

# RICHARDSON REPORTER

*Nurturing the heart, mind, body and spirit of each member of our school family*

## This Week's Important Dates

Sept. 11-15: Kindergarten Gradual Entry continues

Sept. 11-15: Students begin regular schedules, including library, PE and intermediate art instruction



## Welcome Back! Bienvenue!

Welcome back to a new school year! We have enjoyed welcoming our students back to school this week, and reconnecting with families. Our staff has worked very hard to be ready for students this year, and they are so happy to have met their new classes today. Today, classes are getting down to work, learning new routines, establishing school and classroom culture, and making new friends. We are very much looking forward to a year full of engaging learning experiences and fun memories with peers. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office or the classroom teacher with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,  
Ms. T. Doukas                      Mrs. M. Hope

## Welcome to New Staff

We are pleased to welcome some new and returning staff to Richardson this year:

- Mme Suhair Abdel-Fadil, French teacher
- Ms. Deb Jorgensen, Office Support
- Ms. Yingli Liu, Education Assistant
- Ms. Jelena Milin, Education Assistant
- Mrs. Kristie Olfert, Administrative Assistant
- Ms. Parveen Panag, Education Assistant
- Ms. Sukhvinder Panesar, Education Assistant



## Class Placements

Today was an exciting day at Richardson. Soon after the morning bell, students were moved into their classes for the 2024-2025 school year. As this time of transition, we will be supporting the students at school, and we ask for your support as well. Transitions can sometimes be difficult for students, and we have learned that positive encouragement goes a long way. It's going to be a great year and each of the students were very thoughtfully placed in their new class for the year – it will be fun for them to grow and learn with a new group of

## Upcoming Events

**Friday**, Sept. 13: Individual Student Photos

**Wednesday**, Sept. 18 - Terry Fox Run/Assembly

**Thursday**, Sept. 19 - Time TBD: Open House

**Friday**, Sept. 20 - Non-Instructional Day (School closed for students)

**Monday**, Sept. 23 - Cultural Performance: Kung Jaadee

**Friday**, Sept. 27 - Orange Shirt Day and Walk for Truth and Reconciliation

**Monday**, Sept. 30 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: School Closed

## Thank you! Merci!

To all of our Richardson families for supporting our students as they start a new school year!

To our community for practicing road safety in our neighbourhood and driveway!



classmates. It often takes time for students to adapt to a new learning environment. We appreciate your support and encourage you to reach out to your child's classroom teacher if they need some extra help getting used to new routines.

**Some background:** The number of staff members assigned to Richardson Elementary is decided by the Delta School District and is based on projected student enrolment. Enrolment numbers and class size guidelines affect the configuration of classes. Combined classes are an organizational necessity based on student numbers and provide very positive learning environments for children. It has been demonstrated that children in multi-age classes can learn to become more independent, responsible learners and develop a greater degree of social responsibility. Achievement levels of these students are as good as, or better than, the achievement levels of students placed in single grade classrooms.

Assigning students to classes is a very complex task that takes into consideration a variety of factors including learning styles and strengths, what a student can achieve in relation to the goals of the curriculum, degree of independence in work habits, social and personal needs, age and physical maturity, previous placements, diverse learning needs of the students, as well as parental insight. Our objective is to create balanced classes, taking all the above into consideration.

For this school year, classes have been assigned as follows:

Div. 1	Mme Tayob/Mme Royer	Grade 7
Div. 2	Ms. Furland	Grade 6/7
Div. 3	Mr. Maishment	Grade 6/7
Div. 4	Mme Abdel-Fadil	Grade 6
Div. 5	Ms. Coulson	Grade 5/6
Div. 6	Mme Dang	Grade 4/5
Div. 7	Ms. Gill/Ms. Royer	Grade 4/5
Div. 8	Mme McGuire/Mme McLean	Grade 3/4
Div. 9	Ms. M. Caplan	Grade 3/4
Div. 10	Mme Chicanot	Grade 2
Div. 11	Ms. Sundaran	Grade 2
Div. 12	Ms. Genuist	Grade 1/2
Div. 13	Mme Brown/Mme Royer	Grade 1
Div. 14	Mme Jacobs	Kindergarten
Div. 15	Ms. Parmar	Kindergarten

## **School Schedule**

First Bell: 8:55am

School in Session: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Recess: 10:30am - 10:45am

Lunch: Eat 12:10pm- 12:25pm, Play 12:25pm-12:55pm

Office hours: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Please make every effort to have students at school on time so they can enter directly through their classroom doors. If students arrive late to school, they may enter the school through the front doors and sign in at the office.

## **Open House**

Richardson staff are planning to open our doors to families for our annual Open House on Thursday, September 19. More information will be shared as soon as possible.

## **Partners in Health and Safety**

We would like to ask families to review the following health and safety routines:

- Wash and sanitize hands often
- Practice good respiratory etiquette by sneezing and coughing into your elbow
- Respect the personal space of others
- Stay home when sick

## **Student Planners**

This year, many, but not all teachers have opted to use student planners. For those classes using planners, a notice will be sent home outlining how to cover the cost of the planner.

## **Be Prepared**

Please ensure students come fully prepared for the day:

**Clothing & Sunscreen** - Please send your child with proper clothing for the weather, as we will spend time outdoors. Sunscreen should be applied at home. Parents are also encouraged to send an extra set of clothes, in a sealed plastic bag in your child's backpack, labelled with your child's name.

**Food & Water** - Please ensure your child brings snacks, a refillable water bottle and a lunch to school each day. Should a student forget their lunch, they will not go hungry. We will have some food supplies on hand for emergencies, or families will be contacted by Mrs. Olfert.

## **Drinks at School**

At Richardson, students are encouraged to bring a full water bottle to school each day. The water bottle can be kept with the student at their desk or in an easily accessible location that the classroom teacher has identified. During the lunch eating time, students may drink juice boxes or other such drink choices that parents have chosen to provide. At the end of the eating time, it is expected that these 'other' drinks are finished or put away according to teacher instructions. Such drinks must be easily resealed. This is to avoid sticky spillage

which can damage student work. Additionally, parents are asked to refrain from delivering drinks other than water during the school day.

### **Terry Fox Run**

Our annual Terry Fox Run will take place on September 18. Students are encouraged to bring 'Toonies for Terry' in support of the Terry Fox Foundation. Alternately, families are invited to use the QR code to donate online. Thank you for your support and for helping our students learn about one of our Canadian heroes!



### **Parking and Drop Offs**

Traffic can be very busy at the front and back of our school. Please be mindful of Richardson's established parking routines, which are in place for the safety of our entire community. School zones speed limits are 30km per hour, and Delta Police are often present monitoring traffic safety.

- The parking lot immediately in front of the school is for staff parking and drop off by school bus or daycare providers only between 8:00am and 4:00pm
- Families may drop off and pick up students in the back parking lot or on the street in front of the school (and supervise your child crossing safely onto school property)
- If parents would like to escort students to their entrance door, please park on the roads surrounding the school, or in the paved parking lot at the nearby North Delta Evangelical Free Church
- Please do not park in the no parking/no stopping zones
- Please be respectful of the private driveways in our community, and do not block driveways at any time
- There is one accessible spot in our front parking lot for use by those individuals with an accessibility pass displayed

### **Understanding SOGI-Inclusive Resources: A Guide for Parents and Caregivers**

Please see the information and resources provided by the Delta School District at the following link:

<https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/resources/sogi-resources/>

### **Families Experiencing Hardship**

If any families are requiring financial support for end of year activities, please reach out to our school office in confidence. Ms. Doukas and Mrs. Hope welcome any requests for support.

### **PAC Survey**

On behalf of our PAC, we would again like to invite families to respond to a survey which will help the parent committee plan for the year ahead. The survey can be found at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/6VKtkduH7afvD9pM8>