



Prospect Lake Elementary

321 Prospect Lake Road, Victoria, B.C. V9E 1J7
Phone: 250-727-3314 SAFE ARRIVAL: 250-727-9993 Fax: 250-479-2927

School e-mail: admin_plk@sd63.bc.ca
School website: www.sd63.bc.ca (and follow the link)

Principal: Mr. Mark Guiguet

SEPTEMBER 2013

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome back! We are excited to welcome so many new families to our school this year. We have 147 students currently registered in seven divisions. Everyone is settling into the new routines with new friends and new teachers. The excitement of a new school year is felt by everyone and with our summer weather in full force there are lots of tired faces by the end of the day. Also, welcome to our new staff members: Mrs. Alyssa Ellison, Mrs. Sylvia Sundby and Mrs. Jill Wilson. Last year parents and staff worked together to create a new school growth plan for Prospect with a vision to create an enriching learning environment that encourages respect, responsibility, fairness, honesty and compassion amongst all members of the school community. As students participate in the positive culture of Prospect Lake Elementary they are encouraged to achieve their personal best and become self-motivated, enthusiastic and socially responsible life-long learners. This plan includes a focus on improving student engagement in their learning and improving student achievement in numeracy and the development of our outdoor learning spaces is helping us work towards achieving these goals. We look forward to another exciting and productive year as we work together to strengthen our learning community at Prospect Lake Elementary.

Mark Guiguet

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Sept. 19 | Open House at Prospect 5:00 – 6:45 |
| Sept. 25 | PAC meeting at 6:45pm
- Scott Stinson on multi age classes |
| Sept. 26 | Terry Fox Run (starts at 1:45 pm) |
| Sept. 27 | Non-Instructional Day (no students in session) |
| Oct. 1 | Fire Expo for grades 4&5 |
| Oct. 2 | Claremont Fall Fair |
| Oct. 4 | Photo Day: Individual |
| Oct. 14 | Thanksgiving Day Holiday |
| Oct.16 -17 | Early Dismissal at 1:30 pm |
| Oct. 16 | PAC meeting at 6:45pm |
| Oct. 25 | Non-Instructional Day (no students in session) |
| TBA | Photo Retakes |
| Nov. 7 | Remembrance Day Ceremony at 10:15 am |
| Nov. 8 | Non-Instructional Day (no students in session) |
| Nov. 11 | Remembrance Day Holiday |



MEET OUR STAFF

PROSPECT LAKE STAFF: 2013-2014

Mrs. G. Blackwell	Secretary
Mrs. W. Curry	Library Assistant
Mrs. S. DeGeest	Lunch Supervisor
Mrs. L. Evans	Grade four/five
Mrs. A. Ellison	Grade one/two
Mr. M Guiguet	Principal
Mrs. W. Hamilton	Grade three/four
Mrs. L. Harward	Kindergarten/grade one
Mrs. Lail	Grade two/three
Mrs. Mangiola	Education Assistant
Mrs. D. McLellan	Education Assistant
Mrs. P. Miller	Teacher-Librarian
Mr. C. Morris	Grade four/five
Mrs. U. Perry	Education Assistant
Mrs. J. Primrose	Kindergarten

PROSPECT LAKE STAFF: 2013-2014 (cont)

Ms. S. Rainier	Computer Assistant
Mrs. J. Schwann	Grade one/two
Mrs. S. Sundby	Education Assistant
Madame Tate	French teacher
Mr. M. Ward	Custodian
Mrs. J. Wilson	Integration Support/Learning Assistance

BELL SCHEDULE AND SUPERVISION

8:20 - 8:35	Playground Supervision
8:35	Warning Bell
8:40 - 11:14	Instruction
11:14 - 11:54	Play Period
11:54 - 12:14	Lunch Eating Period
12:14 - 1:30	Instruction
1:30 - 1:45	Recess
1:45 - 2:48	Instruction
2:48 - 3:08	Playground Supervision

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Our first newsletter of the year will be the only hard copy sent home during the year. For the remainder of the school year, we will be posting our newsletters on our website. These newsletters will be sent out to you once we post. You can unsubscribe by going to our home page, go to Parents – Subscriptions and then Manage Subscriptions.

SIGN IN/SIGN OUT

We would like to remind everyone to please sign child(ren) IN at the main office when late arriving and sign them OUT when leaving earlier than dismissal time at 2:48. Once again, this is an issue of safety and security and your assistance is appreciated.

PARKING LOT



As is true in every school parking lot there are a lot of drivers and a lot of children so please drive slowly and with great care. The buses need to enter the parking lot at approximately 8:30 am and 2:48pm to pick up students. After about 2:50 p.m. the parking lot is usually much clearer and safer for additional traffic. In the morning, if you are dropping off students, please pull forward in the Drop Off Lane so that traffic is not backed up onto Prospect Lake Road. Also, please do not block the sidewalk if you are parking on Prospect Lake Road.

NO SMOKING

ON SAANICH PROPERTY



On September 2, 2007 the Saanich School District moved to a NO SMOKING policy for our school grounds and buildings. This means that **no one may smoke on school district property (including the parking lot) at any time.** This includes community use groups, parents and community members who may be on or using the building or grounds.

FORMS, FORMS, FORMS



Last week a package of forms came home that need to be completed and returned to the Office as soon as possible. They have important information to help us take care of your child(ren) in the event of an emergency. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

ANAPHYLAXIS CONCERNS

Many of you will have had your child in the classroom of a student who has a life-threatening allergy. We respectfully ask that you be cautious about the food that you send to school and that you check with your child's teacher about sending birthday treats to class. If you are unsure about whether your child needs to be especially cautious, please be in touch with your child's teacher or the Office for further details. Thank you for helping ensure that our school is a safe place for everyone. ☺



PROSPECT LAKE SAFE ARRIVAL

Prospect Lake School provides a Safe Arrival Program. This service ensures that your child has arrived safely at school. In the unlikely event that something does happen on the way to school, this system alerts you to the possibility, and allows immediate action to be taken. Briefly this is how it works.

1. If a student is will be absent or expected to be late for school for any reason, the PARENT is responsible for notifying the school. We have an answering machine in operation at all times. The special phone number is (250) 727 9993. Just leave the date, your name, your child's name, grade and teacher's name. If the absence will be lengthy, this information can be left with your initial call, so you needn't call daily.

2. Volunteer parents receive absentee lists from the teachers. If a child is marked absent, and we have not received notification from the parent, you will be contacted immediately.

On the information form that was sent to families to complete, we ask for an emergency contact. This should be someone with whom you are in regular contact and would have knowledge of your whereabouts in any circumstances (e.g., shopping for the day, appointments or out of town). Please be sure to explain to your emergency contact our program and the importance of their role in it, as they will be called after all efforts to reach you have been unsuccessful. This is a very worthwhile program and your help and co-operation will make it successful. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

FIELD TRIP REMINDERS



Criminal Record Checks are required for anyone driving on field trips and or parents who anticipate working individually with students. If you require a letter to waive the CRC fee, please see the office. CRC for Prospect Lake Elementary must be obtained through the Saanich Police Department. Record Checks are valid with the District for TWO years no matter when you have it done.

Field trips which occur with parent drivers may require that students have booster seats (under 4 feet, under 9 years of age). Field trips are of two types: 'Required' (no cost) where the objectives are part of the curriculum and the participation/attendance becomes part of the student's grade and 'Enhancement' where the experience enhances the student's learning but will not form a part of the student grade/mark (cost may be gathered from District or PAC funds. In some cases, parents/guardians may be asked to cover the costs).

MULTI-AGED CLASSES

It is important for all to realize that multi-age classes are very common organizational structures in elementary schools. They are not 'split classes' where students in each grade study a different curriculum (two different math classes, two different science classes, etc.). Learning the skills, processes and concepts for each subject area is paramount. All children learn at their own rate and style and expectations in these classes are set accordingly. Our instructional practice in the classroom reflects this philosophy whether multi-aged or single grade. In all classes at Prospect, we work hard to take

the focus off meeting the needs of the whole group and strive to meet the needs of each individual student. Children will learn to focus on their personal progress and will be challenged to meet higher expectations. Whether reading, writing or mathematics, each child will be:

- Building on what they already know;
- Making choices;
- Showing what they know in different ways;
- Working together and individually;
- Knowing what they say is valued by teachers and classmates;
- Finding out that one can learn from others and others can learn from them;
- Seeing that learning can be fun, enjoyable and challenging;
- Excited about sharing what they are doing with others;
- Talking about what they are doing and how they are doing it.



BICYCLES/SKATEBOARDS/SCOOTERS/ROLLER BLADES & HEELIES

For the safety of everyone, we are asking students (and adults) to dismount their bicycles at the entrance to the school gates and driveways. This will help to ensure that no one gets hit by a bike or backed over in our busy parking lot. Skateboards, scooters, roller skates and heelies are not allowed on school property.



TERRY FOX RUN

Terry Fox Run will take place at 1:45 on Thursday September 26th. We are hoping for toonie donations this year. If you choose to make a larger donation, please do so by going on-line to the Terry Fox Foundation, donation (then choose the function to "Select a School" and make your donation that way—tax receipts are issued through this avenue). Thank you in advance for your support. If you would like to volunteer to help us on the event day, please contact the office or Mr. Guiguet.

OPEN HOUSE & CORN ROAST

The Prospect Lake Staff and PAC invite you to an Open House at our school on **Thursday September 19, 2012 between 5:00 – 6:45 p. m.** The school will be open and we hope you will bring your family, meet the teachers and have a tour of the school and our grounds. We encourage families to bring a picnic dinner and blankets and find a place on our grass areas to enjoy a meal with your family and rest of the school community. Our Staff will provide fresh corn to accompany your dinner. We look forward to seeing everyone on Thursday, September 19 and thank you for your continued support.



SCHOOL GARDEN

Our school garden has produced a magnificent harvest over the summer. This is a result of the hard work of students, parents and

staff both in the spring and over the summer. A special thank you to the following families who watered and weeded our garden over our very hot and dry summer: The family of Alicia Pine, Beth Taggart, Christina Barnes, Christine Fenwick, Grey Showler, Jennifer Snow, Sarah Howarth, Tracy John, Andrea and Meiri Sage and Jenny Eastman.

FRIENDS OF TODD CREEK WATERSHED

The Friends of Todd Creek Watershed invite you to help us celebrate BC Rivers Day on Sept 29th at Whitehead Park, from 1- 3pm. Whitehead Park is located at Prospect Lake, on the corner of Prospect Lake and Goward Roads. There will be educational material and experiences, prizes, and refreshments.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

It is important that you inform the school about serious medical conditions or allergies that may affect your child. For your child's safety, please don't assume we've already been told about your child's medical condition. Remember you must:

1) At the beginning of the school year (or when medication is to start), complete and return to the school a medication administration form signed by the physician. Forms are available from the school office.

2) Provide the medication in a container clearly labeled with child's name, medication name and dosage.



ACCIDENTS DO HAPPEN

The school district does not insure expenses for student injuries that happen on school grounds or during school activities. You are responsible for these expenses as a parent or guardian. However, the school district assists families to voluntarily purchase private accident insurance through the Reliable Life Insurance Company. Brochures were distributed to students in September and are available from the school office at any time during the year. The information can also be viewed on-line at www.insuremykids.com. An information letter has also been sent home to each family.

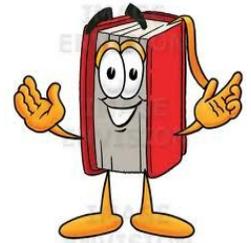
PROSPECT LIBRARY NEWS

Scholastic New Book Fair

Mark your calendars for our popular fund-raising Book Fair:

Wednesday, November 20
Thursday, November 21

See you there!
Ms. Pat Miller & Wendy Curry



PAC NEWS

PARENT'S ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC) NEWS **On behalf of the PAC Executive we welcome all 2013-2014 students and their families.**

What is the PAC?

The Prospect Lake Elementary Parents Advisory Council (PAC) is the official voice of parents within our school community. As a parent/legal guardian of a child in attendance at Prospect Lake, you are automatically a voting member of the PAC. You can play a very important role in your child's education and school by being an active participant. Being involved provides you with the opportunity to exchange ideas with parents, school administration and staff about educational and general school issues. We organize fun lunch days, the Spring Fair, student's art card sales, morning watch program and more. Meetings are usually held the **3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:45 PM in the library**. Please mark your calendars. We will start each meeting with informal tea and visiting. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM. Please note: September's PAC meeting only will be Wednesday, Sept. 25 at 6:45 PM to accommodate our speaker's schedule. "Multiage Classrooms with Scott Stinson – Assistant Superintendent, SD 63"

How do I help build a strong connection between home and school for my child?

Website: Please remember to visit the school website. Please share your feedback about the PAC website with us. We want it to be useful to you.

Monthly Newsletter: The school will send out a monthly newsletter that will also include messages from the PAC.

PAC Meetings: Come join us! Also, remember to check the PAC bulletin board in the foyer.

Who are the elected PAC Executive members?

Please be in touch with any concerns or ideas we may be able to help with. You may contact executive members in person or use plakepac@sd63.bc.ca

President :-	Stef Hutchison
Vice President :-	Dora Demeideros
Treasurer :-	Christine Carrigan
Secretary :-	Andrea Sage
Communications Coordinator :-	Jenny Eastman
COPACS Executives: –	Sarah Ommundsen & James Taylor
Member at Large: –	Julie Pinel
Past President :-	Dorothy Ogurek

We look forward to working with you and your family and thank you for your support.

FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR SEPTEMBER

VALUE BOOKS

Please look for them in your child's backpack and return them by Oct. 1st