



Year End Newsletter - Thursday, July 2nd, 2026

Thank you for a wonderful year together at Tait

It has been an exciting, busy and memorable year at Tait. We are proud of the growth and progress our students have demonstrated. Thank you to our Tait staff and families for supporting our children and the entire school community in so many ways.

Thank you to our Amazing PAC

Our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) dedicate their time behind the scenes to help make life and learning at Tait so enjoyable. This year, our students, families and staff have enjoyed Hot Lunch Days, Freezie Fridays, Movie Nights, Hip Hop Dance Lessons, a Family BBQ and Food Truck Night, support for our bus trip to the Beach, and our Grade 7 Farewell Celebrations, along with many other special events, field trips and additional learning resources thanks to our PAC.

THANK YOU!!

Special thanks to the following PAC Executive Members:

PAC Co-Chairs – Ava Zhou and Kirsten Poulsen
Past Chair – Tina Thottingal
Secretary – Hart Mackinnon
Treasurer – Alina Law

Thank you for your outstanding leadership, unwavering service and volunteer time you gave to the school community throughout the year.

In addition to the **Executive Members**, so many other Tait parents and family members have volunteered their time this year to help organize many exciting events and activities for students and staff. We thank you for your time, creativity, effort, selfless leadership and support you have given to our community and our students.

Welcome to our PAC Executive for the 2026-2027 School Year



2026-2027 PAC Executive:

Co-Chairs – Naomi Inouye and Kirsten Poulsen
Past Chair – Ava Zhou
Treasurer – Sandeep Kumar
Secretary – Mika Sueyoshi

All Tait parents and caregivers are part of the Parent Advisory Council (PAC). We'd love to see you at our meetings each month or to help out at the school.

Our Hot Lunch Program

Thank you so much to our Hot Lunch Volunteers who, under the direction of **Naomi Inouye and Jonathan Schmidt**, made sure that hot lunches were delivered in an organized, quick and safe manner every week. Thank you to **Jonathan Schmidt** for offering to continue in this role next year.



Fruit, Veggies and Milk Program and The Tait Community Fridge

We are very grateful to the district's **Feeding Futures Fund** and the **Richmond Food Bank** for supplying Tait with fruit, veggies and milk.

Our Community Fridge has been well-stocked, and students are able to access the fridge if they are hungry during the day so that they are ready and able to learn without a grumbling tummy.



Grade 7 Farewell Celebration

Congratulations to our Grade 7 students who enjoyed a special day organized by parents and staff. We were so thrilled to be able to host a special assembly in the morning followed by a delicious luncheon in the gym and a fun afternoon of games. Thank you to everyone for your donations, time and fundraising efforts to help make this day a special one for all involved. Although there were many people who helped behind the scenes, we'd like to thank **Mrs. Nouredin**, one of our Noon Hour Supervisors, who decorated our gym for this special day.



Farewell to Families Leaving Tait

In addition to the grade 7 students who are moving on to high school, some Tait families are moving to different schools and/or cities next year. To those students and their families, we will miss you but wish you all the best at your new schools.



Farewell Wishes to Staff



Ms. Packer

Ms. Packer joined us at Tait on a temporary contract for the last few months of this school year as one of our Kindergarten and Grade 1 Teachers. She jumped right in, collaborated with our primary teachers and support staff, and brought her love of teaching and calm, kind demeanour into the classroom. She will be missed at Tait, but we wish her all the best as she continues on her journey as a teacher.

Ms. A. Lin

Thank you so much to Ms. Lin who spent the last few months with us on a temporary contract as a Resource and ELL Teacher for our primary classes. She fit right in with our team of teachers and support staff and was always willing to help out at special events around the school. We hope our paths cross again and wish you all the best on your next adventure as a teacher!

Mrs. Sierecki

Mrs. Sierecki has been a valuable member of Tait's office staff as an administrative assistant for the past three years. She has been working at two different schools in the district and will now take a new position at one school. We will miss her professionalism, efficiency, kindness and care that she has brought to the school to help support our students and staff. All the best at your new school, Mrs. Sierecki!

A message from Mrs. Lin

Now that it's summer, and you have a break from school, I'd like to give you a little bit of "homework", two challenges ...

1. **Spend as much time off of your devices as you can.**
2. **And be kind!**

Here are a few words from one of my favourite books, **Be You**, by Peter H. Reynolds.



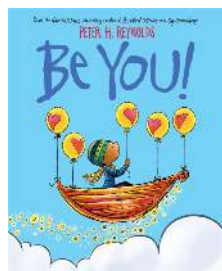
"You were born to be many things. My wish for you, no matter where your journey leads, is for you to always...

Be you!

Be ready.
Be curious.
Be adventurous.
Be connected.
Be persistent.
Be different.
Be silly. Be quirky. Be unique.
Be okay with being different.
Be just the way you are.

Be kind!

Be understanding.
Be brave.
Be your own thinker.
Be okay being alone.
Be patient.
Be okay reaching out for help.
And remember...no matter what, you will always **be loved!**"



DIGITAL SAFETY 4 KIDS

5 tips for parents & guardians to help students stay safe on their device

KNOW THE APPS

Parents often do not know what apps or platforms their children are using to communicate and share. Be aware of age restrictions, inappropriate content, and who they are chatting / connecting with online. Talk with your kids about the pros/cons of these apps.



- Discord's age rating is 17+ for the iOS app while the online age rating is 13+
- 50% of teens admit to hiding their online behaviour from parents.
- 40% of kids in grades 4-8 have connected or chatted online with a stranger.

DIGITAL HARASSMENT

Talk with your child about possible things to do if they are harassed or feel unsafe:



- let an adult know
- block / mute / unfriend that person
- take screenshots of the offensive or inappropriate content
- prevent an escalation of the situation (don't share with friends)
- in serious situations, contact the RCMP

SCREEN TIME

Most social media apps are designed to keep users engaged with their content for as long as possible. The more screen time our kids have, the more influence this messaging and built in ads will have on them. Limit the amount of screen time by:



- NOT storing it overnight in their bedroom
- setting daily usage limits on the device
- encouraging them to be active outside
- having device free times
- modelling your own screen time limits

LOCATION SERVICES



Our phones have a built-in GPS that records the location of where we are. Ensure that location services are turned off for the camera and for apps like Snapchat and Instagram. This prevents location stamping of photos and in some cases, where the kids are in real time.

POSTS ARE PERMANENT

Remind students that text messages and photos posted on social media last forever. Talk with your children about this and the pitfalls of content that is deemed inappropriate. A good rule of thumb is to ask "Would I share this with a grandparent?"





Tuesday, September 8th, 2026

All students in Grades 1-7

9:00-10:00am

Please return to your last year's class on the first day of school in September. New Tait students will be placed with students at their grade level. We will meet new students at the front of the school to guide you to your class for the week.

Kindergarten Students

10:45-11:45am

All Kindergarten students, please meet **our Kindergarten Teachers and extra Support Staff** at the front of the school for direction to the Kindergarten classrooms.

Kindergarten Families: Please refer to the **Gradual Entry Schedule and Letter** for more detailed information about the first two weeks of school (sent in a separate email). We can't wait to see you in September!

Wednesday Sept. 9th - Thursday, Sept. 10th

8:45am – 2:45pm

All students in Grades 1-7 will attend school for full days. Please remember to send a healthy recess snack, a lunch and a water bottle in your child's backpack. **Students will be outside rain or shine for recess and lunch breaks so be sure to send your child dressed and prepared for weather changes.**



Friday, September 11th-Grades 1-7

We hope to have all students placed in their new class for the year by the end of this first Friday, September 11, 2026.

Recess Snack Ideas

Ideas for healthy recess snacks:

- apple slices
- oranges
- a banana
- mini carrots
- cucumbers
- celery
- cheese and crackers
- a hard-boiled egg
- a granola bar
- berries
- cheese strings
- snap peas

Cutlery – Forks, Spoons, Chopsticks

Thank you for packing cutlery in your child's lunch box if they need a fork, spoon or chopsticks to eat their meal. We are working hard to help save the environment. We don't have extra cutlery at the school.

Many Dollar Stores have stainless steel forks, spoons and re-usable chopsticks which are easy to clean and re-use every day.

Thank you for your support!



2026-2027 School Hours

8:40 am	Doors Open
8:45 am	Classes Begin
10:10-10:25 am	Recess Break
11:50-12:39 pm	Lunch Break
2:45 pm	Dismissal

**HAVE A GREAT
SUMMER!**

On behalf of all of us at Tait, we wish you a summer full of fun and lasting memories. Be safe and enjoy the break. **See you in September!**

Tait School Website:

<https://tait.sd38.bc.ca/>

PAC Facebook Page:

RJ Tait Parent Community





For updates, please check our website and **Week-at-a-Glance (WAAG) newsletters.**

Friday, September 18, 2026

Individual and Class Photo Day

Friday, September 25, 2026

Pro-D Day - No school for students

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

Pink Shirt Day

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

Schools Closed in recognition of the
National Day for
Truth and Reconciliation

Monday, October 12, 2026

Thanksgiving Day - Schools Closed

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

Early Dismissal at 11:50am
for In-Person Learning Updates #1

Friday, October 23, 2026

Pro-D Day - No school for students

Wednesday, November 11, 2026

Remembrance Day – Schools closed

Monday, November 23, 2026

Pro-D Day - No school for students

Wednesday, December 16, 2026

Written Learning Update #1 in MyEd

Winter Break:

December 19, 2026 – January 3, 2027

Last day of school before the Break

Friday, December 18, 2026

Return to school – Monday, January 4, 2027

Monday, January 25, 2027

Pro-D Day - No school for students

Wednesday, February 10, 2027

Early Dismissal at 11:50am
for In- Person Learning Updates #2

Friday, February 12, 2027

Pro-D Day - No school for students

Monday, February 15, 2027

Family Day – Schools Closed

Wednesday, February 24, 2027

Pink Shirt Day

Spring Break

March 12 – March 29, 2027

Last day of school before Spring Break

Thursday, March 11, 2027

Return to school – Tuesday, March 30

Thursday, April 22, 2027

Written Learning Update #2 in MyEd

Friday, May 21, 2027

Non-Instructional Day

Monday, May 24, 2027

Victoria Day – Schools closed

Friday, June 25, 2027

Final Summary of Learning published

Tuesday, June 29, 2027

Last day of school for students

Summer Break

June 30 to September 6, 2027

Return to school – Tues., Sept. 7, 2027

SUMMER BREAK SCREEN-FREE ACTIVITY IDEAS

Imagination Play and Physical Activity

- Build a sandcastle
- Create a dance routine and share with your family
- Go wild life watching at the park
- Go for a bike or scooter ride
- Put on a puppet show



Music, Arts, and Crafts

- Learn Origami
- Paint or draw
- Make paper planes and have a contest
- Listen to music/sing together
- Make a paper flower bouquet
- Create your own musical instruments and make up a song



Science and Literacy

- Keep a nature journal
- Design a menu for a special meal
- Write a poem, song, or story
- Read a book or a magazine together
- Visit your local library
- Do a science experiment
- Build a cardboard rollercoaster



Games and Connecting with Others

- Design a treasure hunt in your home
- Help a friend or neighbour together
- Write a letter of appreciation
- Cook or bake together
- Visit a community centre
- Play or make a board game to share
- Plan a picnic together