



HAPPY VALLEY ELEMENTARY

3291 Happy Valley Road, Victoria, B.C. V9C 2W3

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Principal: Mrs. Karen Sjerven

Vice-Principal: Mrs. Sarah Laughton

April 4, 2018.

Dear Families,

Welcome back to school after Spring Break! Spring is officially here and we are enjoying the prospect of bright days ahead.

We issued our second term report cards on March 15th and our parent conference opportunities are ongoing. Some classes have already had “Celebrations of Learning”, while other classes will be offering opportunities for parents to meet with teachers over the next couple of weeks.

We are welcoming some new Educational Assistants to Happy Valley this week and saying farewell to some very special staff.

Please read on to learn of the latest happenings at Happy Valley!

Sincerely,
Karen Sjerven
Principal

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

Thurs. April 5th- Div. 17,18,19 parent conferences
Tues. April 10th- PAC meeting @ 6:30
Mon. April 16th-Thurs. April 19th – Book Fair
Thurs. April 19th- 3 hour early dismissal @ 11:25 & Div. 1-16 parent conferences
Fri. April 20th – Pro D Day
Fri. May 4th- Pro D Day
Mon. May 7th- Music Monday
Thurs. May 10th- Spring Fair
Mon. May 21st- Victoria Day holiday
Tues. May 22nd & Wed. May 23rd – Art Show
Thurs. May 24th – Class and school photos
Wed. June 6th- New Kindergarten orientation (am)
Tues. June 19th- Beach Day at Aylard Farm
Fri. June 22nd- Fun Day
Wed. June 27th- Grade 5 Assembly @ 10:30
Thurs. June 28th- Whole School Celebration Assembly @ 1:15 & Last Day of School

Farewell Ms. Lea!

Our beloved secretary’s last day at Happy Valley is this Friday. Ms. Lea has accepted a new position at Millstream Elementary. The entire school community has appreciated having Ms. Lea’s cheerful presence in the office for the past 5 years. Her expertise, efficiency and kindness have made her a treasured member of the Happy Valley School community. Lucky Millstream! Best wishes, Ms. Lea! You will be missed.

Good luck, Mrs. Sustersitch

This week, Mrs. Esther Sustersitch began a new position as an Early Childhood Educator at Ruth King Elementary. We will miss Mrs. S. in her role as both an EA and crossing guard at Happy Valley. Best wishes, Mrs. S.!

Welcome to our EAs!

We are pleased to welcome two new Educational Assistants to our staff. Welcome to Cynthia Major and Jennifer Thompson. Both of these ladies are already familiar with the Happy Valley School community and have been working as EAs in the District. Welcome to our staff!

Spring Cross Country

Students in Grades 2-5 are getting ready for the Spring meets, which are happening on Wednesday April 18th and April 25th at the Juan de Fuca fields. Practices happen Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings before recess. Notices were sent home today with all of the details.

Grade 5 Dunsmuir Presentation

This Thursday afternoon, our Grade 5’s will be visited by the Dunsmuir staff to learn more about what to expect at Middle School. We are almost ready for Grade 6!

Soccer Season

Our Grade 4 and 5 students are gearing up for a short soccer season. Practices start this week! Go Tigers!

THANKS PAC!

Our dedicated Parent Advisory Council works hard to bring fun events and opportunities to all children and helps to fund many school-wide purchases.

The PAC recently voted on purchasing **\$10,000 worth of new technology** to supplement existing technology in the school. This will add additional iPads and ChromeBooks to our growing inventory of **\$15,000 worth of new technology** that was purchased for our students through our Student Learning Grant. We are excited about this opportunity for all of our students to become skilled “digital citizens”!

SPRING FAIR

The PAC is looking for volunteers for the **Spring Fair on May 10th**. Thank you for offering to take on working a shift at a game station. Please be on the lookout for notices that PAC will be sending home regarding volunteering, donations, auction baskets and more. Your help is sincerely appreciated!

New Kindergarten Orientation

We will be having a 1 hour orientation for incoming Kindergarten children during the morning of Wednesday, June 6th. This will involve a parent meeting in the gym while students visit various stations in the school. *Information will be sent home to families to confirm specific times for groups at a later date.*

At this time, we already have over 93 student registrations for Kindergarten. We are still in the process of taking in registrations and examining enrolment throughout the District, while looking at space in all of our schools. The District is in the process of planning school staffing configurations for next year. Thanks for your patience with this complex process.

Are you Moving?

Is your family planning a move? If you know that your children will not be attending HV next year, please let us know at the office. Thank you for your help.

Final Parent Conferences

There will be a District Wide “3 hour early dismissal day” on **Thursday, April 19th** to allow for Parent Conferences / Open Houses. Students in **Divisions 1-8 & 10-16** will be having an opportunity for conferences on this day. *Stay tuned for more information about on-line sign up for the April 19th conferences.* (Please note- some teachers are having meetings outside of this time. Refer to newsletters from your child’s teacher for further information.)

If you visited us recently, you may have noticed...

- Four of our student teachers are finishing their practicum experiences soon!
- Buckets of potato plants are growing in a Kindergarten class!
- Grade 4 and 5 classes have created beautiful Aboriginal designs of animals and are learning about their symbolic representation.
- Some Gr.3s went to Royal Roads and saw their teacher take part in an explosive experiment!
- New students have joined us in Kindergarten – Grade 2.
- Some Kindergarten and Grade 1 students have been creating Comic strip stories.
- Lots of Grade 1s lost their teeth over the holidays!
- Many classes are sharing research in front of their peers.
- The “Who’s a Great Reader” board in the library is filling up!
- Many grade 4’s are becoming monitors.
- Garden lessons have resumed.
- Spring art fills our school.
- We are keeping our school and grounds clean.
- We are learning and growing!