#### NEWSLETTER: 2025-2026



## **Ocean Grove Elementary**

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#### Dear Parents and Guardians,

I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude to the entire staff at Ocean Grove for a smooth start up this year. A lot of work and organization goes on behind the scenes and it was a pleasure to work with the Ocean Grove staff to start on an incredibly positive note. In addition, I would like to thank all the families for your support and understanding with our class placements. When composing classes, our goal is to create classes that best meet the learning needs of our students. In addition, classes must meet certain criteria as outlined in provincial legislation. As a result of these implications, we cannot meet all requests from families, and I have really appreciated your understanding in these matters. As we begin this year at Ocean Grove, it is our goal to create an educationally rich and memorable year for your child. By working together, we can achieve this goal.

It was great to see our grade 5 students run a school wide event last Friday. They did an amazing job organizing and running stations for the whole school to enjoy. They demonstrated excellent leadership and have set the tone for a positive and memorable year. Our entire staff was all immensely proud of our grade 5 students!

I would like to take this opportunity to invite all our families to our Muffin Morning on September 17<sup>th</sup> from 7:50am to 8:25am. This will be an opportunity for you to see your child's classroom, meet their teacher, and then join us in the gym for a muffin. If you are unable to attend, please let your child know they are welcome to come in the gym and have a muffin. We look forward to seeing your there. Finally, Monday September 29<sup>th</sup> is Orange Shirt Day. Students are encouraged to wear an orange shirt as we take time to reflect on the impact of residential schools

Warm Regards,

# Tuesday, September 30th SCHOOLS CLOSED National Truth & Reconciliation Day

September 30th is a statutory holiday for all provincial public sector employees, including public school districts, to honour truth and reconciliation.

The Campbell River School District and all its schools will be CLOSED this day to observe this day in reflection.

#### **SCHOOLS CLOSED**

Monday, October 13th



## **Muffin Morning**

Wednesday, September 17th 7:50 - 8:25 am in the Gym

## **Terry Fox Run - Thursday, September 25th**

All students will be participating in our annual Terry Fox Run on the afternoon of September 25th.

For our older students, this will be an off-school property run. Accordingly, teachers have sent home permission forms for signature. Family members are welcome to participate in this event.

As the younger students will be running on school property only, a permission form is not required.

If you can, please send in a "Toonie for Terry" to your child's teacher (any donation is appreciated).



# Class Community Walks

Parents/Guardians are welcome to join on class walks within the community, as long as the following protocols are observed:

- Contact your child's teacher to confirm participation;
- Meet outside the classroom (no school entry); and
- Have an up-to-date Criminal Record Check on file with the school office. Refer to page 5 for CRC information.

Signed permission forms are required for students to participate in community walks off the school property.

Please check your child's backpack regularly.

## **School Telephones**

Our office phone is for emergencies only and should not be used by students to phone after school and make play arrangements.

Please ensure your child is certain about all after school arrangements before leaving each day so that needless, worrisome situations do not arise. Thank you.

#### No Microwave Use by Students

There is no microwave uses allowed by or for students at school. We also can not add hot water to noodles/soup in a cup.

This is primarily a safety issue and we also do not have the staff available to carry out this task.

If your child wishes to have a hot lunch please send it in a thermos. Thank you for your cooperation.

## **School Supplies for Fall 2025**

A reminder that student school supplies should be paid by September 30th. The cost this year is \$45 per student for all grades. Thank you to those who have already paid.

#### Payment may be made:

\* By exact cash or cheque payable to *Ocean Grove School*. Please ensure that payment is provided to the office in an envelope/baggie clearly labelled with the student's full name and grade. For families with multiple students, separate payment is not re quired as long as all information is provided.

OR

\* By E-TRANSFER to <u>oceangrove@sd72.bc.ca</u>. To ensure that payments sent are identified and applies to the correct student(s) and account, in the NOTES section of the e-transfer the sender **MUST INCLUDE**:

First and Last Name of Student

AND

"SCH SUPPLIES" (Purpose of the Payment)



## **Paperwork Sent Home with Students**

With school start-up each year comes a lot of paperwork to confirm and update our records. The following forms have been sent home with your child:

- Student Verification Form
- Emergency Release Form
- Use of Computers Acceptable Use Agreement
- Student FIPPA/Personal Consent Form

We appreciate the time it takes to review and update these forms and thank you for returning them promptly to your child's teacher.

#### Additional Instructions for the Student Verification Forms:

- Carefully review all information on the form
- Make any required changes in blue/red pen
- Write clearly to assign with correct input
- If there are no changes, write NO CHANGES in large letters across the first page
- **Sign and date** at the bottom of page 2
- Return form to your child's teacher asap

As the Verification Form itself does not print out all contacts listed in a student's profile, attached is a complete list of contacts on file. Please note that any changes to custody/access must be supported by appropriate legal documentation.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Please make every effort to ensure that your child(ren) come to school on time. If your child arrives late they must come in through the main entrance to the office "drive thru" window to sign-in and get a **Late Slip**.

Also, if you know that you will be late or leaving early, please email the school **AND** your child's teacher the day before if at all possible. Teachers do not regularly look at their emails when teaching in the classroom. Absences may also be emailed <u>before 8:30 am</u> each day to: **oceangrove@sd72.bc.ca**. Please state "Attendance + date" in the subject line. Kindly provide a reason for the absence (ie sick, appointment, vacation). An "unexcused absence" callout is made daily to the cell number of the first contact on file.

Office hours are 7:45 am to 3:15 PM, but our answering machine will take calls 24 hours a day! Either way, by phone or email, please ensure you state the student's first and last name. Also, please speak slowly and clearly as phone messages are automatically transcribed.`

If your child has been sick, it is VIHA's recommendation that children not return to school until <u>24 hours</u> has passed since their last symptom (ie throwing up, fever). Thank you for your consideration in keeping other students and staff healthy this year.

## **Bus Students**

Immediately after the dismissal bell, bus students are to proceed to the front of the school and place their backpacks in the appropriate line-up (north or south bus).

Students often run and play after school while waiting for the bus, and the backpack will indicate that there is someone intending to get on the bus after school. Please review this procedure with your bus student.

It's recommended that students keep their bus passes in a secure, zipped pocket of their backpack.

## **Bell Schedule**

8:25 am School Starts
10:10 - 10:25 am Recess
11:55 - 12:40 am Lunch
(30 min. play then 15 min. eating)
2:10 pm School Dismissal

#### **Cell Phones**

A reminder that students are not allowed to use cell phones on school property. Our preference is that they stay at home. If they have to come to school, they remain in the student's backpack with he ringer off.

In the event that you need to reach our to your child for an important message please call the main office.

# Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

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At Ocean Grove we are very fortunate to have an active and generous PAC. Please join the PAC at their first meeting this year:

### 6:00 pm on Monday, September 15, 2025

These meetings are open for all parents/guardians of Ocean Grove students to attend. Joining the PAC or being a part of the force of volunteer adults for school activities helps you connect to the school community and helps us do even more amazing things at Ocean Grove!

Check out the Ocean Grove Elementary School PAC Facebook page - please "like" to receive updates.

PAC Email: pacoceangrove@gmail.com

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please email or private message the PAC Facebook page.

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#### **Adult Volunteers at Ocean Grove:**

We appreciate the time and commitment of adult volunteers at our school. This week teachers have sent home an "Adult Volunteers" form containing a Volunteer Application and Guidelines form requiring completion. This form is required to be completed by all volunteers each school year.

In addition, ALL adult volunteers must have a current Criminal Record Check on file. Every CRC completed since May 2024 is valid for 5 years. If you are not sure if you have a current CRC on file with the District (can be any school in SD72), please contact the school office.

**To obtain a CRC:** you will need to use your BC Services Card and the BC Services Card App on a mobile device to verify your identity during the process. Use this <u>online link</u>.

#### Access Code: XZS9885H7S

If you are unable to complete the CRC online because you do not have a device to use . . . contact the school office to request an appointment to use a device at school for this purpose.

If you are unable to complete the CRC online because you do not have a BC Services Card . . . contact the school office to request a <u>Manual Application Package</u>. You will have to completed and submit this package directly to the School Board Office (425 Pinecrest Rd.) <u>in person</u>, and have your identity verified by one of the district's CRRP authorized contacts.

**Parent Drivers** are required to have a completed Driver's Information Form, Driver's Abstract, and copy of valid driver's license, <u>all within the past 12 months</u>, on file in the school office.