

# Spul'u'kwuks News

Newsletter #1

September 11, 2017

SPUL'U'KWUKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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MR. JOHN KIBBLEWHITE  
PRINCIPAL

MRS. NICHOLE KUSCH  
VICE PRINCIPAL

## From the Office

Dear Families: Welcome to a new year of learning together! We hope you've had a restful and happy summer, with time to enjoy one another. Our entire staff extends a special welcome to all families who are new to our Spul'u'kwuks Community this year. We hope you will feel very much "at home" here soon. September is a month of new beginnings and opportunities to get involved! Our children have moved into their new classrooms and they have begun getting to know their new classmates and teachers. Our Learning Partnership has already begun. Your commitment to supporting your children's education is foundational to their success in school.

## Welcome to Our New Staff



Please join us in welcoming:

- Mrs.Kusch (Vice Principal)
- Ms.Chura (Gr K/1 Teacher)
- Ms.MacGregor (Gr 4/5 Teacher)
- Ms.Smith (Gr 4/5 Teacher)
- Ms.Chang (Resource/ELL Teacher)
- Ms.Keung (Educational Assistant)
- Mrs.Church (Educational Assistant)
- Ms.Gavrilova (Educational Assistant)

## Getting Off to a Great Start for the New School Year

1

Make sure your child gets enough sleep

2

Drink water and eat healthy snacks

3

Make new friends and make time to play

### What I Love About My New Class

Student Reflections

"My teachers are really nice. My classmates are really caring." - Elaine

"I love the centres we do." - Isabelle

"I'm happy to be with the same teacher as last year. I'm also glad I can make new friends." - Aidan

"It's fun and there's lots of nice people in my class." - Shyon

"The Lego in this class is fun and I like writing here too." - Isaac

"I like my new teacher and classmates." - Ethan

## What Do Students Learn at School

The redesigned BC Curriculum is learner-centered and flexible with a focus on literacy and numeracy, while supporting deeper learning through concept based and competency-driven approaches. At its heart are the Core Competencies, Essential Learning, Literacy and Numeracy Foundations, supported by three elements: The Content (KNOW), Curricular Competencies (DO) and Big Ideas (UNDERSTAND). All these elements work together to support deeper learning in all areas of learning.

For more details, see: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum-updates>

## Parking Rules at School



Parents are reminded that the drop off area is in the marked zones in front of the school. Please do not leave your car unattended during this drop-off time. Also, please do not park in the staff parking lot. If you need to bring your child in, please find parking in the neighbourhood, making note of the City of Richmond Parking Restriction signs on Blanshard Drive. The parking lot is closed after school until **3:10pm**. Please park in the neighbourhood (where allowed) or walk to the school to pick up your child(ren).

## Safe Arrival

If your child is going to be absent from class at any time, please phone the *Safe Arrival Voice Mail* (604-303-5108) to record your message. Please leave your child's name and division or teacher's name and the reason for absence. Parents of children who are unaccounted for will be contacted to determine their whereabouts.



We have a new school opening time this year. Doors will now open at **8:45am**, giving your child plenty of time to calmly prepare for their day and be ready for a full day of learning to begin at 9am. Please note the time change and arrange for your child's arrival to school. This is consistent with other schools, helps with our morning supervision and allows teachers time to prepare for their teaching. Thank you for your understanding and support.

## Meet The Staff Night

Our annual *Meet the Staff Night* is on Thursday, September 21st from 5:30-6:30pm. There will be time to meet your child's teacher in their classrooms at 5:30pm followed by a welcome 'meet and greet' in the gym from 6:00 to 6:15pm. At 6:30pm we have a special presentation on anxiety by Dr. Deborah MacNamara, of *The Neufeld Institute* from the University of British Columbia. It will be from 6:30-8:00 p.m. More details to follow.



## School-to-Home Communication

September is a very busy time for notices being sent home from school, both from the office and from your child’s teacher. Please check your child’s backpacks and return any necessary forms as soon as possible. We will be sending our newsletters via email to reduce the amount of paper being sent home. Make sure that on the “Use of Personal Information” form that you indicate that you give consent to the school district to send you emails, and clearly print the email address you would like to receive school newsletters to. If you do not have internet access, please see Mrs. Tilton at the office. Please ensure your contact information is up to date with the office if there are any changes. We will also be tweeting out from our school’s Twitter account [@spuleagles](https://twitter.com/spuleagles)!



### PAC Corner

We do need volunteer help with Safe Arrival & Parking Lot Supervision in the morning, as well as several other duties. Please contact [spulpac@gmail.com](mailto:spulpac@gmail.com) if you would like to help in any way! Thank you in advance.

## Upcoming Events

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|----------------|---|
| September 18th | Terry Fox Kick Off                        |
| September 20th | PAC Meeting: 6:30 pm                      |
| September 21st | Band Rental 3 pm - 4:30 pm in the library |
| September 21st | Meet the Teacher 5:30pm - 6:15pm          |
| September 21st | Dr. Deborah McNamara Presentation 6:30pm  |
| September 25th | Professional Development Day              |
| September 26th | Photo Day                                 |
| September 29th | Terry Fox Assembly & Run                  |

