on the web!

http://connaughtheightsschool.ca/

Follow us on Twitter: @connaughtelem

New Westminster Montessori Society

We invite Montessori parents to be involved with the New Westminster Montessori Society which provides tremendous support to the Montessori programs at Connaught Heights and Richard McBride schools.

For more information, please go to info@newwestmontessori.ca

Connaught Heights PAC

We encourage parents to consider becoming active members of the Parents' Advisory Council (PAC). The Connaught Heights PAC is a very active group that makes a tremendous difference in our school.

We invite you to join the PAC. The meeting schedule is on the school website.

You may contact the PAC Executive:

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

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 19th at 6:30 p.m. (right after the Welcome Back BBQ hosted by the PAC).

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, Mandarin, 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