

# École Capitol Hill



Principal - Mr. W. Kanno  
Head Teacher - Mrs. C. Armstrong  
Administrative Secretary - Ms. N. Leung

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## Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians and families,

Welcome back to another fabulous year at École Capitol Hill School! I trust that you have all had a fun-filled and wonderful summer holidays. We have had an active and engaging opening week. The children participated in multi-age class activities centred around Social Emotional Learning throughout the first week. Unfortunately, we have needed to reorganize our classes. Because of this, the students reported to their temporary homerooms this morning and we are hopeful that we can move students to their permanent classrooms tomorrow morning. Once in their classes for the year the students will begin learning the routines and forming new relationships with their classmates and their teachers. We thank you for your patience and we know that your children will work hard at their academics and also participate well in the other opportunities which are offered to them at our school this year.

We welcome a number of new staff to join our Capitol Hill Community. Please see the list of our new staff (page 2). I know that we will all ensure to do our best to help welcome them all to our school.

Please find attached a September calendar. Please note that we have an early dismissal at 1:45pm on Tuesday, September 19th for our Intake meetings (for Grade 1 to 7 students) from 2pm to 6pm. There will no school on Friday, September 29th as it is a Professional Day. Please see our school calendar with holidays and Professional Days for this school year on page 5 of this newsletter.

Thank you for your support for your children's learning and we look forward to working together with you this year.

Wally Kanno

Principal

### Important Upcoming Dates

**Tuesday, September 19th—Early Dismissal at 1:45 pm for Student Intake Meetings**

**Friday, September 29th—Professional Day (school closed for students)**

### PAC Executive

Chair: Ariel Pavic

Treasurer: Tania Ballantyne

Secretary: Valentina Farley

DPAC Rep: tba

Member at Large: Atikur Khan

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<http://capitolhill.sd41.bc.ca>

## Welcome to New Staff to École Capitol Hill School!

Ms. S. Jeffery—Gr. 6 French Imm. Teacher

Ms. L. Botic—Gr. 4/5 Teacher

Ms. B. Van Balkam—Learning Support Services Teacher, Gr. 3/4 Teacher  
with Mrs. C. Armstrong

Ms. L. Watson—Vision Teacher

Ms. T. Azarie—Intensive Education Behaviour Support Teacher

Ms. R. Atkinson—Educational Assistant

Ms. G. Robinson—Noon Hour Supervisor

Mr. C. Daniels—Custodian



## School Hours

8:50 First Bell Rings – Students enter from outside

8:55 Second Bell--Instruction begins

10:30-10:45 Recess break (15 minutes)

12:00-12:45 Lunch break

12:45-2:47 Classes in session

2:47 Dismissal



## Intake Meetings Gr. 1-7 (Tue. Sept. 19th)

Tuesday, Sept. 19th from 2:00-6:00 (early dismissal, 1:45) is your first opportunity to meet with your child(ren)'s teacher; more information will be forth coming.

## Website

Our school website is filled with information. If you are looking for school supply lists, staff contact info, notices, forms, and a whole list of other useful information visit our school site at [www.capitolhill.sd41.bc.ca](http://www.capitolhill.sd41.bc.ca)

## École Capitol Hill Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting

Our Parent Advisory Council will be holding their first meeting of the year on **Wednesday, October 11th at 6:30 pm.** All PAC meetings will be held in our school library. Please put this in your calendars and plan to attend.

## Student Absences

Please phone and leave a voicemail at **604-296-9006**, whenever your child is absent from school. If we do not hear from you and your child is absent we will attempt to phone you. Please keep us informed of changes in phone numbers, addresses and emergency contacts.



## School forms

We will send home an extensive package with each student that has a number of forms for you to read and some to be signed and returned. Please return them as soon as you can. Please call us if you are missing any information.

## School Schedule

Classes starts each day with a **bell at 8:55 a.m.** There is a bell at 8:50 for students to go to classrooms. Students should arrive as close as possible to this time as we are unable to provide supervision before school begins. Our recess break is at **10:30 a.m.** and we dismiss for lunch at **12:00 noon.** Students return to class **at 12:45 p.m. and are dismissed for the day at 2:47 p.m.**

## Late for School and Early Pick Up



It is really important that parents ensure that their children arrive to school on time each day. Lessons begin at 8:55 and those who arrive late not only miss valuable instructional time, but also disturb the learning of their classmates by entering their classrooms after everyone is settled. **Any student who arrives late, must first come to the school office to sign in, and then proceed to their classrooms.** If you are picking up your child(ren) before dismissal time, please come and sign them out at the office.

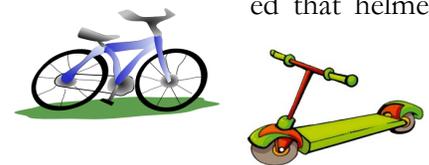
## Safety Issues

### Parking, Pick-up and Drop-off at the School

The heavy congestion of traffic that occurs each and every day around our school is a potentially hazardous situation. It is therefore important for all drivers to be very vigilant of all pedestrians, abide parking regulations and be respectful of each other. We thank you for your attention to this very important matter!

### Wheeling to School

If students use scooters or skateboards to come to school, they must pick them up and carry them while on the school grounds. If students ride bicycles to school, they must walk them on the school grounds and lock them in the bike rack that are provided on our school property. Students are reminded that helmets should be worn when riding scooters, skateboards and bicycles.



### When Walking to School Consider the following tips:

- Know the route your child takes to and from school and how long it takes.
- Encourage your child to walk with a friend or in a group. Know the names, telephone numbers and addresses of these friends.
- Identify places on the way to school that could be potentially dangerous: wooded areas, parking lots, underground walkways etc.
- Arrange for your child to arrive at school as close to the morning bell time as possible.
- Set a time for your child to report home after school.
- Encourage your child to wear light coloured clothing so that they are easily seen on rainy, dark days.
- Review street safety rules with your child.

## West-Coast Recess – Please Dress for the Weather!

At Capitol Hill we believe it is healthy for children to get outside throughout the day for fresh air and exercise. Living on the West Coast we know that our climate contains a consistent amount of rainfall especially throughout the winter months. It makes sense that in our climate we are well prepared to be outside in the rain. Given that students will be outside for lunch and / recess even when it's raining it is important to send your child to school well prepared.

### Being prepared for the weather

We know that if children are well prepared to be outside in the rain they actually enjoy it. As long as they stay dry and warm there is a great deal of fun to be had in all kinds of weather. To be prepared to be outside in the rain it is important for your child to have:

- A rain coat or water resistant covering
- Rubber boots to keep feet dry (if you are able to provide them with a pair to keep at school that would be perfect)
- “Muddy Buddies” – rain pants they can quickly slip over their clothes (much like they would snow pants)
- An umbrella
- A rain hat or coat with a hood
- A change of clothes just in case. (sweatpants, sock, underwear, t-shirt)

### RainyWeather FAQ

#### **I am concerned that my child will get sick being out in the rain.**

It is not cold that makes us sick but rather viruses. “People get sick more often in the winter because they are exposed to each other more in the winter than in the summer. When it is cold outside people tend to stay inside are more likely to spread germs to one another.” (from “Does Cold Weather Cause the Cold or Flu?”). Turns out that getting outdoors is more likely to protect our children from illnesses than keeping them outdoors.



#### **My child has been sick but is now returning to school. Can he stay inside today?**

We are quite reluctant to allow this for a couple of reasons. First, if your child is still not quite better it would be better to keep him/her home until he/she is 100% ready to function fully at school. If he is too sick to go outside he is probably too sick to get through the day's work at school successfully - give him another day of rest. Secondly, we have very limited supervision inside so if more than of a couple of students are requesting this it becomes problematic. We do make exceptions to this based on special circumstances. Please contact your child's teacher to discuss this matter.

#### **Are the Children ever allowed to stay inside due to the weather?**

We occasionally have weather conditions that are unreasonable to expect students to stay outside. These days include hard, driving rain with extreme cold or wind. In these situations we intend to declare it an inside day, however, we do not expect to have more than two or three of these in a year.

### **Capitol Hill's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Westcoast Weather Clothing Swap**

**September 19, 2017 2-6 pm in the Gym**

Has your child outgrown their rain jacket? Could you use another pair of boots? Need a warm coat? If you have any outdoor clothes, in decent condition, that no longer fit or you **can no longer use, bring it to the school office any time before the 19<sup>th</sup>**.



September 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4  LABOUR DAY	5 	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Cross Country meet at Bby Lake 3:30-5:30pm	19 Student Intake Meetings: Early Dismissal 1:45 pm 	20 Individual Picture Day 	21 Family Photo Night (Library)	22	23
24	25 Cross Country meet at Bby Lake 3:30-5:30pm	26	27	28 	29 No School Today 	30 Professional Day for Our Teachers

\* Please Note: Calendar, dates and times are subject to change

### École Capitol Hill Comments

***We would like to know the Newsletters are being read at home by parents and students. Please fill in the information below and return it to the school and your child(ren) will have a chance to win a prize at our monthly draw. As always, your comments are welcome.***

I have read the Newsletter  Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Div. \_\_\_\_\_

Child's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Div. \_\_\_\_\_

Comments on any topic are most welcome:

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