

TAIT TIGER NEWS

Newsletter #9

June 2nd, 2021.

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Principal: Mr. Rusty Mason
Admin. Assistant: Ms. M. McAuley
Area Superintendent: Ms. C. Brautigam

From the Office

Notice of Late Return

For those families who are making summer vacation plans and are not expected to return to school by 12:00pm Wednesday, September 8th, please ensure you complete a Notice of Late Return Form by June 25th, 2021. A place at Robert J. Tait School WILL NOT be held for your child if you are away beyond Wednesday, September 15th, 2021. See the other attached document in this email. Please complete the Notice of Late Return and give it to the school office. You can also email the Notice of Return to this email address: tait@sd38.bc.ca



PARENT INPUT FOR CLASS ORGANIZATION AND STUDENT PLACEMENT 2021-22

June is the month when the school 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 in these discussions:

Parent Input:

If you have information about your child that you would like us to consider when placing them into a class (based on the factors listed below), please take this opportunity to submit this information to Mr. Mason **in writing (email or letter)** by ~~Friday, May 28th at 4:00 p.m.~~ **EXTENDED to JUNE 11th, 2021**



Tell us about your child and consider the following factors

- learning styles and strengths
- degree of independence in work habits
- social and personal characteristics
- important friendships (more than one, if possible)
- maturity
- 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.



This information will be shared with teachers during the meetings that will be held to make up class lists. **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.

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

Parental requests are considered but not guaranteed.

Farewells



We are saying farewell to two special staff members.

Ms. Maple She and Mrs. Leanne Hers are retiring. Ms. She is the classroom teacher in Division 3, teaching grade 5 and 6 students. She has been a staff member at Tait for the past 7 years.

Mrs. Hers is the classroom teacher in Division 5, currently teaching grade 3 and 4. She has taught at Tait for the past 6 years.

Ms. She and Mrs. Hers are loved by the students and staff at Tait. We have all benefitted from their focus towards building a community where everyone is valued and their passion for learning. Ms. She and Mrs. Hers will be missed greatly, and we wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

We are also saying farewell to Kleanza Bennett, our current Parent Advisory Council Secretary. Mrs. Bennett's daughter, Treah, is moving to High School. Mrs. Bennett has committed countless hours to helping make Robert J. Tait Elementary the successful school it is today. She has supported the students, parents and staff of the school each year through her participation on the PAC Executive and through planning school events and fundraising initiatives. Thank-you Mrs. Bennett! You will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by the entire Robert J. Tait Community.



End of the Year Events

The Health and Safety Protocols remain the same in British Columbia schools despite the changes in BC businesses and our communities. School Health Protocols will remain the same until the end of the school year. We cannot bring groups of people together for assemblies and celebrations before the end of the school year.

We have replaced our **Fit and Fun Sports Day with a whole-school Diversity Day on June 18th**. Our Student Leadership Team will be planning a day that includes a virtual assembly on Zoom, a chalk art activity for Cohort Groups and a Fun Run through the neighbourhood in the afternoon. The focus of the day will be on empathy, acceptance and understanding towards people who are different than you in one way or another.

We will celebrate our Grade 7 students at our **Grade 7 Farewell Assembly on Friday June 25th**. This assembly will be on Zoom and will start at 11:00am. All grade 7 families will be sent a link for the Zoom Assembly and all other Tait classes will watch from their classroom. Following the Farewell Assembly, the Grade 7s will be treated to a special lunch provided by the Tait PAC.

Finally, we will end the year with our **Recognition and Appreciation Assembly on Tuesday, June 29th**. This assembly will take place virtually on Zoom. At this assembly, we will recognize and celebrate our student volunteers and thank the PAC Executive for their work this year. We will also say thank-you to the Tait Staff Members and PAC parents who will be leaving our school at the end of this year.

Please watch for school emails over the coming weeks, some of these emails will have the Zoom Links for upcoming assemblies.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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| Wednesday June 16th | - PAC Meeting @7pm |
| Friday June 18th | - Diversity Day - School Spirit Day |
| Friday June 25th | - Grade 7 Farewell on Zoom @ 11:00am |
| Monday June 28th | - Student Reports to families for all divisions |
| Tuesday June 29th | - Recognition and Appreciation Assembly on Zoom @ 11:00am |
| Tuesday, June 29th | - Last Day of School for Students |
| Wednesday, June 30th | - School Administrative Day: School Office is Open |

Mandatory Daily Health Declaration Process for Staff and Students

KEY SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS	WHAT TO DO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever (above 38°C) • Chills • Cough • Difficulty Breathing • Loss of sense of smell or taste 	<p>If yes to 1 or more of these symptoms: Stay home and get a health assessment.</p> <p>Contact a health care provider or 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.</p>
OTHER SYMPTOMS	WHAT TO DO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sore throat • Loss of appetite • Headache • Body aches • Extreme fatigue or tiredness • Nausea and vomiting • Diarrhea 	<p>If yes to 1 symptom: Stay home until you feel better.</p> <p>If yes to 2 or more of these symptoms: Stay home for 24 hours.</p> <p>If symptoms don't get better or get worse, get a health assessment; contact a health care provider or 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.</p>
INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL	WHAT TO DO
<p>Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?</p>	<p>If yes: All students and staff who have travelled outside of Canada are required to self-quarantine for 14 days after arrival under both provincial and federal orders.</p> <p>This includes students who are attending school from abroad. Students from outside of Canada should plan to arrive in Canada at least two weeks before they are scheduled to attend school to adhere to the self-quarantine orders. Additional information is available at: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/travel/self-quarantine.</p>
CLOSE CONTACT	WHAT TO DO
<p>Have you been contacted by public health and notified that you are a close contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?</p>	<p>If yes: Please follow the instructions provided by Public Health. You can call 8-1-1 anytime to get advice about how you are feeling and what to do next. Pay attention to how you are feeling. If it becomes harder to breathe, you can't drink anything or feel much worse, seek urgent medical care at an urgent care clinic or emergency department.</p>

Check your symptoms with the [K-12 Health Check](#). If you have any questions, or the symptoms get worse, contact your healthcare provider, or call 8-1-1. For more information on COVID-19, please go to www.bccdc.ca. If you develop severe symptoms, such as difficulty breathing (e.g. struggling to breathe or speaking in single words) or chest pain, call 9-1-1 or go to the nearest Emergency Department.