



Spul'ukwuks Elementary School
5999 Blanshard Drive, Richmond, BC V7C 5V4

RICHMOND
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38

Website: <http://spulukwuks.sd38.bc.ca/>
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Mrs. Elaine Stapleton
Principal

Mrs. Jenny Slinn
Vice Principal

September 8, 2023

Welcome back to school! It is great to see everyone again and to welcome our new families to Spul'ukwuks! We have been sharing stories of our summers and looking forward to our year together.



NEW CLASSES FOR GR. 1-7 STUDENTS



Students met their new classroom teachers today! For some students, the idea of moving to a new class is exciting, for others it's a little scary, and for some it's a combination of exciting and a little scary. Not everyone adapts to change at the same rate, and some students may still feel unsure about the changes when they go home this weekend. If this is your child, encourage them to think about things that are exciting and possible in a new class/grade/school year. Every student was placed with purpose, with their academic, social, and emotional development in mind. We care about all our students! If you are unfamiliar with combined classes, I have included an attachment that will give you a better understanding of how they work. We are unable to make changes to our classes.

MEET THE STAFF!

Our meet the staff will be held on **Wednesday, September 20th from 5:15-6:30pm.** Families are invited to visit their children's classrooms from 5:15-5:30, and then we will head outside for a BBQ and you can chat with your children's teacher and classmate's families. If you wish to order for the BBQ, the deadline for orders/payment is Wednesday, September 13th (next week!). Orders will be taken through [CashOnline](#).



SchoolCashOnline
POWERED BY KEV GROUP

CASH ONLINE

Our school/district uses [CashOnline](#) to make payments more convenient. Charges including school supplies, the Meet the Staff BBQ order, field trips, some fundraising, etc. are all paid for online. If you are new to our District, your child should have received a CashOnline "tip sheet" with their pupil number on it and instructions for signing up.

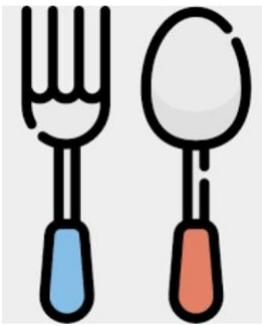
VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

For the safety of our staff and students, all visitors are asked to check in at the office immediately upon arrival. Office staff will provide directions to our guests. If you wish to speak with your child's teacher, please go to their outside classroom door. We recommend making an appointment in advance with staff members to ensure their availability to speak with you.



STUDENT LUNCHES

We encourage parents to send lunches to school with their children in the morning, as it avoids confusion at lunchtime. If you must drop off your child's lunch later in the morning, please make sure that the lunch is here before 11:50am (see note below about Div. 15-17). Primary classes often begin eating early, and students need to have their lunches here when the class is ready to eat. Drop off of student lunches for Divisions 1-14 will be directly to the classroom outside door. Each room has a ledge where you can leave the lunch. Drop off for Divisions 15, 16, and 17 will be on the black cart inside the front doors of the school. The teachers of these three classes request that student lunches be delivered by 11:20am.



[Libby's Kitchen](#) is available to resume delivery of student lunches Monday to Friday, except on PAC Hot Lunch days. Ordering can only be done online, and the website is open to accept orders. The first delivery day is Tuesday, September 12th. See the attached "users' manual" on how to set up an account and order from them.

PAC Hot Lunch (through [Munch-A-Lunch](#)) will be every Monday, beginning in October. Ordering will begin on September 25th. More information will be available soon.

We do not hand out cutlery, so please send cutlery with your child's lunch! It is a good idea for your child to keep cutlery at school that they can wash and reuse when they need it.

DROP OFF OF STUDENT ITEMS DURING THE DAY

We appreciate all students bringing what they need for the day with them to school in the morning. On some occasions, the school may call and ask if someone is available to bring an item the student must have for the day (glasses, band instrument, etc.).



FINANCIAL SUPPORT



Please contact Mrs. Stapleton or your child's teacher if your family needs assistance with school supplies, fees, or other school-related costs. As always, your privacy and dignity will be respected. We want to work with our families to ensure that your children have everything they need to be successful at school. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can help.

DROP-OFF, PICK UP AND PARKING

Thank you for making drop-off and pick-up go so smoothly this week! We really appreciate it! September is always a good time to review how drop-off and pick-up work at Spul'u'kwuks. It's important to keep in mind that schools were not built to accommodate hundreds of students being dropped off by vehicles, so if you choose to drop off this way, bring your patience! You can expect long lines and having to wait to get into the drop-off lane (the first dark, rainy morning will be a perfect example!). We suggest if you must bring a vehicle, that you consider leaving a few minutes earlier and parking on the street (pay attention to the parking signs) away from the school and walking in with your children. It will help to reduce congestion and give you a more peaceful start to your day!



The drop-off lane is just for drop-off. Please do not leave your vehicle to walk your child to the classroom door. Teach your child how to get out of the car without your help so you can drop-off and leave right away so others can enter behind you. If you wish to spend a few minutes taking your child to class, you will need to park on the street (the lot is for staff parking only) and walk in.

For those walking in from the street, please only use sidewalks and crosswalks to model safe crossing for your children. Do not jaywalk or walk through the parking lot.

The parking lot is not accessible by vehicle at the end of the day. If you drive to pick up your children, you will need to park on the street. Please do not encourage your children to cross through the parking lot or run across the street to meet you. They need to use the crosswalks and sidewalks and cross safely.

It takes the whole community to make our school grounds and the streets around us safe for our children and running smoothly for all. Thank you for your support!

FORMS, FORMS, FORMS

ACTION REQUIRED

The first two forms needing completion are coming home today with your child. One is the Outdoor Classroom and Walking Field Trip Consent form and the other is the Personal Information Consent Form.

We would appreciate you completing these forms and returning them as soon as possible, as we have more forms to send home next week...



SPIRIT DAYS

We hold School Spirit Days once month. For those who are not familiar with the idea, two classes decide on a theme for the day and the whole school is invited to participate. Our first Spirit Day of the year is next Friday, September 15th and the theme is **Pajama Day!**...Students and staff can wear their pajamas at school for the whole day!

Cross Country Run Club begins Tuesday Sept 12th



Beginning Tues. Sept 12th

CROSS COUNTRY RUN CLUB

Practices open to all grade 1-7 students

**TUESDAYS &
THURSDAYS AT 8:00 AM
AT THE TENNIS COURTS**

**DISTRICT RACE
TUES. OCT 17TH
AT GARRY POINT
PARK
PERMISSION FORMS
GIVEN TO ACTIVE
PARTICIPANTS**

Students in grades 1-7 are invited to join Cross Country Run Club. We will meet Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:00 AM in the tennis courts. As always, parent volunteers are greatly appreciated.

This year's district race will take place Tuesday, October 17th at 3:30 PM at Garry Point Park. Permission forms will be available in early October for active participants. Parents are responsible for transportation and supervision of their child(ren) for this event.

See you at the tennis courts on Tuesday, September 12th at 8:00 AM!

TERRY FOX RUN

Our Terry Fox Run will be held on Wednesday, September 20th. Every year we raise donations to support cancer research, as we know how many people cancer affects. We will be collecting donations at school starting next Wednesday. Below is a message from the Terry Fox Foundation and a link for online donations.

Your school's support and incredible fundraising efforts enables life-changing research across Canada, which leads to better and more personalized cancer treatment for everyone. Each year, we move one step closer to a world without cancer, thanks to you and your students!

The Terry Fox Foundation is a leading national investor in cancer research by directing funds to diverse and innovate projects across the country through the [Terry Fox Research Institute](#).

Please help us to continue to make great strides in cancer research by sharing your school's fundraising link: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/SpulukwuksElementary>. Your generous support is making a difference!



EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION CALENDAR

Every month we will feature significant events from the district's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Calendar.

We recognize that our school community is broad and represents a wide range of interests and beliefs.

In all Richmond schools, we welcome and show respect for all members of our community.

SCHOOL TIMETABLE	
	School begins 8:45
	Recess 10:15-10:30
	Lunch 11:50-12:42
	School ends 2:45

The **School Calendar** for the 2023-2024 school year is attached for your reference. Please note the dates in your calendar.

September

- 10-16 Mennonite Heritage Week
- 15-17 Rosh Hashana** 🕍
- 19 Ganesh Chaturthi 🌀
- 23 International Day of Sign Languages
- 24 Kol Nidrei** 🕍
- 24-25 Yom Kippur** 🕍
- 24-30 Gender Equality Week
- 24-30 Int'l Week of the Deaf People
- 26-27 Mawlid-al-Nabi** 🌙
- 29 Sukkot Begins 🕍
- 30 National Day of Truth and Reconciliation / Orange Shirt Day**



UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Individual Photo Day	September 13
Spirit Day! (Pajama Day)	September 15
Terry Fox Run	September 20
Meet the Staff BBQ	September 20
PAC Meeting 9:30am	September 21
Non-Instructional Day (no school)	September 22