

We have been a growing community over the past few years, however this year our enrollment numbers have remained relatively stable. We have welcomed 24 new students and families to Brentwood Park School so far during this school year, 10 of those students arriving in the past month. Our school enrollment is currently at 632 students in 27 divisions, up from 625 students on opening day this Sept. We have had 19 students move 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:

-73 Kindergarten students -82 Grade 4 students -79 Grade 1 students -84 Grade 5 students -77 Grade 2 students -79 Grade 6 students -89 Grade 3 students -69 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 at any grade level.



Hopefully you have had an opportunity to participate in some fun literacy activities with your children this week. We are thrilled with the numerous parents who were able to come and read during our Community Reading times this week! We had 272 children complete and return their 7 Nights of Family Literacy Fun sheets, 175 primary students and 97 intermediate students. Thanks for finding time to create literacy moments together. We encourage you to continue engaging in fun literacy activities with your children throughout the year, not just this week.



Your child will be bringing home a term 2 report card on April 2nd, just after Spring Break. On April 30th, 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 30th - 2:00 dismissal; 2:00-6:30 Student-led Conferences

- o May 1st 2:00 dismissal (in lieu of late evening the night before)
- o May 30 2:00 dismissal (collaboration time once a year)
- o June 13th 1:00 dismissal Sports Day (parents invited to join us for this day)
- o June 26th 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. We are especially appreciative of the wonderful pancake breakfast and Santa visits that PAC executive and family volunteers put on the last day in December. We are very grateful for the joy you brought to the Brentwood Park children and staff. Thank-you!

With care,

Mrs. Heather Kimmie - Principal

Brentwood Park Elementary 1455 Delta Ave, Burnaby, BC 604-296-9003 brentwoodpark.info@burnabyschools.ca http://brentwood.burnabyschools.ca

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 26, 2025 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 your child's classroom teacher and if very serious, please inform 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
News AM 1130 radio
CKNW AM 980 radio
Fairchild AM 1470 radio

Global TV CBC TV CityNews 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: ŸWaterproof hat ŸWarm socks ϔ	Waterproof jacket Waterproof boots	ŸWaterproof pants ŸUmbrella	Change of Clothes
On a Snowy Day: ŸToque that covers ears handling snow	ŸHeavy jacket for warmth	ŸSnow Pants	Insulated gloves or mittens suitable for
ŸSnow boots	Warm socks	Change of clothes	

REGISTRATION INFO FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

All registrations are completed online

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS

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

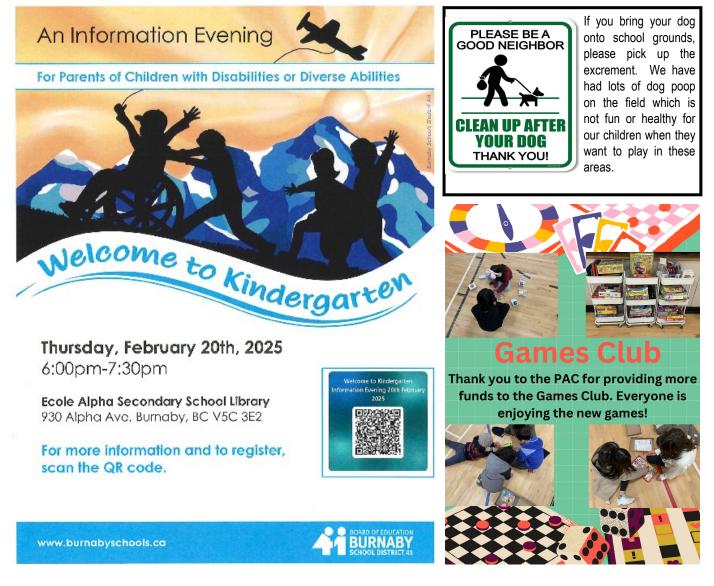
GRADE 7 STUDENTS HEADING TO HIGH SCHOOL IN SEPT. 2025

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 brentwoodpark.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 crossdistrict 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 <u>must</u> 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. We encourage families to walk to school if at all possible. If you must drive, please try to park in the neighbourhood and walk to the school to drop off and greet your children.

Brentwood Park parking lots 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' and 'no parking' areas in the parking lots.

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.)
- * 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

Please be respectful of the traffic safety reminders and each other as we work to keep our community safe.



Happy New Year, Brentwood Park families! It's hard to believe we're already well into 2025. A heartfelt thank you to all our parent volunteers, staff, and PAC executives for making last month's **Pancake Breakfast** a huge success! We're especially grateful that **Santa** took time out of his busy schedule to drop by and spread some holiday cheer.

Stay tuned for exciting upcoming events and ways to get involved in our school community!

We have some exciting events coming up, including another **Movie Night, a Spring Photoshoot Fundraiser**, and our **Annual Staff Appreciation Lunch** - stay tuned for more details about these events in the coming weeks!

In addition, the PAC is working on updating the school's emergency bins to ensure they are well-stocked. More information on this will be shared soon.

Stay Connected with the PAC!

We'd love for you to get involved, share your ideas, and stay in the loop. Follow us on <u>Instagram</u>, and if you're interested in volunteering, <u>sign up here!</u>





