



We are off and running and on our way to a terrific first term. Thank you to all parents and students for their patience while we organized for final class placements. There is a lot that goes into a placement, please see below for more information on what goes into a class configuration.

This Thursday is Meet the Teacher Open House. We look forward to seeing all our parents, new and returning, come in and say hello between 5&6pm.

Just another reminder that organization is key to successful people. Our Agendas are a great way to build those habits. We've done the work for you and made them up. Agenda's will be \$5.75 this year, payable on School Cash Online.

Treats in the classroom

Now that we have returned to a more normal way of school many things COVID put an end to are returning. Please note the following regarding treats, or food brought to class for special occasions from home, (Eg. birthdays, class party, celebrations, or special events)

- All foods or items should be purchased and not home-made – preferably individually wrapped, but certainly in the original purchased container.
- Prior to bringing any food or non-food items to the classroom, please arrange with the teacher their suitability and appropriate day and time in advance. Please no surprises.
- Please note that **RC Garnett is a nut aware school** and therefore all food items must consider this. Please check with the teacher in advance.
- Without prior discussion with the classroom teacher and arrangements made in advance, items brought to the school may not be allowed in the classroom. We must follow this rule for safety of all children and at the discretion of the teacher.

**Teachers may make greater restrictions to these guidelines at their discretion.*

If you have any further questions, or concerns, please contact Mr. Bako at the school office, or by e-mail.

Upcoming Dates

September

22nd – Meet the Teacher – 5-6 pm

22nd – Photo Day

23rd – School Improvement Day – No students

26th - First PAC Meeting 6:30pm

27th – Hot Lunch (PAC)

29th – Orange Shirt Day

30th – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – No Students

October

10th – Thanksgiving - No school

11th - Hot Lunch (PAC)

14th – Terry Fox Run at RCG

14th – Spirit Day – Crazy Socks!

18th – Hot Lunch (PAC)

19th – Early Dismissal Day (1:33pm)

20th – Early Dismissal Day (1:33pm)

21st– Provincial Pro -d (No students)

25th – Hot Lunch (PAC)

28th – PAC Halloween Dance

28th – Photo re-take day

31st – Spirit Day – Costumes!

November

8th – Hot Lunch

11th – Remembrance Day - No school

18th - Design and Assessment/Report Card prep day – No students

21st - PAC Meeting

22nd – Hot Lunch (PAC)

30th – Full Day for Student Conferences – No students

Absent from School?

If your child is going to be absent, arriving late, away or leaving early due to an appointment, please notify the school of your child's absence by emailing (jbradford@sd35.bc.ca) or by calling (604-532-7814). Please include the following information: student first and last name, grade, division, length of absence, and reason. If you have any questions about attendance/absence procedures, contact the school office.

SCHOOL MESSENGER

The Langley School District uses a notification system called SchoolMessenger to communicate information to families. As we welcome our new families to our schools, some parents/guardians may receive a text message notifying them about SchoolMessenger. For more information about the system and how to opt-in to receive text messages, visit the District webpage [here](#).

Meet the Teacher



Meet the Teacher night is this Thursday, September 22nd, from 5-6pm. Come and visit your child's classroom and say hello to their teacher for the year. This is meant to be an informal evening. If you need to speak with your child's teacher in more depth, please set up an appointment with the teacher.

Visitor Sign - in

As RC Garnett is a closed campus during regular school hours, we ask that when parents come to the school that they sign-in at the office and give the reason you are here. This does not include drop off and pick up times. It is important that we know who is in the building, or on school grounds at all times. We appreciate your cooperation.

Responsible

Respectful

Kind

Safe



TRAFFIC SAFETY A BACK TO SCHOOL PRIORITY

As children return to school it is crucial that we remind them how to be safe pedestrians and ourselves how to be responsible drivers. The RC Garnett parking lot is quite large, but can get busy. Please do not park in the no-parking areas and use the drop off area to drop off students only. If you need to come into the building (and NOT at pick up/drop off times), please park in a stall, or on the street. Common sense, patience and courtesy are always appreciated. Keeping the drop off area flowing is important for safety and efficiency.

If you park on the street, please be courteous to homeowners and not block their driveways. If a homeowner has a concern please be considerate as you would like them to be with you if the roles were reversed. Sometimes your personal convenience is not the best approach to take, rather respecting others space as well.

Langley School District has posted information about traffic safety at <https://www.sd35.bc.ca/?s=traffic+safety> Could you please visit this page and go over it with your child. Could you also read the section called "*Some Rules of the Road for Drivers*" as a reminder of some of the issues that cause hazards on or near school grounds. The school district has produced a brochure called "*Traffic Safety Around Schools*" which contains the same information. Please model safe behaviour for your children and drive safely.

Class Make up and organization

At the beginning of the school year, students and parents often wonder about who their child will have as a teacher. We spend a great deal of time placing students in classes and building balanced classrooms. This is a very complicated and involved process that teachers take very seriously as it is always in everyone's best interest to make it the best we can. We do our best to consider the many variables that this presents. Each year, each class, each grade configuration has unique qualities, they are never the same. Student placement is made considering many factors, a few examples would be:

Academic Issues	Social construction of the class
Gender	Special Needs
Class size	Learning style
Relationships among the students in the classroom	

We receive some parent requests, but in all honesty, they are not something we encourage and this often complicates the process of building class lists. Once we finalize classes the intent is that these are final. We understand that children's, or parent's expectations do not always show up on lists and that an instant or emotional reaction can be difficult for everyone, however given a few hours, a day or two or simply finding positives with unexpected events can change the way we feel. Please be patient and supportive and remember that classes are made for many different reasons. Your reaction will greatly influence your child's reaction.

I encourage you to contact your child's teachers to pass on any concerns or praise you may have. Any specific conversations about a class, or your child's progress, are best addressed with the teacher directly. If you have questions about the school, please contact me at the office.

Sincerely,

Mr. Bako