

TAIT TIGER NEWS

Newsletter # 8

April 13th, 2022.

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. C. Brautigam

From the Office

CLASS ORGANIZATION AND STUDENT PLACEMENT 2022-23 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
- parent knowledge of their child
- 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

If you have information, based on the factors listed above, that 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 27th 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 2022

Kindergarten Registrations. If you have a child turning five in 2022, please register them for kindergarten at the Board Office as soon as possible. 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.



Covid19 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 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 constant cough or runny nose, who have a fever, or who have vomited in the last 24 hours.*

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

*Parents, please continue to use the **Mandatory Daily Health Declaration** with your child each morning before sending them to school. See the Mandatory Daily Health Declaration attached at the end of this newsletter.*

Hand Washing

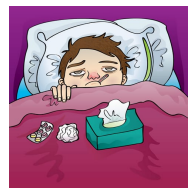
- Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly, especially before eating, after using the washroom, and after blowing their nose. At the school, we will continue to have children wash their hands multiple times each day.*

Mask Wearing

- Recently, the Provincial Health Authority issued a change in expectations for wearing masks inside the building for students in grades K-7. All students now have a choice to wear a mask inside the school.*

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 you need to go into the school, use available parking spaces or park in the neighbourhood
- do not double-park your car in the driveway entering the school parking lot
- drive slowly in the parking lot and when exiting the parking lot
- in the neighborhood, please do not block the driveways of our neighbors
- be careful where you park in the neighbourhood, some areas have no parking signs and you could be ticketed

Around the School

Earth Day Run



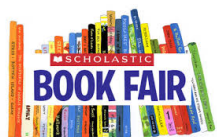
Students and staff will be participating in a fun run through our neighbourhood on Friday, April 22nd, 2022 to celebrate Earth Day. This run is organized by our Student Leadership Team.

Grade 7 Transition to Grade 8 at Cambie Senior Secondary

Our Grade 7 students will be visiting Cambie Senior Secondary on the morning of Thursday, May 5th. They will have a tour of the school and get an opportunity to meet the Cambie staff and Cambie Student Leaders.



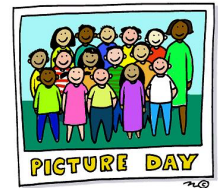
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR



TAIT WILL BE HOSTING THE SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR FROM MONDAY MAY 16TH TO THURSDAY MAY 19TH. STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO PURCHASE BOOKS TO READ AT HOME FROM THE LARGE SCHOLASTIC BOOKS CATALOGUE.

PICTURE DAY – MAY 18TH

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18TH, 2022 IS CLASS PICTURE DAY AT ROBERT J. TAIT. EACH CLASS WILL HAVE THEIR CLASS PICTURE TAKEN. SMILE!



Professional Development Day: Friday May 20th



On Friday May 20th, 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 and in many schools in Richmond will be meeting to learn together and bring some amazing new ideas to your child's classroom.

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.

The next Robert J. Tait PAC Meeting is on Monday, April 25th at 6:30pm on Zoom.

A Zoom link for the next meeting will be sent to parents in the week prior to our April 25th meeting.

The Robert J. Tait PAC is looking for Tait parents to be part of the PAC Executive for the 2022-23 school year. The following Executive positions are available for the 2022-23 school year:

- PAC President
- PAC Vice-President
- PAC Hot Lunch Coordinator

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 April 25th.

Next PAC Meeting is Monday, April 25th at 6:30pm on Zoom

DATES TO REMEMBER

- | | |
|--|---|
| Friday, April 15 th | - Good Friday Holiday (School is Closed) |
| Monday, April 18 th | - Easter Monday Holiday (School is Closed) |
| Friday, April 22 nd | - Earthquake Drill at 10:10am |
| Friday, April 22 nd | - Earth Day Run (pm) |
| Monday, April 25 th | - PAC Meeting at 6:30pm on Zoom |
| Thursday, May 5 th | - Grade 7 Visit to Cambie Secondary School |
| May 16 th to May 19 th | - Scholastic Book Fair at Tait |
| Wednesday May 18 th | - Class Photo Day |
| Friday May 20 th | - Professional Development Day (no school for students) |
| Monday May 23 rd | - Victoria Day Holiday (School is Closed) |
| Friday May 27 th | - Welcome to Kindergarten (for 2022/2023 kindergarten students) |
| Friday, June 17 th | - Fit and Fun Day at Tait |
| Friday, June 24 th | - Grade 7 Farewell Assembly |
| Wednesday, June 29 th | - Last Day of School for Students |

Daily Health Check and What to Do When Sick

Daily Health Check

Everyone going into to school must complete a daily health check, including staff, visitors, and students. A daily health check means checking yourself or your child for new symptoms of illness, including symptoms of COVID-19.

Symptoms of illness (including COVID-19) include things like:

- Fever or chills
- Difficulty breathing
- Runny nose
- Headache
- Diarrhea
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Sneezing
- Body aches
- Loss of sense of smell or taste
- Loss of appetite
- Extreme fatigue or tiredness
- Nausea or vomiting

If you are sick or feel unwell, stay at home. This is important to stop the spread of illness, including COVID-19, in schools.

You can attend school if:

- Your symptoms are consistent with a previously diagnosed health condition (e.g., seasonal allergies), OR
- You have existing symptoms that have improved to where you feel well enough to return to regular activities,

AND you are not required to self-isolate, or your self-isolation period is over (based on a positive COVID-19 test result, if taken).

What to Do When Sick

If you have mild symptoms of COVID-19, you usually don't need a test. Mild symptoms are symptoms that can be managed at home. Most people don't need testing for COVID-19.

Stay home and away from others (as much as possible) until you feel well enough to return to your regular activities and you no longer have a fever. You should also avoid non-essential visits to higher risk settings such as long term care facilities and gatherings, for another 5 days after ending isolation.

If you have a Rapid Antigen Test at home, use it when you have symptoms. How long you should stay home depends on your test result. Find out more about [Rapid Antigen Test results](#).

If you do not have symptoms of COVID-19, you do not need a test.

If you are unsure about your symptoms, you can use the [Self-Assessment Tool](#), contact your health care provider or call 8-1-1.

Testing may be recommended for some people who may be more likely to get severe disease. See BCCDC for information on [who testing is recommended for](#).