



Principal/Directrice: Mme P. Wilson  
 Vice-Principal/Directrice adjointe: Mrs. J. Schierer  
 Admin. Assistant: Mrs. T. Ahlgren  
 Phone: 604-596-7481  
 Website: <https://ri.deltasd.bc.ca>

## École Élémentaire Richardson Elementary School

11339 – 83 Avenue, Delta BC V4C 7B9 Fax: 604-594-3164 School District: <https://www.deltasd.bc.ca>

### Admin Team Message

We would like to introduce and welcome **two new Staff members** to the Richardson family ~ Mrs. S. Clarke, our new Office Support person, and Mme A. Dhanday, our new Kindergarten French Immersion teacher. Mme Dhanday is replacing Mme Brown who, we are delighted to announce, just had her second beautiful baby girl! ☺

With the end of 2019 almost upon us, we would also like to take the opportunity that the season brings to say **THANK YOU / MERCI** to our very supportive community for all your help so far this school year. All contributions from Hot Lunch help, driving on field trips, helping kids with homework, fundraising, and ensuring kids arrive on time, combined with all other efforts, make a HUGE difference for the students here at Richardson Elementary.

We encourage you to continue to take an active role in your child's education by reading with your child, checking your child's student planner, supervising your child's homework, and communicating with your child's teacher. We believe in the importance of the school-home partnership and it is illustrated in the poem below:

### Guiding Hands

I dreamed I stood in a studio,  
 and watched two sculptors there.  
 The clay they used was a young child's mind,  
 and they fashioned it with care.  
 One was a teacher, the tools she used were books,  
 music and art;  
 One was a parent, with guiding hands and  
 a gentle, loving heart.  
 Day after day the teacher toiled,  
 with touch that was deft and sure.  
 While the parent who labored by her side,  
 polished and smoothed it o'er.

And when at last their task was done,  
 they were proud of what they had wrought.  
 For the things they had molded into the child,  
 could neither be sold nor bought.  
 And each agreed they would have failed  
 if they had worked alone,  
 For behind the parent stood the school,  
 And behind the teacher, the home.

... Author Unknown



### Event Calendar

#### December 2019

- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Richardson Cares Food and Toy Drive begins
- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> – Annual Staff vs Grade 7 Students Volleyball Games
- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> – Digital Citizenship with Constable Hilliard
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Hold and Secure Drill
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Early French Immersion Information Meeting at Burnsvue (6:30 – 8:00 p.m.)
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Intermediate Christmas Concert (afternoon performance starting at 1:30 p.m.)
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Intermediate Christmas Concert evening performance starting at 6:00 p.m.)
- 12<sup>th</sup> – **Term 1 Report Cards Posted on Parent Connect**
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Last Day for the Food and Toy Drive
- 13<sup>th</sup> – PAC Hot Lunch Day
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Movie Day
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Spirit Day (Ugly Sweater Day)
- 20<sup>th</sup> – PAC Pancake Breakfast
- 20<sup>th</sup> – **Last Day** before the Break
- 25<sup>th</sup> – **Merry Christmas!**



#### January 2020

- 1<sup>st</sup> – **Happy New Year!**
- 6<sup>th</sup> – **Welcome back!** School reopens today!
- 10<sup>th</sup> – First day of the Grade 7 Ski Program

### Christmas Concert

Our Intermediate Christmas concert will be on **Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>** (in the afternoon and evening). Please note that there will be limited seating in the afternoon performance as our Primary students will also be viewing the concert. Intermediate students are those in grades 4 through 7.



### Online Report Cards

Just a reminder that Richardson will no longer be sending paper copies of report cards home with your child. All progress reports can be accessed through Parent Connect, including IEP, AIP and SLP reports. A Term One Progress Report for your child will be ready to view after 3:00 p.m. on **Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>** through Parent Connect.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE ~ PLEASE TRANSLATE!**



## Student Recognition

In the month of November, we recognized the students who gave their time to help as Classroom Monitors and Spirit Team Members.

**Classroom Monitors:** Samantha A., Safiyah A., Avir B., Kabir B., Alexis C., Katie C., Ajeet D., Sanjana D., Chloe E., Jmer G., Payton J., Taylor J., Ekpreet K., Grace K., Gurlal L., Navroop L., Izzani L., Jaswin L., Joti M., Epshie M., Rakshika M., Alex N., Rakan N., Avneet P., Aaliyah P., Mayank P., Evan R., Jaden R., Scarlett R.N., Branden S., Gurmania S., Japji S., Immad S., Simran S., Zariah T., Kallie T., Maya U. and Kara V.

**Spirit Team:** Aykai B., Simon B., Abdul Rafay C., Rylie H., Conami H., Charlie H., Dasha J., Taylor M., Adrielle M., Raine O., Divine P., Yuvraj P., Nigel R., Aysia R., Manavi S., Madison S., Taylor S., Zoya S., Cooper S., Rachel T., Savannah U. and Phoebe W.-S.

## Remembrance Day



Thank you to our Piper, Mr. Zhongxi Wu, from the Delta Police Pipe Band, and our students and Staff who worked together to make our Remembrance Day Assembly so meaningful. It is an important event that needs to be respected and formalized in a way that our students can appreciate and understand.

There are several important purposes for our Assembly, and for the Memorial Services and Parades that take place in November. Most important, we honour the men and women, past and present, who have given their time and/or their lives to protect the peace and freedom we enjoy in our Country. Our Assembly also helps us to remember to treat each other with respect, consideration, thoughtfulness, and kindness. We hope that for Remembrance Day, you were all able to take a moment to stop, be peaceful and remember just how fortunate we are to live in a country where all of us can feel safe and respected.

## NOVEMBER Birthdays ~ Bonne fête!



Happy Birthday to these students who celebrated birthdays during the month of November: Conami H., Sam C., Sajjan S., Ian N., Gurlal L., Avneet P., Mayank P., Amitoj S., Teagan R., Prabhur L., Inaaya S., Levi H., Joban G., Taylor S., Sidak D., Darius D., Ethan S., Oliver W., Ashton R., Anna P., Raj S., Seerat M., Raine O., Samuel D., Taylor C., Reese D., Manjot D., Prabhjot D., Conner L., Sianna S., Karen B., Nekhi J., Declan M., Branden S., Gulu H., and Arjun N.



## WE Team

Our Richardson WE Team went to WE Day Vancouver on Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at Rogers Arena. This event brings together world-renowned speakers, A-list performers, and thousands of youth to celebrate a year of action that has transformed communities and changed lives.

This year, our WE Team is organizing our **Richardson Cares Food and Toy Drive** which kicked off on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, with our first Staff versus Grade 7 Students Volleyball Game.

## Christmas Hamper:

New unwrapped gift items or gift certificates suitable for families are most welcome, e.g., games, puzzles, sports equipment, toys, books, socks, mittens, soap sets, movie gift certificates, grocery or department store gift cards, etc. Please drop off your donations directly to the Office. Thank you for your help!



## Deltassist Food Drive:

We are also encouraging our students to bring non-perishable food items (e.g., canned fruits and vegetables, canned meat, pastas, cereals, rice, fruit juices, peanut butter, soups, baby food) to help those in need during our annual Food Drive. Food items will be collected in your child's classroom. Please ensure that the food being donated is safe by checking for expired food. The families in our community greatly appreciate your generosity and support.

## DECEMBER Birthdays ~ Bonne fête!



Happy Birthday to these students who are celebrating birthdays during the month of December: Ayaan C., Yuvraj P., Rebekah M., Abhi S., Gaurish S., Nikale A., Simon B., Abhinav K., Brandon H., Amtoj J., Dilett T., Oakly V., Zariah T., Mathias M., Khushi S., Ghalla A., Joyt V., Maks K., Kieran K., Aysha A., Japji S., Dilav S., Taylor R., Samarbir S., Mckenzie M., Diya S., Gavin D., Grady M., Mehtab P., Sahib P., Pehlaj D., Kayden G., Saisha C., Alman M., Arjun M., Zara A., Taylor M., Giovanni F., Jackson V. E., Avi R., Samuel F. and Sabreen T.

## ~ Extracurricular ~

### Volleyball Program



The Grade 6 and 7's inter-school volleyball season has now ended. Our teams had a great season of play and showed good skill development, and most importantly, great sportsmanship! Thank you to all our parent drivers who supported our teams and a big thank you to our teacher coaches **Mme Romans, Mme Elson, Mrs. Furland, Mme McGuire, Mme Pennell, Mr. Stafford and Mrs. Schierer.**

### Basketball Coaches Needed



Our Basketball season will begin in January, and we are looking for coaching support for the following teams:

- Grade 7 Girls

Any help you are able to give our student athletes would be most appreciated! Merci!

### Knitting and Crocheting Club

Our knitting and crocheting club meets on Mondays during lunch and is open to all intermediate students. We have been busy teaching each other (and using YouTube videos!) how to finger knit, spool knit, needle knit and crochet. We are always looking for experienced adult volunteers who can lend us a hand. We are also looking for crochet hook donations. Please see Ms. Wone in the library if you are able to help out.



### Magic Club

*Magic the Gathering* is a collectible card game based in a fantasy world that includes elves, goblins, dragons, wizards, and powerful magic. It's a complex game that enriches students' imagination, while challenging their math, reading, strategy, and logical-thinking skills. Our Magic Club runs every Wednesday at lunch in the library. Free starter decks are available to students in Grades 5-7 who bring back a signed permission form.

### Lego Club

A big thank you to those families who have donated Lego pieces to help get our Lego Club up and building. Our grade 3 and 4 students meet on Thursdays at lunch to create. Our kindergarten Lego club will commence in the new year. If you are able to help us continue to grow our Lego collection, please send your donation to the Office where a box has been placed for collecting items. Thank you so much!



### Richardson PAC

Please visit the RPAC website for messages from the school PAC at

<https://richardson.hotlunches.net>

### PAC Family Spooktacular and Pumpkin Carving Contest

Richardson families were once again treated to an evening of spooky games, frightening foods, the opportunity to “boo”gie to Halloween music and a very haunting haunted house at the annual Spooktacular event in late October. The Halloween party was attended by zombies, clowns, Superheroes, princesses, and a variety of other fun and frightful guests. It was a wonderful event and we are grateful to the PAC for the time and energy that they dedicate to making Richardson such a fun place to be.

Students also participated in our annual Pumpkin Carving contest. The Multi-purpose Room was transformed into a spooky display of creativity where students were able to present their more ghoulish personalities. It is always a hit, and this year's event was no different. Students and staff love the pumpkin walk.

A special thanks to all the volunteers led by Mrs. A. Dhaliwal, Mrs. S. Stevens, Mrs. M. Muller and Ms. A. Smith for their gift of time, creativity and effort that made Spooktacular such a successful event, and to Mrs. K. Imhof for coordinating and supervising the Pumpkin Carving event.

### PAC Movie Night

Our first Movie Night was a terrific success! Many families enjoyed coming together to share in viewing the movie, *The Santa Clause*, at the end of November, just before the Christmas season began.



### Dress for the Weather

We would like to encourage students to dress appropriately for the rainy and cold weather, e.g., warm jackets, boots, hats, gloves, umbrellas, etc. Students will be playing outside every day, unless the weather is particularly stormy.



## Please HELP Us Keep Students SAFE

Our **Back Parking Lot** is a very busy place at drop off and pick up times. Please help keep our children safe by:

- Not stopping or parking in the drive through lane
- Parking in a proper parking space in the parking lot, on the roadway adjacent to the school property, or in the Church parking lot if you need to stop
- Having your children exit your vehicle so that they do not need to walk between moving vehicles to get to class (on the passenger side of the vehicle)
- Not turning left out of our parking lot between the hours of 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., and 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Please remember that the parking spots designated for **Handicapped Persons** are not for the use of able bodied persons at any time of the day. Thank you!

### Student Absence

Please also remember to call the school before 9:00 a.m. at 604-596-7481, if your child will be absent or late. Also, we ask that you make sure the school has your current address and phone numbers (home, cell, work). You can check the information we have on file, by logging on to Parent Connect.

## Delta Schools Emergency Procedures



On **Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**, we practiced our first Lockdown Drill of the year - *Hold and Secure*. This is the Emergency Procedure that is followed in the case of a security concern outside of the school building. (The protocol for this drill is very similar to what was previously called a “Code Yellow.”)

Please see the poster included at the end of this newsletter for more information on the various Emergency Procedures we practise at school to keep everyone safe. We practise these drills just like we practise our fire and earthquake drills. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mme Wilson at the office.

## Messages from the Library

A friendly reminder to store your library books in a safe, dry place away from pets and younger children. Try keeping an extra plastic bag in your child’s backpack to avoid liquid damage from water bottles and rain. Thank you!

To search **Richardson’s Library catalogue and resources**, please visit our website, and click on the links on ‘Our Library’ page.

### Scholastic Book Fair



A big thank you to all the students, staff and families that came out to support the Scholastic Book Fair during parent teacher interviews in October. We have selected a ton of new and exciting books for our school library. Come and check them out in January. A special thank you to the the parent and grandparent volunteers, as well as the student volunteers who made our Fair a success.

## Earthquake Preparedness Drill

Earlier in the Fall, we held our first Earthquake drill. We had planned for it to be a full release drill, but the weather did not cooperate. Despite this, our students practised the “Duck, Cover and Hold On” procedure in their classrooms. We will reschedule our Full Release Drill in the spring in order to give our Emergency Response Teams an opportunity to practise their roles. It will also provide another practice for our students, and give parents and caregivers the chance to experience the student release portion of our drill.



We would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents that in an emergency, the school will only release students to those adults identified in the Emergency Release Information on Parent Connect. Please make sure that the appropriate individuals are listed for your child’s release in an emergency by going on to Parent Connect and updating the details. Merci!

### Parents as Partners

Read! Read! Read! Children improve their reading ability by reading! Just like shooting hoops with a basketball, the more we practice, the better we get! We know through research that there is a direct relationship between the amount of reading children do in school and at home, and a child's reading achievement. Independent reading increases the size of children's vocabulary, develops reading comprehension and improves reading fluency. Fluency is the ability to read a piece of text accurately, quickly and with expression. Readers who have not yet developed fluency read slowly, word by word. Because fluent readers do not have to concentrate on figuring out each individual word, they are able to focus their attention on the text meaning.



Unlike using workbooks and playing computer games, reading books gives children practice in the "whole act" of reading ~ in discovering the meanings of individual words and in grasping the meaning of an entire story. Clearly, reading at home can be a powerful supplement to a child's classroom experiences. Parents can encourage reading development by:

- making books an important part of the home
- giving books or magazines as presents
- encouraging visits to the local library
- modelling a joy of reading their own books
- sharing bedtime stories together as a very special way of growing your child's love of reading.

We encourage all Richardson students and families to read at home on a daily basis!

### Thank you! Merci!

Sincerely,



Mme Patricia Wilson,  
Principal

Mrs. Jacquie Schierer,  
Vice-Principal

and the Staff at Richardson Elementary

### Richardson Purpose and Mission:

To nurture the Heart, Mind, Body and Spirit  
of each member of our School Family



### Flu Season is Here!

What can parents do?

1. Prevent illness by maintaining good health habits, a variety of foods, exercise, enough sleep, and frequent hand washing.
2. Arrange for your family to have an annual flu shot if your child has a chronic health condition.
3. Recognize flu symptoms...stuffy nose, cough, sore throat and chest, fever, chills, muscle and joint pains, vomiting and diarrhea.
4. Keep your children home away from others and treat the symptoms with bed rest, plenty of fluids, and acetaminophen for fever and aches.
5. Watch for symptoms that should prompt a call to your doctor... rash, high fever, earache, white spots on the mouth, severe vomiting or diarrhea, or coloured mucus.

The school may find it necessary to send your child home because of illness. Please make sure that you have made alternative arrangements when you are not available, and inform the school of these arrangements. Merci!



### Lost and Found

Please feel welcome to stop by the Lost and Found display near the office to claim your child's missing items of clothing. There is a very large collection of coats, hoodies, pants, etc., hanging on the clothing lines or placed in the box. Smaller items, including jewelry and keys, are kept at the office.

Please speak with Mrs. Ahlgren or Mrs. Clarke if you are missing anything. All unclaimed items will be donated to charity on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019.



# DELTA SCHOOLS EMERGENCY PROCEDURES



## EVACUATE

Used to move people out of the school when a hazard exists inside

- Direct students and other staff to exit the school via the shortest safe route
- Report to and assemble outside at the designated assembly site

*\*Principal or designate will determine next steps*



## LOCKDOWN

Used in response to an armed or dangerous assailant WITHIN the school

- Gather people in your vicinity into a secure room—do this quickly
- Close and secure doors
- Turn off lights, be quiet, get down low/behind heavy furniture, get out of sight
- Silence all cell phones on hand and ask they be placed face down on floor
- Alert other occupants by any means available and/or call 911—only if safe to do so

OR LEAVE SAFE: If no secure area is available and a safe exit is, then quickly leave the area/school. Report to the designated assembly area and await instructions.

*\*Normal activities in the school cease. Await police response.*



## DROP, COVER & HOLD ON

Used in the event of an earthquake, explosion, or any event that shakes the school

Quickly move away from obvious hazards

- DROP - low to the ground
- COVER - take Cover under a sturdy table, desks, furniture, or other large sturdy items
- HOLD ON - to the furniture you are under and stay there until the shaking stops

After the shaking stops, wait 60 seconds and then evacuate via the shortest safe route

Report to and assemble outside at the designated assembly site

*\*Principal or designate will determine next steps*



## HOLD & SECURE

Used if there is a security concern in the neighbourhood

- Bring everyone into the school and remain inside
- Secure exterior doors
- Close exterior window blinds/drapes (if available)

No one may enter or exit the school during Hold & Secure

*\*Typically, normal activities continue WITHIN the school.*



## SHELTER IN PLACE

Used if an environmental hazard may impact the school

- Bring everyone into the school and remain indoors
- Secure exterior doors and windows
- Close exterior window blinds/drapes (if available)
- Turn off all ventilation systems (if locally available/situation dependent)

Staff designates will monitor access to the school via the main entrance

Access may be denied if a risk exists that jeopardizes the safety of occupants

*\*Typically, normal activities continue WITHIN the school.*



## ROOM CLEAR

Used to move people away from a hazard contained in one room/area

- Direct students to leave the room/area and report to designated area (Ex. Library)
- Summon assistance as needed and appropriate (Ex: call First Aid Attendant, Principal/Vice Principal, custodian, 911)

*\*Principal or designate will determine next steps*

## SCHOOL DRILLS & INFO

**FIRE**  
3 in fall  
3 in spring

**EARTHQUAKE**  
2/year  
The Great BC Shakeout

**LOCKDOWN**  
2 full school drills/year

**IN AN EMERGENCY  
CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE**

**GENERAL INQUIRIES**  
safety@deltasd.bc.ca

**STAFF PREPAREDNESS**  
• A family emergency plan  
• Basic kit with essential personal items

*Templates for an emergency family plan and kits can be found at:*

[www.getprepared.gc.ca](http://www.getprepared.gc.ca)