

TAIT TIGER NEWS

Newsletter #8

April 12th, 2024.

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. S. Ruan
Area Superintendent: Ms. J. Macmillan
Trustee: Ms. D. Sargent

From the Office

CLASS ORGANIZATION AND STUDENT PLACEMENT 2024-25 PARENT INPUT OPPORTUNITY

June is the month when the staff spends considerable time discussing possible classroom placements of students for the next school year. Although we do not finalize classes until the first week in September, we do a great amount of preliminary thinking in June. There are many factors that are important considerations for placing students into appropriate classes for the next school year:

A. Student considerations such as:

- learning styles and strengths
- what a child can do in relation to the goals of the program
- degree of independence in work habits
- social and personal characteristics
- age and physical maturity
- previous year's placement
- male/female balance
- students with special learning needs
- when they have been the youngest or the oldest in a combined classroom. Please note: Over their 8 years in elementary, a student should experience a variety of settings, sometimes as the older grade in a class and other times the younger grade in a class.

B. Staff considerations such as:

- equitable teaching assignments in terms of class size and composition
- matching as closely as possible teaching style and student academic and social emotional needs

Parents, if you have information based on the factors listed above you would like us to consider when placing your child in a class for next year, please take this opportunity to submit this information to Mr. Mason in writing (email or letter) by Friday, May 31st at 4:00 p.m.

This information will be shared with teachers during the meetings that will be held to make up classes for next year.

Please Note:

- **It will not be possible to consider information or requests submitted by parents in September once classes have been established.**
- Please **do not request specific teachers** – at this time we do not know which teachers will be teaching which grades next year.

We do our best to form the best learning environments for all students.

Parental requests are considered but not guaranteed.

We Are Planning For September 2024



Kindergarten Registrations: If you have a child turning five in 2024, 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 today.

Student Learning Survey

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective. In April **2024** the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 and 7 at school.



Parents/guardians are Invited to Complete the Student Learning Survey

Parents of students in any grade can voluntarily complete the Student Learning Survey. We encourage parents/guardians to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey. Any computer with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link with or without an anonymous logon code by selecting the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the *Results* section.

The e-survey site will be open until May 3rd. Please consider making your voice heard. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mason by phone (604) 668-6444 or email at rmason@sd38.bc.ca

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.

Health Protocols and Sickness



We can work together to minimize the number of students and staff who are ill if we remember some very simple guidelines:

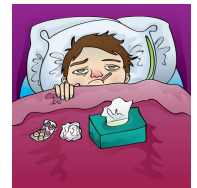
- If you believe your child is coming down with a cold or the flu, keep them home until they have recovered. Your child will recover more quickly at home, and we will not have others in the school also becoming ill.*
- DO NOT send students to school who have a fever, or who have vomited in the last 24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

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.



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

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 in the neighbourhood*
- do not double-park your car in driveway entering 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*
- 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



D.A.R.E. BEGINS FOR GRADES 4 AND 5 STUDENTS

ALL STUDENTS IN GRADE 4 AND 5 HAVE BEGAN THE DARE PROGRAM THIS WEEK. CONSTABLE WALKER FROM THE RICHMOND RCMP IS JOINING US FOR 10 THURSDAYS THIS TERM TO TEACH OUR GRADE 4 AND 5 STUDENTS.

D.A.R.E. STANDS FOR DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUICATION. STUDENTS WILL BE TAUGHT HOW TO LIVE DRUG-FREE LIVES AND LEARN STRATEGIES TO RESIST PEER PRESSURE.

Track Attack Begins Next Tuesday



Track Attack begins next week for students in Grades 3 to 7. In Track Attack, students will practice the following events:

- Sprints
- Relays
- Long Distance Running
- Long Jump.
- Softball Throw
- High Jump
- Discus
- Shot Put

Track Attack will take place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in April (Weather Permitting). Our Zone Track Meet is on Thursday, May 16th this year, and will take place at the Minoru Oval Track. Permission Forms will be sent home in late April. We will need a lot of Parent Drivers for Thursday, May 16th, so please reserve this date if you can.

Professional Development Day: Friday April 19th

On Friday April 19th, there is a Professional Development Day at Tait Elementary. Students at Robert J. Tait will not be in session on this day. Teachers at Tait will be meeting to learn together and bring some amazing new ideas to your child's classroom.



Student Learning Updates: Go Home April 25th

2nd Term Student Learning Reports (Report Cards) will be sent home to parents on Thursday, April 25th. Please keep your child's Student Learning Report and send the envelope the student learning report came home in back to your child's Classroom Teacher.

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. Some RJ Tait PAC Executive positions will be available for the 2024-25 school year.

If you are interested in learning about each PAC Executive Member's role and how the Robert J. Tait PAC supports the students and staff at Tait, please attend our next meeting. All parents of students at Robert J. Tait are members of the PAC and are welcome to attend any PAC Meeting.

We hope you will be able to join us for our **next meeting on Tuesday, April 30th, 2024**. Watch school emails in the coming weeks for a link to the April 30th, 2024 PAC Meeting.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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| Tuesday, April 16 th | - Track Attack Begins |
| Friday, April 19 th | - ProD Day (no school for students) |
| Thursday, April 25 th | - Term 2 Student Progress Reports Go Home |
| Tuesday, April 30 th | - PAC Meeting online @ 6:00pm |
| Thursday, May 2 nd | - Grade 6/7 Band Performs at Gateway Theatre |
| Tuesday, May 7 th | - National Teacher's Day |
| Thursday, May 16 th | - Track Meet at Minoru Track (Grades 3-7) |
| Friday, May 17 th | - ProD Day (no school for students) |
| Monday, May 20 th | - Victoria Day Holiday |
| Thursday, May 23 rd | - Kindergarten and Grade 6 Immunizations |
| Friday, May 31 st | - Class Photo Day |
| Friday, May 31 st | - Welcome to Kindergarten for 2024/2025 Kindergarten Families @ 1:00pm |
| Tuesday, June 4 th | - Rock 'n Beau DJ Event - presented by the Tait PAC |
| Friday, June 7 th | - Fit and Fun Day at Tait |
| June 12 th -14 th | - Camp Kawkawa Grade 6/7 |
| Tuesday, June 18 th | - Tait Family BBQ |
| Friday, June 21 st | - Grade 7 Farewell |
| Monday, June 24 th | - Spanish Banks School Trip |
| Thursday, June 27 th | - Recognition Assembly |
| Thursday, June 27 th | - Last Day of School for Students |
| Friday, June 28 th | - Administrative Day |