



Tiger Times

February 2024



Principal: Mrs. Heather Kimmie ~ Vice Principal: Ms. Deanna Sue
Acting Head Teacher: Mrs. Georgia Loukopoulos ~ Admin Assistant: Mrs. Giannina Rakic

As you know, we are a growing community and have welcomed many new students and families to Brentwood Park School this year. Our school enrollment is currently at 614 students in 26 divisions, up from 589 students on opening day this Sept. We have actually grown by 44 students since the beginning of Sept., 15 of those students new to our school this January. 19 students have moved away from our school community to date this school year. We are not full at any grade levels quite yet but are getting very close at some grade levels. We currently have:

-81 Kindergarten students	-74 Grade 1 students	-76 Grade 2 students	-76 Grade 3 students
-84 Grade 4 students	-74 Grade 5 students	-72 Grade 6 students	-77 Grade 7 students

If you have, or know of, a child entering Kindergarten this coming September, registration opens up on February 1st. See specific details for registration within the newsletter. February is also the month to submit any cross-district applications.

We would like to officially welcome Ms. Lee to Brentwood Park, she has taken over for Ms. Wong teaching intermediate French on Mondays and Tuesdays. Ms. Choi is also a great addition to our staff, teaching Div. 7 on Thursdays and Fridays. Mr. Jang and Ms. Deang have been sharing the library teaching and we are also grateful that Ms. Loukopoulos is continuing as Acting Head Teacher in Ms. Delvecchio's absence.

Hopefully you have had an opportunity to participate in some fun literacy activities with your children this week. Please have your children return activity sheets with 7 or more activities completed this Friday, Feb. 2nd to be entered in a prize draw. We encourage you to continue engaging in fun literacy activities with your children throughout the year, not just this week.

We are continuing to work on our two school goals. Our SEL goal has shifted and the new focus is to strengthen and support *social awareness skills* to foster positive connections in our community. Staff are teaching social awareness skills such as appreciating diversity, building empathy, perspective taking and showing respect (care) for others. We will try to share information in future newsletters that parents can also consider doing at home to further build these skills. We are also focusing on our writing goal by supporting and strengthening writing skills and student attitudes about writing. We will showcase some student writing in each newsletter starting this month under Writer's Corner. Check it out!

Your child will be bringing home a term 2 report card on April 4th, just after Spring Break. On April 18th, your child will also have an opportunity to showcase their learning with you during Student-led Conferences. The District also supports a few early dismissals as noted below.

Please save and mark the following dates in your calendars...

- o April 18th – 2:00 dismissal; 2:00-7:00 Student-led Conferences
- o April 19th – 2:00 dismissal (in lieu of late evening the night before)
- o May 31 – 2:00 dismissal (collaboration time once a year)
- o June 14th – 1:00 dismissal Sports Day
- o June 27th – 10:00 dismissal - Last day of school; report cards sent home

On behalf of our staff, we are grateful to work at Brentwood Park with your amazing children, and with the support of our PAC and community members. Thank-you!

Mrs. Heather Kimmie - Principal

TAKE A STAND AGAINST BULLYING

The last Wednesday of February, is known as **Anti-Bullying Day** across Canada. It's also known as "Pink Shirt Day" and was originally started as a protest against a homophobic bullying incident at a Nova Scotia high school. On this day participants are asked to wear pink to symbolize a stand against bullying. On Wednesday, February 28, 2024 the students and staff of the Brentwood Park school community will participate in Pink Shirt Day!

Over the next few weeks, the students will be learning about the power of words to uplift, support and value the uniqueness in all of us. They will also learn what bullying is and isn't, how to take steps to prevent bullying, and how to deal with it if it occurs. The Burnaby School District has policies and practices that are in place to keep our schools and our students safe.

"It is important to note that name calling, putdowns, insults, and pushing or rough play are not necessarily bullying behaviours. These acts can often be part of a child's developmental process as they learn to manage emotions and frustrations in social situations. However, if these problems persist, bullying behaviour can develop.

Bullying is repeated aggressive behaviour with negative intent, directed from one child to another where there is a power imbalance. Threat-making and intimidation are expressions of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something. A threat can be spoken, written, symbolic or over the internet."

Our school code of conduct states behavioural expectations and outlines age appropriate consequences for unacceptable behaviour. When unacceptable behaviours are reported at school, teachers immediately respond by investigating the concern. If support is needed they ask the principal or vice principal to help. A support plan is put in place for the student harmed by these behaviours. Depending on the circumstances, the student who has displayed inappropriate behaviours might be referred to counselling, restorative justice practices or receive an in-school or out-of-school suspension.

It is important to remember that not all unacceptable behaviours meet the criteria of bullying. Sometimes children and adults use the word "bullying" to describe any inappropriate behaviour that is hurtful. In reality, incidences of bullying, harassment and intimidation, while they do occur, are extremely rare in the Brentwood Park community, and in the Burnaby School District as a whole. If your child informs you of any behaviours that are of concern, we encourage you to report these immediately to our school principal, Mrs. Kimmie. Our school community is committed to ensuring that Brentwood Park is a safe and caring learning environment for all!

WINTER WEATHER



With the possibility of winter weather on the horizon again, we want to remind you about how the Burnaby School District shares weather-related school closures.

All schools will remain OPEN unless there is heavy snowfall, damage, or other circumstances – such as a power outage – that make it impossible to open for instruction. The District will do its best to communicate school or district-wide closures on our website by 6:30 am. However, please keep in mind that there may be situations where this is not possible – again, such as a power outage.

Another way to learn about school closures is through local news stations (online, radio, and TV), some of which are:

CBC AM 690 radio	Global TV
News AM 1130 radio	CBC TV
CKNW AM 980 radio	CityNews
Fairchild AM 1470 radio	CTV BC

Student safety is a responsibility we share with families. Please walk your child to the door of the school if you are unsure whether or not the school is open. If for any reason you feel that your student cannot travel safely then please – as you normally would – notify the school that your child will be absent.

If weather conditions deteriorate throughout the day and create a concern for the safety of students returning home, a decision may be made to dismiss students early. This will be communicated to parents in the best way possible through the schools' normal communications channels.

REMINDER: There is no bad weather.... only inappropriate clothing!

We are lucky to live in a relatively moderate climate. However, some days will be wet and some days will be cold. What matters is that we all learn to dress appropriately for outdoor activities no matter the weather. ***It would be helpful for **all** students to have a change of clothes at school, should they slip or get soaking wet. This will help them so that they are not uncomfortable in wet clothes during class time.

Outdoor play is valuable and fresh air is healthy. Our students have two opportunities daily to be outside (recess and lunch) as well as times planned by teachers throughout the week. We believe in outdoor play and education, and encourage students to enjoy their natural environment.



Encourage your children to play in the rain and snow, as much can be learned. Jump in or toss stones in puddles and observe the splash and ripples. Why do rocks and stones look so much more interesting when they are wet? How can water be made to flow from one puddle to another? What kind of mud makes the best mud pancakes? Notice the ice patterns that form on puddles when the temperature drops. Build forts with snow. What kind of snow is the best for tobogganing?

As we are in the typically rainy, cold season please be sure your child has:

On a Rainy Day:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waterproof hat | <input type="checkbox"/> Waterproof jacket | <input type="checkbox"/> Waterproof pants | Change of Clothes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Warm socks | <input type="checkbox"/> Waterproof boots | <input type="checkbox"/> Umbrella | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |

On a Snowy Day:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toque that covers ears | <input type="checkbox"/> Heavy jacket for warmth | <input type="checkbox"/> Snow Pants | Insulated gloves or mittens suitable for |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snow boots | <input type="checkbox"/> Warm socks | Change of clothes | |
| | | | |



THANK YOU, Brentwood Park Community, for your incredible support of our Hearts for Truth Fundraising Campaign. Together, we ordered over 1800 hearts!! WOW!! Charlie's Chocolate Factory is hard at work and our goal is to have hearts delivered to classrooms on Tuesday, February 14th. As a Legacy School, we have committed to take action towards Truth and Reconciliation each year, and the The Gord Downie/Chanie Wenjack Foundation will be very pleased to receive our donation. Thank you again for supporting this very worthy and important cause

REGISTRATION INFO FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

All registrations are completed online

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS

If you live in the Brentwood Park catchment area, please visit <https://burnabyschools.ca/registration> to register your child. To check which school serves your address please choose "School Locator" on the Burnaby School District's website..

GRADE 7 STUDENTS HEADING TO HIGH SCHOOL IN SEPT. 2024

Brentwood Park grade 7 students will automatically be registered for grade 8 at the secondary school within the designated attendance area where the student resides. ***If you have moved, you must provide the school with two valid pieces of address confirmation.*** Please email documents to brentwood-park.info@burnabyschools.ca. As all the registration process is done through the elementary school there is no need for parents to contact the secondary school.

In the event you wish your child to attend a secondary school other than your attendance area school, you must fill out a cross-district application form and email it to the school you wish your child to attend.

CROSS-DISTRICT/OUT-OF-DISTRICT APPLICATIONS FOR ALL GRADES (K — GR. 7)

Cross-District and Out-Of-District applications will be accepted from February 1st—February 28th by email. The forms can be found on the district website: <https://burnabyschools.ca/registration> as can the email addresses for all schools. ***Parents must also register at their attendance area school (if not already registered).*** Cross-District, Out-of-District and District Program applicants will be notified of the status of their applications in March. Applications received after February 28th will be placed, according to their admissions category, on a school or district program wait list that will be maintained and valid until September 30th of the new school year.

TRAFFIC SAFETY REMINDERS

We all share a common concern about the safety of our children. Together we can ensure this by choosing safety over convenience. Elementary schools were built years ago with the intention of kids and families walking to their neighbourhood schools, hence they are not built to accommodate all the cars used these days. Please try to park in the neighbourhood and walk to the school to drop off and greet your children when possible.

Brentwood Park parking lot and alley reminders:

- * Please do not stop or park in the alley at any time
- * Please do not enter staff parking lots
- * Please do not stop in the 'no parking fire access' area on the parking lots, tennis court side of the city parking lot



Delta Avenue drop off or pick up reminders:

- * Carefully observe the no stopping zones on either side of the crosswalk
- * All children must use the crosswalk (Parents are asked to use the crosswalk to model safe practices.)
- * Please do not use driveways to turn around
- * U-turns on the street are illegal
- * Please do not double park
- * Do not permit your children to get out of your vehicle on the traffic side of the car. Ensure that they get out on the sidewalk side.
- * Do not cross over the double yellow line into the alley

Additional Parking option at Brentwood Park Alliance Church. Please be aware of the rules if parking there:

- * There is a large parking lot located behind the church with plenty of parking. Anyone using their parking lot should park in the **LOWER LOT ONLY** and refrain from using the upper lot
- * There is **NO PARKING** in the driveway at any time. It is a fire lane and must be kept clear.
- * There is **NO PARKING** in the driveway at the front of the church



If you bring your dog onto school grounds, please pick up the excrement. We have had lots of dog poop on the field which is not fun or healthy for our children when they want to play in these areas.



PERSUASIVE WRITING: SHOULD TIK TOK BE BANNED IN CANADA?

Division 1 and 2 discussed and read information about the use of Tik Tok, including the use of it, and the negatives and positives of this social media platform. We have been learning how to write persuasive paragraphs and decided to provide our opinions on the matter. Please notice our topic sentences, supporting evidence and clear reasons.

I believe that Canada should ban TikTok. Tik Tok allows people to harass other people, it has too many privacy issues, and it decreases your attention span. Harassing people on TikTok could cause nightmares to others. You can harass people by making comments to others while saying swear words, using negative comments, exposing their secrets, and lowering other people's self-esteem. TikTokers can find your privacy information and your home address which allows strangers to learn more about who you are, which puts you in danger. So, banning TikTok can prevent others from finding you. According to the article we read, China controls Tik Tok and tech companies know A LOT about your personal information. Decreasing your attention span can make you potentially addicted from how much time you watch every day and can cause you to lose interest in other things such as not playing sports, and not doing your lessons. In conclusion, banning TikTok in Canada will stop a lot of these negative issues and allow us to get back to normal things, like talking to each other face to face and protecting our privacy.

-Written by Ryan—Div 2

I believe that Tik Tok should not be banned in Canada. In my opinion Tik Tok offers many features that make the app safer than it seems, as long as it is used smartly and wisely. Firstly, Tik Tok has many settings that enable you to block content, you can block other users, block certain hashtags and topics as well as use the not interested button on any video you want. Secondly, when it comes to accounts you can immediately turn your account into a private account meaning no one can view anything other than your username without you approving a request sent through the app. Even if you do decide to make videos you can always remove followers, delete comments, or entirely turn off your comments to avoid negativity. You also don't necessarily need an account to view content and there is no pressure from the app to register one either. Lastly, if you are smart when using the internet nothing bad will happen since it is easy to avoid the bad and harmful areas by just simply blocking or scrolling past to another video. I think Tik Tok is safe enough due to its privacy settings, as long as you are smart and make good decisions!

-Written by MJ—Div 2

I disagree with banning TikTok in Canada. Even though people have argued on this topic for a long time, there is no exact evidence to ban it. My three reasons why TikTok should not be banned are its unique features, useful challenges, and educational videos. In Tik-Tok, there are many unique features, you can block strangers, and you can easily use the "not interested" feature. The website/app only tracks what you watch and shows more on recommended. As long as you can use it in a smart way, it won't be a problem.

My second reason is this platform is useful and offers creative challenges. An example of a creative challenge is a trick-shot challenge, which is cool and satisfying. Useful challenges might be like the multi-question challenge. In this challenge, you have a question like: "What blood type is the universal donor?" 1: -O, 2: AB and 3: normal O. This is helpful because it teaches you information and you only have 3 seconds to answer. These challenges increase your knowledge of the world.

My third and final reason is TikTok can teach you life-hacks, educational video, facts and recipes. A life hack can save you money, help you in real life or entertain you. Educational video can be teaching English, art, math, etc... Facts, such as, there can be 1300 Earths that can fit in 1 Jupiter. Some educational videos include food recipes, they can be delicious and helpful. TikTok should not be banned because there are still helpful and positive ways to use it.

-Written by Tommy—Div 2

PAC CORNER

Hello Brentwood Park Families!

Happy New Year! Here are a few updates from the PAC for the upcoming months:

We are looking for Members at Large!

Have you been wanting to get more involved with PAC but not ready to get onto the Executive committee, being a member at large is a great place to start! Send an email to brentwoodpac@gmail.com.

Spirit Wear Order form for the Spirit wear is being created. Please keep an eye on your inbox over the next few weeks for detailed ordering info.

Emergency Bin Refresh Emergency supplies have now arrived and are ready for the bins, but we need your help! We are looking for volunteers to help with refilling the emergency bins and supplies around the school.

Game Drive We are looking to collect gently used, complete games and puzzles for the classrooms to use during indoor recess/lunch days as well as a new club being put together by Ms. Carlsen.

Staff Appreciation Lunch We will be holding our annual staff appreciation event in **April** and need a team of volunteers to help make it happen. Please send an email to brentwoodpac@gmail.com if you'd like to get more involved.

Sincerely,
Your Brentwood PAC - Krista, Suzy, Prachi, Kate, Valentyna, Erika & Lisa

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

ÉCOLE ALPHA SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2024
5:30 PM TO 7:00 PM

We would like to invite our current and future school community to attend our 2024 Open House. Please join us for an evening of presentations, department displays, and a scavenger hunt through our beautiful building!

5:30 pm to 6:30 pm	Department displays and Scavenger Hunt throughout the school
6:00 pm to 6:30 pm	Small Group presentations

Learning Support Services	Library Learning Commons
French Immersion	Room A203/A205
Advanced Placement	Room A103/A105

6:30 pm to 7:00pm Information Session in the Large Gym
Q & A with Admin

For further information, please contact us at alpha.info@burnabyschools.ca

Burnaby Schools Welcome to Kindergarten

AN INFORMATION EVENING

FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AND DIVERSE ABILITIES

Thursday February 8th, 2024

6:00-7:30pm

Ecole Alpha Secondary School Library
930 Alpha Avenue, Burnaby, V5C 3E2

For further information and to register for the event, scan the QR Code.

BURNABY
SCHOOLS DISTRICT