### **Ocean Grove Elementary**

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## June 2023 Newsletter

Dear Ocean Grove Community!

I want to take the opportunity to share some appreciations as we enter our last month of the 2022-2023 school year.

To families, for working with teachers, Educational Assistants and support staff to make your child's experience the best it can be. I also want to thank you for your engagement and participation in our special events.





To our teachers: Ms. Adams, Ms. Brown, Mr. Brzovic, Mrs. Derouin, Ms. Farrell, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Hatfield, Mrs. Holland, Ms. Kretlow, Ms. Menard, Ms. Mercer, Mrs. Pottage, Mr. Rodgers, Mrs. Sewid, Mrs. Sharpe, Ms. Stevens, Ms. Watkinson, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Woodland. The appreciation is for your caring ways, your hard work, your sense of fun and adventure, and your willingness to try new experiences. I also appreciate the different ways that you have shown support for each other over this school year. Your combined set of unique strengths is formidable!

To our Educational Assistants: Ms. Arriaza, Ms. Everitt, Ms. Howich, Ms. Kennedy, Ms. Nydokus and Ms. Rodrigues. They are the unsung heroes in our schools. They build trusting relationships with students, work closely with staff, keep students in their care safe, and help so many with learning.

To Mr. Atkinson and Mr. Kotilla, our custodians, who go above and beyond what is expected to clean up a school with over 330 students. They do their jobs whole heartedly.

We have district staff who work with us on certain days. To our School Counsellor Ms. Laffling, our Speech and Language Teacher Ms. Pollitt, our Instructional Support Teacher Ms. Dyer, Ms. Shemko, our Indigenous Youth Care Worker, Ms. Smith, our Youth Care Worker, Ms. Garson, our former Youth Care Worker, Ms. MacLaren, our Literacy Coordinator, Christine Fraser, our Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Ms. Gallagher, our Language Acquisition Support Teacher, and Mr. Larmour, our English Language Learning Teacher . . . . a huge thank you! You may not be here every day, but the impact you have makes a huge difference for the students and families with whom you work.

#### Continued from page 1....

To Ms. Locker and Ms. Landreville, our noon hour supervisors, who do not get near enough the respect they deserve for the job they do. They take one hour our of their day to help with supervision which includes problem solving, promoting safe play, handing out band aids and fixing outdoor equipment. They are awesome.

To our Parent Advisory Council, the planning behind our fundraising opportunities, special celebrations, hot lunches and school-wide breakfasts provides extra opportunities for our students and staff, and helps bring our Ocean Grove community together. Thank you so much!

To all our volunteers who have shared their expertise in classrooms, have supported literacy, and have helped plan, organize and set up special events. I am sure I am leaving out important examples of your contributions because there have been so many.

To Mrs. Worsley, our Administrative Assistant, whose list of job tasks is longer than my arm, and does not include handing our band aids, navigating hundreds of messages, giving out ice packs and about a dozen more unexpected jobs that can happen in any given day. I also appreciate her wicked sense of humour.

A huge appreciation to Ms. Beres. She is a skilled leader and has been an invaluable support to staff, students and me. My transition to Ocean Grove was made easier because of her deep understanding of our school community, and the pride she has for the work staff and students. She also sustains me on late work nights with granola bars and gummy bears!

Sincerely,

Louise Panziera, Principal



### **Bus Passes for 2023-2024**

All students who need to take the school bus NEXT year (2023-2024) must apply for a bus pass (even if you already have a bus pass for the current year).

To get a bus pass by the first week of school in September, parents/guardians need to apply by <u>June 23, 2023</u>.

Bus students must be shown each time students get on the bus. Consistent failure to show a bus pass may mean that the student is denied service. By scanning each student's bus pass, the district knows who is on the bus at any given time and can share emergency notices.

You will get a letter letting you know if your bus pass application was approved or not and, if approved, your child will get their bus pass from the school office once school starts in September. Until your child gets their pass, they will need to give their first and last name to the bus driver (as long as the approval letter was received).

Bus routes for nest year have not yet been set. Please use the bus routes posted for this year as reference: SD72 Website

If you have any questions, please contact the Transportation Department at 250-287-8808 or email transportation@sd72.bc.ca

A reminder to parents/guardians that the **Transportation Department** cannot honour "buddy pass" requests for students.



The only exception is if both students are currently registered on the <u>same</u> bus route and you are wanting your child to get off at a different stop on that route. In that case, please contact the school office via phone/email <u>before Noon</u> the same day.

All students wishing to take a school bus before/after school must have an issued bus pass for the current year. If your child already

has a bus pass but needs to add a secondary route due to childcare purposes, you will need to submit a "Request for Courtesy Ridership and Bussing Change Form" (see SD72 Website - link above).

The completed form should either be faxed to 250-287-2371, or a "pdf only" copy emailed to transportation@sd72.bc.ca, or deliver a copy to the school office and we will forward on your behalf.

Thank you!



2023-2024

## Student School Supplies

#### Dear Parents/Guardians,

Once again, we will be coordinating the purchase of student school supplies for the 2023-2024 year through Teacher's File.

The cost will remain at \$40 per student, for all grades, and payment will be made <u>directly to Teacher's File</u>, not to the school office.

You may order your child's school supplies directly online at

http://packs.teachersfile.ca

For those who are not able to pay online and would like to pay via cash/cheque, please contact Teacher's File directly to confirm your order and payment. All orders will be delivered directly to the school.

No long shopping lines! No hassle! Save money!

Can't remember if you placed your order? Visit the online checker on The **Teacher's File website** at: <a href="http://packs.teachersfile.ca/">http://packs.teachersfile.ca/</a> after **Aug. 1st.** 

Some teachers may request specific items that are not covered by this package in September.

Supplies will vary from class to class.

Students should also have a pair of running shoes for gym.



About Gym/Indoor runners: please make sure your child has properly fitted non-marking runners.

For safety reasons, no high heel type runners, no slip-on runners that do not cover the heel. Please send Velcro runners if your child does not know how to tie.



Supply bags contain all top quality brand name products that have been specifically asked for on school supply lists! Items are guaranteed.











### **Library End of Year**

Thank you in advance for returning all books by <u>Friday</u>, <u>June</u> <u>16th</u>.

With summer just around the corner, you will see a summer book sign-out permission slip coming home with your child(ren). Please return this signed permission slip to your child's teacher <u>before Friday</u>, <u>June 16th</u>.

Your child will be able to check our books for the summer during the week of <u>June</u> <u>19th to 23rd</u>. You will also receive a print-out of the books your child has checked out.

Thank you for your continued support in promoting the love of reading!

#### **Student Footwear**

With the warmer weather, many students are wearing crocs or flip flops to school.

We are noticing an increase in the number of slips, trips and falls during break time due in part to the choice in footwear.

We strongly suggest that your child wear running shoes or other footwear appropriate for active recess activities, gym class, and classroom walking fieldtrips.

## **Year End Report Cards**

Paper copies of report cards will be sent home with students on <u>June 28th</u>. They will not be mailed.

Year end reports, and any applicable reports from Learning Support Services, will be available to pick up from the school main foyer until Friday, June 30th (3 pm).





## Last Day of School is

Thursday, June 29th
Early Dismissal
at 10:55 am

(school buses WILL be running)

## LOST FOUND

Although we do our best to try to return Lost & Found items to students, it is very difficult as the majority of items are not labelled with students' names/initials.

Our Lost & Found items are overflowing - please take a careful look at the below photos and claim your child's belongings.

You are welcome to come into the main foyer and search for your child's belongings.



Any items not claimed from our Lost & Found by Wednesday, <u>June 28th</u> will be collected and donated to a local charity.



If you recognize an item(s) belonging to your child and can't make it in here to go through the Lost & Found, please send a note to your child's teacher with details.







# LOST FOUND

#### **Summer Office Hours**

Ocean Grove's office will be open <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>August 29</u>, <u>2023 through Friday</u>, <u>September 1, 2022</u> for new registrations and information. You can leave a message via voicemail or email to oceangrove@sd72.bc.ca prior to that date if necessary.

The first day back to school for grades 1 through 5 will be <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>September 5th</u>. Additional information regarding start-up will be emailed prior to September 5th.

All registered kindergarten students will be emailed a schedule regarding start-up information. Please ensure your contact information is kept up-to-date with our office.

A copy of next year's school calendar may be viewed on the district's website: CALENDAR



A huge thank you to our wonderful PAC, parents and community members for their support throughout the school year!

Your contributions of both time and energy to our school help to make it a special place for all to work and learn.