

Blueridge Elementary School

May 2017



Dear Parents,

As we visit classrooms, we see such wonderful teaching and learning happening at Blueridge. Our school is an inclusive place to learn where parents, students and staff work together to enhance student learning. We had a busy month in April with Extra-Curricular events such as: Intermediate Dance and Music Festivals, Choir, Eco-Kids gardening and grounds clean up, and Track and Field.

We are looking forward to the Month of May. This month we have Track and Field and the Primary Days of Music to extend our learning. Please see our online calendar for up-to-date details and information. If you go to our online calendar, you can subscribe to have events sent directly to your personal on-line calendar.

The next two months will go by quickly. Keep encouraging your children to work hard, stay focused and to follow the Code of Conduct. It's going to be a busy two months.

Kilometre Club—Lace Up Those Running Shoes!

The Kilometre Club for Kindergarten to Grade 7 students will be starting soon. Students will run during class time with some opportunities in the morning and at lunch. Although we encourage students to go on hikes with their family, walk to school, etc., these activities will not be included in the Kilometre Club. This year's Kilometre Club will go from Monday May 1—Friday June 2nd.

We request that parents run the program before school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 8:40 a.m. If you can volunteer, please sign up on the calendars located on the BPAC board outside the main office. Please note that if your child comes in the morning to participate, the school is not able to provide supervision, so please come and attend with your child.

Should the Kilometre Club be new to you and your child, you may wish to know that we have measured one kilometer as 3 laps around the gravel field. As they complete one lap they receive a specially marked popsicle stick. Upon completion of 3 laps they trade in their 3 sticks for a 1 Kilometre paper. It is the student's responsibility to hold onto any sticks or kilometer papers until they have had them recorded on their Kilometre Club poster by the teacher. Ribbons will be awarded as children complete 25, 50, 75 and 100 Kms. Primary students will receive a 10 Km ribbon. We encourage parents to participate with the children or to come and cheer them on in the mornings.



APPROVED AMENDED CALENDAR 2017/2018	
DESIGNATION	2017/18
Days of Instruction	181
Schools open	Tuesday, September 5, 2017
Thanksgiving Day Statutory Holiday	Monday, October 9, 2017
Province-wide non-instructional day (NVTA)	Friday, October 20, 2017
District-wide non-instructional day (Curriculum Implementation)	Monday, November 6, 2017
Remembrance Day Statutory Holiday	Monday, November 13, 2017
Schools close for Winter vacation	Friday, December 22, 2017
Winter vacation period (includes New Year's Day Statutory Holiday)	December 25, 2017 to January 5, 2018
Schools reopen after Winter vacation	Monday, January 8, 2018
District-wide non-instructional day (Teacher New Curriculum Training)	Friday, January 19, 2018
BC Family Day Statutory Holiday	Monday, February 12, 2018
District-wide non-instructional day (NVTA)	Friday, February 23, 2018
Schools close for Spring vacation	Friday, March 16, 2018
Spring vacation period	March 19 to 29, 2018
Good Friday Statutory Holiday	Friday, March 30, 2018
Easter Monday Holiday	Monday, April 2, 2018
Schools reopen after Spring Vacation	Tuesday, April 3, 2018
School-Based non-instructional day (NVTA)	Monday, April 23, 2018
District-wide non-instructional day (NVTA)	Monday, May 7, 2018
Victoria Day Statutory Holiday	Monday, May 21, 2018
School-Based non-instructional day (NVTA)	Thursday, June 28, 2018
Administrative Day (non-instructional day)	Friday, June 29, 2018
Schools Close for Summer Vacation	Friday, June 29, 2018
**Two (2) school-based non-instructional days will be determined by each school	

** A school calendar, including the bell schedule and two school-based professional development days, will be made available to every parent in each school in the North Vancouver School District No. 44 by May 31, 2017.



Year Review and Planning

May and June are busy months for schools. During this time, the staff at Blueridge will be reviewing the current school year and activities, and making plans for the school-year ahead. As we are beginning to make organizational plans for the coming school year, it would be helpful if you would notify the school (in writing), as soon as possible, if your child will not be returning to Blueridge in the Fall.

Planning for 2017-2018

At this stage in our planning, we anticipate a Kindergarten - Grade 7 enrolment of approximately 350 students. Based on this projected number of students, we will receive our staffing entitlement. Once we have this information, the following decisions can be made:

- the number of divisions at each grade level
- the number of students in each class
- where classes will be combined (4/5, 6/7, etc.)
- the amount of time provided to other disciplines in the school such as Music and Library
- what grade levels teachers will register

Student Placement

Once an organization has been determined, the process of assigning students to classes begins. Our class placement process ensures that thoughtful consideration of each child's social, emotional and academic needs is aligned with the need to create balanced and effective learning environments. The assignment of students to classes is decided by a team, which includes the child's current teachers, specialists such as the ELL, LAC teachers, counsellors and the administrators. This professional team considers each placement carefully as they create classes that include a wide range of students who learn in a variety of ways. In addition to individual circumstances, criteria considered in the placement process also includes:

1. Workable instructional groups considering:
 - the child's academic needs and strengths;
 - teaching and learning styles;
 - the child's work habits.
2. Positive social groups considering:
 - placements where a child can work positively and productively with other children in the class;
 - peer support or conflicts;
 - establishing the presence of positive leaders in each class;
 - ratio of grades in combined classes.
3. Balanced classes considering:
 - students with Special Needs
 - students who are English Language Learners
 - academic, social and emotional needs and abilities
 - leadership abilities.
4. Other Information considered:
 - the past history of students in combined or single grade classes;
 - school-based resource team recommendations

A Note About Combined Grade (Split) Classes

Combined class organizations result from imbalances in the number of students in particular grade levels. Class size limits are set by the Ministry of Education. In today's reality that often means that the school organization needs to include some combined classes. For example, we might have 41 Grade 1 students, but the class size limit is 22 so we would need to create a Gr. 1 class and a Gr. 1 & 2 class with the remainder of the Gr. 1 students and some Gr. 2 students. Depending on the number of students at each grade level, using all of the criteria above may well result in the creation of some combined classes. Many areas of the students' growth are considered in a student's placement such as: social skill development, physical size, independence in work habits, leadership potential, personal initiative and organizational skills. Consideration is also given to previous placement in a combined class. Please be assured that if your child is placed in a combined class that they will receive the appropriate curriculum that is prescribed by the Ministry of Education.

Process:

Please consider the placement criteria referenced above when describing your child's needs. Please describe a learning environment that may suit your child's learning style/needs (academic, social, emotional). If you are providing information that involves other students (one or two at most) please think carefully before making your request and realize that other parents may have the same needs for their child.

The information that you provide in your information sheet will be shared with the team of professionals described above, to be used along with the criteria listed above in the placement of your child. All parent input for class placements will be shared with the team working collaboratively to create balanced classes. Please note that it may not be possible to meet all requests as classes are determined. Teacher assignments are tentative and subject to change along with enrolment and school organization changes.

Please note that information sheets will not be accepted if names of staff members are used in outlining your requests/concerns. These information sheets will be returned to the sender with a reminder of the placement criteria outlined above. Our goal is to meet the needs of all students at Blueridge in order to maximize their growth as learners. We appreciate your support in this complex, multi-level process of arranging educationally sound and balanced classes.

If there is information that the current classroom teacher and/or the principal does not have and should consider when placing your child, please complete the "Parental Information for Student Placement Sheet" (next page) and submit it to Ms. Kee no later than May 31st, 2017. **Information sheets received after May 31st will not be considered for student placement for the 2017-2018 school year.**

BLUERIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2650 Bronte Drive North Vancouver BC V7H 1M4

Telephone: 604-903-3250 Fax: 604-903-3251

Safe Arrival/Callback: 604-903-3252

blueridgeattendance@sd44.ca

www.sd44.ca



Blueridge Elementary School Parental Information for Student Placement School Year 2017-2018

Parents and guardians understandably want to ensure that their child is placed in the best possible learning environment. If there is information that the current classroom teacher and/or the principal does not have and should consider when placing your child, please complete this form. An accompanying letter, e-mail, or meeting with staff or administration is not required.

Please complete this form ONLY if you have information that the staff needs to know as they consider the class placement for your child. Please complete only the applicable lines, and then rank the priority in the boxes on the left with 1 being the most important to you and 4 the least important.

Student's Name: _____ Current Gr. Level: _____ Date: _____

Current Teacher: _____

My child's academic/learning needs are: _____

My child's emotional needs are: _____

My child's social needs are: _____

Other concerns that should be considered are: _____

Parent Name: _____ (Please Print) Parent Signature: _____

In order to have your input considered for placement, this form must be returned to the office no later than May 31, 2017.

Blueridge Elementary School

May 2017

MAY

Kilometre Club Begins	M. May 1-June 2
Professional Day (no school)	M. May 8
Gr. 6 Immunizations (9-11:00)	F. May 12
Book Fair	May 15 - 18
Victoria Day (schools closed)	M. May 22
Handsworth Track Elimin. (8-12)	T. May 23

JUNE

Band Concert	TBA
Family App. Ice Cream Social	Th. June 1
Swanguard	T. June 6
Fun Day	W. June 21
Grade 7 Farewell (1-2:00)	T. June 27
Reporting Period 3	Th. June 29
Last Day for Students	Th. June 29

Bell Schedule 2017-2018

MON, TUES, THURS AND FRI				
Entrance Bell	8:40 AM	to	8:45 AM	
First Instructional Period	8:45 AM	to	10:20 AM	
Recess	10:20 AM	to	10:40 AM	
Second Instructional Period	10:40 AM	to	12:00 PM	
Lunch	12:00 PM	to	12:45 PM	
Entrance Bell (end of lunch)	12:45 PM	to	12:50 PM	
Third Instructional Period	12:50 PM	to	3:00 PM	

WED.				
Entrance Bell	8:40 AM	to	8:45 AM	
First Instructional Period	8:45 AM	to	10:20 AM	
Recess	10:20 AM	to	10:37 AM	
Second Instructional Period	10:37 AM	to	12:00 PM	
Lunch	12:00 PM	to	12:45 PM	
Entrance Bell (end of lunch)	12:45 PM	to	12:50 PM	
Third Instructional Period	12:50 PM	to	2:00 PM	

Track and Field

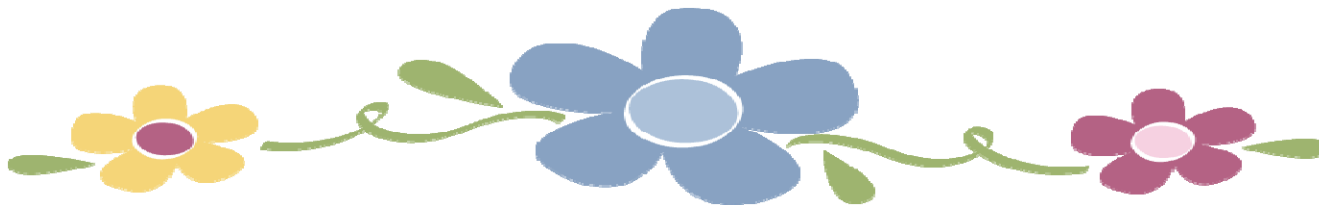
Thank you to all of our dedicated parent and staff coaches. The students have show tremendous athletic ability and great sportsmanship.

The annual Swangard Track and Field meet is coming up Tuesday June 6th. We wish all of our athletes good luck in reaching their goals.

Watch for our students in our BPAC purchased athletic jerseys! They look fantastic.

Reminders

- ⇒ If you have a change of parent contact information, please let the office know as soon as possible.





School Fees 2017-2018

For the 2017-2018 school year, the following school fees will be charged in accordance with District Policy 706:

- \$24.00 maximum for up to two Enrichment Learning Activities
- \$40.00 Supply fee for Kindergarten students only
- \$6.00 Agendas (Grades 2-7)

Outdoor School Fees:

Gr. 3 Skw'one-was Program—Grade 3s will not be attending this program

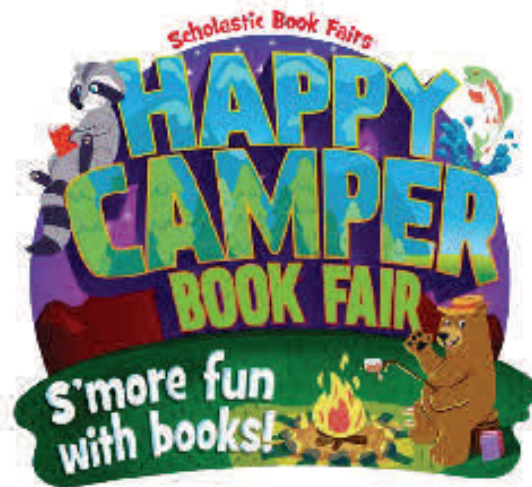
Grade 4 Outdoor School Program—three day, two night program \$180

Grade 6 Outdoor School Program—four day, three night program \$255

**Blueridge
Scholastic Book
Fair is Coming
Soon!**

Spring Edition!!

MAY 15 – MAY 18



Calling All Volunteers...

We need volunteers to make this a success! While it takes many people to run the book fair, it only requires an hour of your time. Volunteering is a great opportunity to see your children and their peers enjoying the wonders of reading.

All proceeds from this fundraiser go toward purchasing new books and otherwise supporting our library resources, so let's make this event a huge success!!!

BOOK FAIR HOURS

MONDAY, MAY 15	TUESDAY, MAY 16	WEDNESDAY, MAY 17	THURSDAY, MAY 18
8-8:40am	8-8:40am	8-8:40am	8-8:40am
12-12:30pm	12-12:30pm	CLOSED AT LUNCH	12-12:30pm
3-3:30pm	3-3:30pm	2-2:40pm	3-3:30pm
		FAMILY NIGHT 7-8pm	

If you are able to help with this super fun fundraiser, please contact Francine and let me know which days/times you're available.

fran.rattray@gmail.com



You're Invited!

48TH ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE

Sunday May 7, 2017
10:30 am to 3:30 pm



at CHEAKAMUS CENTRE
2170 Paradise Valley Road
Brackendale, BC

CHEAKAMUS
CENTRE

A FUN, FAMILY DAY OF NATURE EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY

Great picnic friendly food • Salmon hatchery • Farm • Coast Salish Bighouse
Archery • Canoeing • Microscope studies • AFK art activity • Aquatic lab • Wedge river floats

New Activities!



Win great prizes at our Silent Auction and Raffle!

For event information and volunteer opportunities, contact info@cheakamuscentre.ca

Driving directions can be viewed here

*Sorry, no pets. Cash only concession. Don't forget to bring your own mug and a Toonie donation for parking.
Proceeds from this event support the North Vancouver Outdoor School Alumni Society.*

www.cheakamuscentre.ca