

TAIT TIGER NEWS

Newsletter #7

March 3rd, 2023.

Telephone: 604-668-6444
Student Absences: 604-668-6444
Website address: tait.sd38.bc.ca
Email: tait@sd38.bc.ca



Principal: Mr. Rusty Mason
Admin. Assistant: Ms. L. Rutsch
Area Superintendent: Ms. J. Macmillan
Trustee: Ms. H. Larson

From the Office

Last Day of School Before Spring Break



Spring Break is almost here! The last day of school before our Spring Break is Friday, March 10th. Spring Break is two weeks long. We return to school on Monday, March 27th, 2023 to begin our third and final term of the year.

We Are Planning For September 2023



Kindergarten Registrations. If you have a child turning five in 2023, please register them at the Board Office right away for Kindergarten. We are now into the Priority 2 Round of registration. Any students living in the Tait neighbourhood can still apply for a place at Tait Elementary, but as we move further towards next September space could become very limited and chances of having a place at our school decrease. If you have a neighbour with a Kindergarten aged child, please encourage them to register now.

Health Protocols and Winter Sickness



The Winter months always have the highest number of student and staff absences, primarily due to illness. We can work together to minimize the number of students and staff who are ill if we remember some very simple guidelines and strategies.

- If you believe your child is coming down with a cold or the flu, keep them home until they have recovered. Your child will recover more quickly and we will not have others in the school also becoming ill.*
- DO NOT send students to school who have a cough or runny nose, who have a fever, or who have vomited in the last 24 hours.*

Children who come to school sick will need to be sent home. Parents will be contacted by the school office to come to the school to pick up their child.

Hand Washing

• *Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly, especially before eating, after using the washroom, and after blowing their nose. At the school, we will continue to have children wash their hands multiple times each day.*

Get the Proper Amount of Sleep and Rest

• *Have your child go to sleep at a time that gives them at least 10 hours of sleep. When our bodies are tired and 'run down' we are far more susceptible to illness.*



Please follow the Mandatory Daily Health Declaration each day (see the end of this newsletter)

Thank-you for your help to keep everyone at Tait Elementary safe and healthy.

Student Absences

If your child will be absent from school, please call the school directly at 604-668-6444 to speak to our office staff or leave a message. Please do not rely on an email to your child's classroom teacher telling them about your child's absence. Classroom teachers may not have the chance to access their email before school, and may mark your child as absent with an unknown reason as to why they are missing from school. If classroom teachers enter a child as absent without a reason, our office staff will make a phone call home to parents to find out the whereabouts of a child. This procedure can be aggravating for parents, and takes valuable time from our office staff that could be better used.



Thank-you for your understanding. Please call 604-668-6444 if your child will be absent from school.

Parking Lot and Surrounding Neighborhood



Parents, please help us make the parking lot and streets near the school safe for all members of our school community during student pick-up at the end of the day. If you are picking up your child at the end of the school day, please keep these thoughts in mind:

- stop and wait for your child only in the drop-off/pick-up area: if your car is in the drop-off/pick-up area, do not leave your car unattended
- if you need to go into the school, use available parking spaces in our parking lot or park on the road in the neighbourhood
- do not double-park your car in the school parking lot – other cars cannot move easily around double-parked cars and students walking are at risk because they cannot easily see moving cars in the parking lot
- do not park where there are no parking spots – our parking lot has two tight corners closest to the school and parking at these corners makes it hard for other parents to maneuver around your car
- drive slowly in the parking lot and when exiting the parking lot – students do not always look before they cross the parking lot
- in the neighborhood, please do not block the driveways of our neighbors

Around the School

Grade 6-7 Basketball



Students in grades 6 and 7 have enjoyed a term of basketball. The girls team is coached by Mr. Imagawa, and the boys team is coached by Mr. Mason. Thank-you to Mr. Imagawa and Mr. Mason for giving up their free time at lunch and after school to coach our grade 6 and 7 students. The students have learned a lot and have been able to play games with neighbouring schools. Our Grade 7 girls and grade 7 boys will play in the Cambie Secondary Tournament next Thursday, March 9th. Tait families are invited to come to the tournament next week to cheer on our Tait Tigers.

Early Dismissal for Parent Teacher Conferences Wednesday, March 8th



All classes will be dismissed early at 12pm (Noon) on Wednesday, March 8th, for Parent-Teacher Conferences.

Primary parents, please ensure your child has a way to get home early on Wednesday, March 8th.

PAC (Parent Advisory Council) Updates



The Robert J. Tait Parent Advisory Council is always looking for parent volunteers to help the PAC support students at Tait School. If you have an idea for the Tait P.A.C. please come to the next meeting. All Tait parents are part of the Tait PAC. We encourage you to come to our PAC Meetings to find out more about the school.

We Are Looking For Parents to Fill 2023-2024 PAC Executive Roles

The R.J. Tait Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is the voice of the Tait parent community. The PAC organizes a variety of fundraising events throughout the year, such as food days, book fairs and raffles. Money raised through fundraising activities is used to directly benefit the students of Tait. The R.J. Tait PAC is looking for new members to take on executive roles for our next school year. If you are interested in any of these roles, please come out to our monthly Zoom meetings to see what we are all about. Our next meeting is on Monday, April 3rd, 2023. A Zoom Link will be sent to parents a few days before the meeting.

If you are interested in a role, please email us at tait-pac@googlegroups.com

The PAC Executive Roles are:

Chairperson – to assume primary responsibility for coordinating the functioning of the R.J. Tait PAC, prepare meeting agendas and Chair meetings

Vice-Chairperson – to work with the Chairperson, encourage parent participation and take on any special projects as needed

Secretary – to record and post the minutes of the PAC meetings and answer all correspondence

Treasurer – to be responsible for all PAC funds, and to present a monthly financial statement at each PAC meeting

RDPA Representative(s) – to attend the Richmond District Parents’ Association meetings, representing the R.J. Tait PAC, and to report RDPA news back to the Tait PAC

Food Day Coordinator – to coordinate special food events at the school, such as hot lunch days, and be responsible for ordering hot lunch supplies

IT Coordinator - To update the TAIT PAC website and manage the online MunchaLunch website

Next PAC Meeting is Monday, April 3rd at 6:30pm on Zoom. All Parents are welcome to attend.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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| Friday, March 10 th | - Last Day of classes for Term 2 |
| March 13 th - 24 th | - Spring Break (school is closed) |
| Monday, March 27 th | - First Day Back after Spring Break |
| Monday, April 3 rd | - PAC Meeting @6:30pm on Zoom |
| Friday, April 7 th | - Good Friday Holiday |
| Monday, April 10 th | - Easter Monday Holiday |
| Tuesday, May 2 nd | - National Teacher’s Day |
| Wednesday, May 17 th | - Class and Panorama Photo Day |
| Friday, May 19 th | - Professional Development Day / No School for Students |
| Monday, May 22 nd | - Victoria Day Holiday |
| Monday, June 5 th | - Welcome to Kindergarten for 2023/2024 Kindergarten Families @ 1:15pm |
| Friday, June 16 th | - Fit and Fun Day at Tait |
| Tuesday, June 20 th | - Tait Family BBQ |
| Friday, June 23 rd | - Grade 7 Farewell |
| Thursday, June 29 th | - Recognition Assembly |
| Thursday, June 29 th | - Last Day of School for Students |
| Friday, June 30 th | - Administrative Day |