



Conrad Elementary School

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Newsletter #6

February 7th, 2024



*'Gung Hey Fat Choy' to all our Conrad Families!
We go from the longest month to the shortest month!
Lots of fun things happening in February; read on to find out more!*

IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE

Saturday, February 10 th	Chinese New Year – <i>Gung Hey Fat Choy!</i>
Wednesday, February 14 th	Valentine's Day – Conrad Community is encouraged to wear red/white/pink Fun Day for Divisions 1-4, 6 & 9 (AM) Bake Sale by Division 8
Friday, February 16 th	Indigenous Implementation Day – No School for Students
Monday, February 19 th	Family Day – School Closed
Wednesday, February 28 th	Pink Shirt Day
Thursday, February 29 th	PAC Lunch Forms Due Back to Office
Friday, March 8 th	PAC Lunch (Vihaans)
Wednesday, March 13 th	Bake Sale
Friday, March 15 th	Last Day of School Before Spring Break Learning Updates Sent Home

MORE STAFF CHANGES

Conrad bid farewell to Mr. Shaikh, Teacher for Division 6. *We wish you all the best and hope to see you back soon!* Taking over for Mr. Shaikh is Ms. Nelson. *Welcome to Conrad, Ms. Nelson!*

Conrad also welcomes Ms. Hill as an Education Assistant. *Welcome (back) to Conrad!*

LOVE TO READ MONTH

Reading with your child(ren) is one of the best ways to support their learning at school. Children need lots of opportunities to read, talk about, hear and respond to text. The Conrad Library has sent home reading logs for students to record how many minutes they read. There is a contest for the most minutes read in a primary and intermediate classroom. A classroom ice cream party is the prize!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Conrad is currently accepting registrations for Kindergarten 2024. If your child will be five by December 31st, 2024, they are eligible to start school in September. When registering, please bring your child's: Birth Certificate (Permanent Resident Card/Passport), Care Card, immunization records and proof of address.



VALENTINE'S DAY

Valentine's Day falls on Wednesday, February 14th. The Conrad Community is encouraged to wear red, white or pink on this day. Some classes will be participating in fun themed activities as well. As well, Division 8 will be hosting a Bake Sale on this day. Goodies will be available for sale at recess.

INDIGENOUS IMPLEMENTATION DAY

Friday, February 16th is Indigenous Implementation Day. SD52 staff will gather at the Lester Centre of the Arts to participate in professional growth. There will be no school for students on this day.

FAMILY DAY

Family Day falls on Monday, February 19th this year. The school will be closed on this day. We hope that our Conrad Community can spend quality time with their families on this day.

PINK SHIRT DAY / ANTI-BULLYING DAY

Conrad will be celebrating Pink Shirt Day on Wednesday, February 28th. Pink Shirt Day (also known as Anti-Bullying Day) is an annual event where people wear pink shirts to stand up against bullying.

Bullying is intentional and repeated behaviour over a time that makes others feel uncomfortable, scared or hurt. This is not to be confused with isolated behaviour that is mean (and unfortunately, children can be mean to each other as they learn appropriate social skills).

The Conrad Team works hard to remind students to be kind, caring and supportive of each other. Daily reminders to use their WITS are also provided in hopes of fostering positive social interactions during less structured times (recess and lunch). We appreciate similar conversations you have at home with your child(ren).

CHILD CARE SPACES AVAILABLE

There are still spaces available in our Before and After School Care Program. Please contact the school Principal, Jean Marogna jean.marogna@sd52.bc.ca or (250) 627-2108, or Susan Kobza susan.kobza@sd52.bc.ca (District Vice-Principal of Early Learning and Child Care), if you have any questions or would like to register your child for this program.

SCHOOL SUPERVISION

A reminder that morning supervision duty at Conrad does not start until 8:40am and is only provided at the back of the school. Students can also join The Breakfast Club in the gym with Miss Tina or join Ms. Schwarz in the Library. Both options open at 8:30am and are available until 8:55am. Students are otherwise invited to play in the field and playground until the 8:55am Welcome Bell; wandering the halls and going to classrooms before 8:55am is not permitted. At the Welcome Bell, students are to line up at their designated line-ups to be welcomed into the school for the Morning Session which begins at 9:00am.

ALLERGY AWARE

Conrad is an allergy aware school. There are a number of students with food allergies and sensitivities. Being allergy aware means that we are mindful of allergies and sensitivities, so we are asking our Conrad community to take the necessary precautions and hygiene steps when eating recess snacks and lunch in the classrooms.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

School supplies were ordered in bulk by the school at the end of June. We are asking Conrad families to pay \$30 for students in Kindergarten to Grade 2, and \$35 for students in Grades 3 to 5 to put towards this bulk order. Miss Jan can take payments at the office, or you can send an e-transfer to jan.currie@sd52.bc.ca. Please put your child's name in the comments so we know who the payments are for. *Thank you!*

BELL SCHEDULE REMINDER

- 8:55am - Welcome Bell
- 9:00am – Morning Session begins
- 10:30 to 10:45am - Recess
- 12:00 to 12:45pm - Lunch **Divisions 1-6 eat first in their classrooms (12-12:20pm), then play outside (12:20-12:45pm); Divisions 7-11 play first outside(12-12:20pm), then eat in their classrooms (12:20-12:45pm)*
- 2:53pm - Dismissal

If students arrive late, they **must** check in at the office with Miss Jan before heading to their classrooms. Families are asked to please be prompt when picking up at the end of the day. Please pick up your child(ren) at their designated exits and avoid coming too early as this disrupts their end-of-day classroom routines. Please note that we do not offer after school supervision. Children are expected to either be picked up or go directly home as instructed by their families. The office is extremely busy, and we cannot guarantee that messages make it to your child in time. For this reason, please make arrangements **BEFORE** sending your child(ren) to school for the day. This is especially important when families call for early pick ups; this can be disruptive, and messages may not always make it to your child(ren). Thank you for helping to ensure that our students are safe.

CONRAD WITS

At Conrad, we use the WITS Program, a strategy to help students independently deal with peer conflicts. WITS stands for **W**alk Away, **I**gnore, **T**alk It Out, **S**eek Help. Please review this with your child(ren) and encourage them to use these strategies if they encounter peer conflicts. In addition, please remind your child(ren) that adults on supervision wear vis-vests and are trusted adults that they can go to for help. *Thank you for helping our students become independent and stay safe and respectful during unstructured break times.*

LUNCH

Conrad lunch break is from 12-12:45pm. We encourage students to go home for lunch if at all possible as this provides a break in the day and a reset for many students. Students on the Lunch Program can take their lunch home to enjoy. *Staying for lunch at Conrad is a privilege and students are expected to eat in their classrooms, clean up after themselves and follow Conrad's Code of Conduct.* If your child(ren) intends to stay for lunch, please discuss with them the above expectations, and that they are not to leave the school grounds at any time. Behavior expectations also apply during the lunch hour. Please note that there are no microwaves or kettles for students to use at lunch; please provide lunches that can be eaten as is. Also, if their lunch requires utensils, please pack them in their lunch; our school has a very limited supply on hand. *Thanks for your cooperation and understanding!*

LUNCH DROP OFFS

For families dropping off lunches for their child(ren), we now have a lunch drop off table just inside the main front doors of our school. We ask all families to please write your child(ren)'s name on the tags provided and leave it on the



table marked "Lunch Drop Off". You can also ask office staff to buzz for your child (ren) to come and pick up if you want to see them.

This will minimize the interruptions to all the learning that is happening for our students and your child(ren). *Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!*

PARKING / BUS PARKING

A friendly reminder that the parking lot to the right of the building is for staff only. Also, **please do not park in the bus loading/unloading area in front of the school...even if briefly...during school hours.** This is the area painted bright yellow at the front of the school and is reserved for bus use only before and after school, as well as at the beginning and end of the lunch hour. Finally, please avoid parking on the yellow line near crosswalks; this decreases visibility of children crossing at the crosswalk. *We appreciate your help in making sure our students stay safe!*

COMMUNICATION


Please let the office know of any changes in contact information. In addition to a monthly newsletter, school communication is delivered via the Conrad website, Conrad Facebook page, Conrad Instagram, email and phone.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

February's PAC meeting was held on Tuesday, February 6th. There will be no PAC meeting in March. The next PAC meeting will be the AGM on April 9th at 6pm in the Conrad Library.

The PAC is planning a pizza lunch from Vihaan's for Friday, March 8th. More information is coming soon. For more PAC information, please email: conradpac22@gmail.com.

CONRAD SCHOOL WEBSITE

Our school website has important information and links to educational websites. Please take time to browse the site. The monthly newsletters will be posted on the website. The address is: <http://conrad.rupertschools.ca/>. Also, please join us on Facebook; search (Conrad Elementary School). 

Mrs. Marogna
Principal

Mrs. Barak
Vice-Principal

Please cut here!

To ensure that all the information in this newsletter reaches our Conrad families, we are inviting students to fill in the form and return to the school office after reading our monthly newsletter. Students will be entered for a chance to win a sweet treat if their name is drawn!

Name _____ Division _____