
SEPTEMBER 2023

Seymour Heights

[School Website](#)

School Twitter @HeightsSeymour

Phone Number – 604.903.3760

Attendance Number – 604.903.3760

Translation Options – To view this update in a language option of your choice, please review and enable the message translation options available through your email provider. While not exhaustive, we have provided links to popular email providers: [Microsoft Outlook](#) and [Gmail](#).

IMPORTANT NEWS

We welcome all returning students, staff, and families to another great year! At Seymour Heights Elementary, we believe that a strong partnership between teachers and parents/guardians is key to ensuring student success and overall well-being. We are committed to working together with you to provide the best possible education and support for your child.

Our vision is to create an environment where every student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. We know that your involvement in your child's education plays a significant role in achieving this vision. Together, we can make a positive impact on their journey. We are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead as we embark on this journey together.

We believe in *Parents as Partners* when it comes to a child's education, and this occurs through consistent and continuous communication between school and home. Our staff will follow up with parents/guardians when necessary, and we urge parents/guardians to ask questions and get involved as much as they are able.

Please speak with your child's classroom teacher(s) to discuss how things are going with your child both academically and socially-emotionally. Send the teacher an email, call the main office, or set up a meeting. Working together with school and home will provide the best educational experience for children.

Your input is highly valued, and we are here to support you and your child every step of the way.

We are happy to welcome new staff members who have brought great energy, experience, and new ideas to our school. Our new staff are:

- * Sydney Tough, Music Teacher
- * Lorantiya Fernando-Geekiyange, Grade 4/5 Teacher
- * Jill Blewman, ELL Teacher
- * Claudia Zhang, Education Assistant
- * Claudina Cabezas, Education Assistant
- * Fung Shan Lee, Education Assistant

For all updated staff information and contacts, please click [here](#).

We wish you and your child a great 2023-2024 school year!



Mr. Johal and Ms. Vanderham led a Welcome Back Assembly.

GUIDING BELIEFS

Meaningful learning happens when all members of our learning community model and support our shared values of respect, responsibility, trust, and collaboration; when the learning community is calm and welcoming; and inclusion is practiced and we respect each other's differences.

MISSION

We believe Seymour Heights Elementary School provides meaningful learning experiences for all students based on a culture of individual and collective success.

SCHOOL PLAN

Goal #1 – Social Emotional Learning is valued and intentionally taught.

Goal #2 – Diversity is honoured.

Goal #3 – Meaningful assessment is practiced and ongoing feedback is provided.

Please review for the complete [School Plan](#).

SCHOOL AGREEMENTS

Please be mindful that all members of the Seymour Heights School Community, students, staff and parents, are expected to *Take Care of Myself, Take Care of Others, and Take care of this Place*.

Click here for a more information on our [School Agreements](#).

We would like to thank the Coast Salish people, specifically the Skwxwú7mesh Nation and Səlilwətał Nation, whose unceded traditional territory North Vancouver School District and Seymour Heights Elementary reside on. We value the opportunity to learn, live and share educational experiences on this traditional territory.

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION DAY

During the week of September 25, our school will be recognizing the importance of Truth and Reconciliation, including [Orange Shirt Day](#), as a step in our journey towards reconciliation. *"Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission (SJM) residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, BC, Canada, in the spring of 2013."* We encourage all staff, students, and parents/guardians to wear orange shirts and learn about Canada's shared history.

SCHOOL ATHLETICS

It is that time of year again that we begin school sports! Basketball season for Grade 7 students and Cross Country for Grades 4-7 students is under way. This is a great way for your child to be part of a team, get some exercise, and work towards a common goal! If your child is interested in participating in one of these sports but they don't have the forms yet, please have them connect with Mr. Johal for Basketball and Ms. Lusk for Cross Country. Hope to see you there!

SCHOOL FUNDRAISER: TERRY FOX RUN

On Friday, September 22 staff and students will participate in the Terry Fox Run. We have been collecting "Toonies for Terry" this week, and will continue to collect next week to help support the Terry Fox Foundation. Our goal is to fundraise \$1000, and if we reach our goal, both Mr. Johal and Ms. Vanderham will wear funny costumes for a day! We are looking forward to another exciting and successful Terry Fox Run!

SCHOOL FUNDRAISER: SCARE AWAY HUNGER

Seymour Heights will be running a **SCARE HUNGER** food drive from Oct 16 to 31. Everything collected will be benefitting the [North Shore Women's Centre](#). All non-perishable food and toiletry donations are welcome. Here is a list of items on their Wish List: coffee/tea, canned tuna, peanut butter (small jars preferred), rice, pasta, tomato sauce, granola bars and snacks, canned goods, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, and dental floss. All the donations are going to the North Shore Women's Centre. If you have any questions, please contact [Ms. Theodoropoulos](#) or [Ms. McCartney](#).

FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS ASSESSMENTS FOR GRADE 4 AND GRADE 7

This year our School District will be administering the [Foundational Skills Assessments](#) (FSAs) over a four-week period from October 2 to October 27. The FSAs are an annual province-wide assessment of all BC students' academic skills in grades 4 and 7, and students in Grades 4 and 7 will be writing the assessments during this time. If you have any questions about your child's schedule for writing of the FSAs, please speak to the classroom teacher directly.



Our amazing K Team led a parent information session for new K parents.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 21

Meet the Teacher night 4:30 – 5:30

SEPTEMBER 22

Terry Fox Run

SEPTEMBER 27

Staff Collaboration Day- early dismissal 2:00

SEPTEMBER 29

School Spirit Day: Orange Shirt Day

OCTOBER 2

Truth & Reconciliation Day – no school

OCTOBER 4

Hot Lunch: Well Fed

OCTOBER 5

Picture Day

Primary Student of the Month at 9:05 in gym

OCTOBER 6

Hot Lunch: Hot Dog Day

OCTOBER 9

Thanksgiving Day – no school

OCTOBER 11

Hot Lunch: Well Fed

OCTOBER 13

Hot Lunch: Lunchi Brunchi

For all events, please go to the [online school calendar](#).
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