

Mrs. Elaine Stapleton Principal

May 31, 2024

HAVE YOUR PLANS FOR SEPTEMBER CHANGED?

If your plans for September have changed and your child(ren) will no longer be attending Spul'u'kwuks, please let the office know as soon as possible, so we can offer spots to new students who have moved into the neighbourhood.



Our Gr. 7 students will be holding a bake sale on **Tuesday, June 11th** to fundraise for their Farewell. Items will be priced at \$1 or \$2, and each class will have the opportunity to visit the bake sale with their teacher.

TRACK MEET

Our students represented Spul'u'kwuks well at the Track Meet on Monday! They ran, jumped, and threw their way through the day, while cheering on their fellow students. Thank you to all the coaches who volunteered their time to teach students the events and to all the parents and guardians who came to support us ⁽²⁾. Coaches: Mr. Brockington, Ms. Hwu, Ms. Ingham, Mrs. Luick, Mrs. Magnan, Mrs. Paige, Ms. Rakhra, Mrs. Shackles, Mrs. Shannon, Mrs. Swain, Mr. West



Our Gr. 7 students participated in the Burnett Feeder School Volleyball Tournament on Wednesday. Our two teams played exceptionally well and ended up playing against each other in the semifinals to see what team would advance to the finals! Spul'u'kwuks 2 won the semifinal game, then came in second place. Spul'u'kwuks 1 placed fourth in the tournament. Thank you to Mrs. Shackles and Mr. West for sponsoring our teams at this event!



PAC SUMMER CARNIVAL!

Save the Date! Saturday, June 15th from 11:00am to 3:00pm! There will be games and prizes available, with fun for the whole family! Ticket purchases are not available yet, but we will let you know as soon as tickets are ready.

Website: http://spulukwuks.sd38.bc.ca/ Twitter: @spuleagles

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





Mrs. Jenny Slinn Vice Principal



CLASS PLACEMENTS

Each year, the school makes organization plans based on the number of returning students and new registrations. Your child's classroom teacher, resource staff, educational assistants and administrators work together to place students for the upcoming school year. These plans are tentative until the end of the first week when final student numbers are known. During the first week, all staff meet to confirm teaching assignments, place new students, and review student placements.

In organizational meetings, many factors are considered when placing students. These considerations include:

- * Learning styles and strengths
- * Social/personal characteristics
- * Special needs
- * ELL levels

- * Work habits
- * Gender considerations
- * Friendship groups
- * Age and physical maturity

* Contractual obligations

As you can see, this is a complicated process, and this list is by no means exclusive, as there are many factors unique to a situation that must be taken into account.



CLASS PLACEMENT FORMS

Parents and guardians are not required, but are welcome to provide information that may assist the staff in planning for next year, as you may have additional information about your child that you want us to know. Please contact the office to obtain a form, and return it no later than <u>Friday</u>, <u>June 21st</u>. Please note that <u>information about how your child learns</u> provides the most valuable information. The information you provide should <u>not</u> include a request for a specific teacher, but rather some important personal or educational information that will assist us in our decision. Teacher requests are not the basis for class placements.

All information you provide about your child(ren) at the end of the year will be shared with the teachers and taken into consideration. It should be noted that classes are created to be as balanced as possible so that the learning environment can be maximized.

Please be aware the final decision regarding placement needs to be a school-based decision.

All class placement information must be completed <u>using the school form and returned to the</u> <u>office</u>, either on paper or attached electronically (spulukwuks@sd38.bc.ca). Please do not send email requests or ask school staff to make placements on your behalf. These requests will not be considered.

UNDERSTANDING COMBINED CLASSES

We are beginning our initial planning for next year in the coming weeks and often find that the philosophy behind combined classes is unfamiliar to parents/guardians, or they have incorrect information.

Children who are placed in the upper grade of a combined class are not placed there because they struggle in school. For example, in a combined Gr. 4/5 class, we do our very best to ensure that for each grade, we have students who encompass a range of learning styles and abilities. We do not place all of our strongest Gr. 5 learners in a Gr. 5/6 when a Grade 4/5 classroom is also available.

Teachers are trained to provide instruction to diverse classes of students, looking at children as individuals, and providing for individual education plans, where warranted, for students who are faster or slower to develop. In this student-centered approach to teaching and learning, we recognize that not all students learn at the same rate and at the same time. Common topics explored in classrooms allow for a diverse range of students to learn at their own pace, while working toward learning outcomes specific for their grade.

Combined classes offer enhanced opportunities for all students to demonstrate confidence, positive self-concept, and a strong sense of belonging. Combined classes can help students form broader and more varied friendships, as older students provide role models for younger students. Sometimes the teacher/student relationship can be enhanced if the same teacher teaches a student for more than one year, leading to increased feelings of security for returning students and a smoother transition in September because the teacher already knows their learning styles and needs well. Teachers in combined classes, like those in straight grades, follow the curriculum requirements defined by the Ministry of Education.

You will find that over the course of your child's schooling, there are years that they will be in the lower grade of a combined class and other years when they will be in the higher grade of a combined class. These are both valuable learning experiences and will benefit your child's development academically, emotionally and socially.

DON'T FORGET...

- Please pack a recess snack and cutlery in your child's lunch!
- Gr. 7 families, please check your email for information about the Farewell ceremony, as we require an RSVP from each family.
 - Class Placement forms are due by Friday, June 21st

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- June 10 Cybersafe Presentations
- June 11 Bake Sale
- June 12 Emergency Preparedness: Earthquake Practice 1:30-2:45pm
- June 14 Spirit Day
- June 15 Summer Carnival
- June 21 Gr. K/1 and Gr. 6/7 Immunizations
- June 26-28 Outdoor Education Gr. 6/7
- July 1 Canada Day (School Closed)
- July 12 Spirit Day
- July 19 Sports Day
- July 22 Rain-Out Day for Sports Day
- July 22 Reports Home
- July 25 Gr. 7 Farewell Assembly 9am

July 25Final School Assembly PMJuly 25Last Day for StudentsJuly 26Last Day for StaffAugust 26School Office ReopensSeptember 2Labour Day (School Closed)September 3First Day for Students (schedule to come later)

CONNECT WITH SPUL'U'KWUKS PAC

If you would like to get in touch with our Spul'u'kwuks PAC, use this QR Code to send a message and find out more about what PAC does and how you can get involved.



RECONCILIATION, EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INLCUSION CALENDAR



Free tickets must be reserved: <u>https://www.chinatownstorytellingcentre.org/</u>