

# TAIT TIGER NEWS

Newsletter #3

November 3rd, 2023.

Telephone: 604-668-6444  
Student Absences: 604-668-6444  
Website address: [tait.sd38.bc.ca](http://tait.sd38.bc.ca)  
Email: [tait@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:tait@sd38.bc.ca)



Principal: Mr. Rusty Mason  
Admin. Assistant: Ms. S. Ruan  
Area Superintendent: Ms. J. Macmillan

## From the Office



### Safe Arrival - Tait Office (604-668-6444)

If your child is going to be absent from school at any time, please phone the **Tait Office at (604-668-6444)** to report your child's absence. If you get our voicemail, leave your child's name, their division or teacher's name and the reason for their absence. Parents of children who are unaccounted for at the start of the school day will be contacted to determine their child's whereabouts. We may follow up with a phone call to find out if their absence is due to an illness.

If you send an email to your child's teacher to let them know your child will be absent, you still need to call the school office to report your child's absence. Some mornings are very busy in your child's classroom, and teachers do not always have a chance to look at their morning email before entering student attendance. If a student is marked absent by the teacher and is unaccounted for, someone from the office will call home to find the whereabouts of a child.

**IF YOUR CONTACT NUMBER CHANGES, PLEASE LET THE SCHOOL OFFICE KNOW.**

## Registration for New Kindergarten Students

We are excited to welcome kindergarten registration applications for children born in 2019, turning 5 in 2024. These children will begin kindergarten in September 2024. Online registration begins November 1, 2023. **To register a child for kindergarten, please visit the Richmond School District Web Page. Click 'Student Registration' on the Top Menu Bar.**



Families are encouraged to register any time during the Priority 1 registration period (November 1st – January 26th) for the best chance at attending their catchment school. All registration applications completed any time during the Priority 1 registration period will receive placement decisions via emails from the school by February 2, 2024.

### **Kindergarten 2024/25 Parent Information Night - Student with Disabilities and Diverse Abilities**

**Date:** Wednesday, November 8, 2023 @ 6:30 PM (PST)

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://sd38.zoom.us/j/64703332548>

Webinar ID: 647 0333 2548

Passcode: 6000

As per district policy, a student will normally attend the catchment school located in the neighbourhood where their parents or legal guardians reside unless there is no physical, resource or program space available. This provision may need to be applied more frequently, potentially resulting in more students needing placement outside their catchment school.



**Please remember to drive slowly when you are near the school and watch for children walking and crossing the street.**

# Arriving at School on Time: An Important Life Skill!

Unfortunately, Tait has many children arriving late to school in the mornings!

## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT.....

When your child is just **5 minutes late every day** for his/her class this equates to:

=5 min/day

=25 min/week

=100 min/month

=1000 min/school year

=**3 1/2 school days missed/year!**



Disruption to the rest of the class for the time it takes while a student who is late gets settled and the classroom teacher stops instruction to catch the student who is late up :

=10min/day or 50 min/week

=200+ min/month

=2000+ min/year

= **2000+ minutes is equivalent to at least 7 full school days of instruction lost for the whole class of students in a year!**

Please be considerate of others and ensure your child is not late for school without a good reason. The school doors open at 8:40am, and children are encouraged to come to the school at this time. The bell to start classroom instruction rings at 8:45 a.m. and students should be in their class at their desk or table by this bell.

## DRESS FOR THE COLD AND WET WEATHER:

It is important that students are dressed for the weather. During these colder, damp days, students need to have a proper jacket, footwear (boots or waterproof shoes), and perhaps a hat and gloves. If they dress appropriately for the weather, they can enjoy playing outside. Please remind your child to check the weather when getting up in the morning and they are getting ready for school. All students will be going outside for every recess and lunch - rain or shine. If your child is not well enough to go outside during our break times, they are also not well enough to be attending school and should stay home until they are feeling better. **If your child is dressed for the weather, they will stay warm and dry.**



It is a fact that children and adults have less chance of catching a cold or virus when they are outside, with lots of room and fresh air, as opposed to inside in an enclosed space with less air flow.

# Student Illness - Health and Safety Practices



We are following our Health and Safety Protocols very carefully at Tait. When students arrive at school they are being welcomed and screened by staff to make sure they are healthy.

Recently, we have noticed an increase in the number of students coming to school ill. Please do not send your child to school if they are ill. Sick children and staff should stay home if they are ill, so they get better sooner and they do not get others at our school sick.

If an individual has any of these symptoms (fever, cough, chills, shortness of breath, diarrhea, nausea or vomiting) they should stay home, until they have recovered and feel better. **Do not send your child to school if they have any of the symptoms listed above.**

If students appear to be unwell at school, we will call parents to come and pick up their ill child. Thank-you for your support in being available to pick up your child if they are unwell.

## SNOW DAYS - WHAT TO EXPECT:

Snow days cause inconvenience for everyone. Not all snow days result in a school closure, however, should weather conditions create unsafe situations for students and staff to make it to school, the Superintendent of schools will officially declare schools closed. This decision will be displayed on the school district website by 6:30 am at the latest.



To help assist families, we would like to outline where you can find information about school closures in Richmond Schools on a snow day.

1. **Television And Radio**  
**TV and Radio will only announce Schools that are CLOSED**  
Listen to radio: CKNW 980AM; NEWS 1130AM; CBC 690AM; QM 103.5FM or watch on television: CBC; Global; CTV.
2. **Richmond School District Website:** [www.sd38.bc.ca](http://www.sd38.bc.ca)  
On the RSD Home page, there will be clear details if schools are closed
3. **RSD Snow Closure Hotline**  
(604) 295-4304, which will provide a recorded message indicating if schools are closed
4. **Twitter at RichmondSD38**

# Around the School

## Remembrance Day Assembly

On Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30am, we will have our Remembrance Assembly. We welcome all RJ Tait Parents to our assembly. The doors for this assembly will open at 10:15am.

Poppies will be distributed to students on November 10<sup>th</sup>. We hope that your family can make a donation to the Poppy Fund. Money raised in the Poppy Fund helps to aid Canadian Veterans and the programs that assist our Canadian Veteran Heroes.



## Tait Spirit-Wear Clothing Orders



You have the opportunity to order Tait Clothing right now through to Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Make your order on SchoolCashOnline and pay by Debit or Credit Card. Wearing Tait Tiger Clothing lets our students show how proud they are to be a member of the Tait Community. Tait clothing also comes in handy for special school events, fieldtrips and school teams.



## Tait Breakfast Club

The Tait Staff is excited to announce we will be starting a Breakfast Club for students. Our Breakfast Club will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. Students can come to school early between 8:10am to 8:30am to get something to eat before starting their morning at school. There is no cost to having breakfast at the Breakfast Club, food is free for all students. The first day for Breakfast Club will be Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

## PRO-D DAY – Friday December 1st

Friday, December 1st, is a Professional-Development Day. Students will not come to school on this day. The Tait staff will be working together on our school focus in Numeracy.



## Parent Advisory Council (P.A.C.) Meeting



The Parent Advisory Council's mandate is to facilitate and promote effective communication between home and school and to foster parent participation in educational activities and decision-making. Every parent or guardian of a student at Tait Elementary is a member of the Tait PAC and is encouraged to become involved.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### Dates to Remember

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| • Monday Nov. 6 <sup>th</sup>    | Outdoor Ed. Parent Meeting @ Tait @ 6pm                  |
| • Friday Nov. 10 <sup>th</sup>   | Remembrance Assembly @10:30am                            |
| • Sunday Nov. 12 <sup>th</sup>   | Happy Diwali (Sikh + Hindu Faiths)                       |
| • Monday Nov. 13 <sup>th</sup>   | Remembrance Day Holiday                                  |
| • Tuesday Nov. 14 <sup>th</sup>  | Breakfast Club Begins                                    |
| • Tuesday Nov. 14 <sup>th</sup>  | Grade 6 Immunizations (am)                               |
| • Friday Nov. 17 <sup>th</sup>   | Lockdown Drill @11:30am                                  |
| • Friday Nov. 24 <sup>th</sup>   | Bollywood Begins through to Thurs. Nov. 30 <sup>th</sup> |
| • Monday Nov. 27 <sup>th</sup>   | Birthday of Guru Nanak (Sikh Faith)                      |
| • Thursday Nov. 30 <sup>th</sup> | Bollywood Community Evening at Cambie (5:30-7:30pm)      |
| • Friday Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup>    | ProD Day at Tait   |
| • Dec. 4 – Dec. 15               | Food Bank Drive @ Tait                                   |

- Tuesday Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> Cambie Band Visits Tait
- Thursday Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> First Day of Hanukkah. Happy Hanukkah (Judaism Faith)
- Friday Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> Bodhi Day (Buddhist Faith)
- Thursday Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> Student Reports Go Home
- Friday Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> Tait Sing-along
- Friday Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> Last Day of Classes before Winter Break
- Monday Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas (Christian Faith)
- Tuesday Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> Kwanzaa (West African Cultural Celebration)
- Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> to Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> Winter Break (School is Closed)
- Mon. Jan 8<sup>th</sup> School Re-opens: First Day of Term 2