



# Killarney Cougar News

March 1, 2023

## Important Information – Please Translate

這是一份重要資訊 — 請找人為您翻譯 这是一份重要信息 — 请找人为您翻译

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें

중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다

Información importante - Por favor traducir

معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة

重要な情報-翻訳してください

اطلاعات مهم - لطفا ترجمه کنید

March 1, 2023

Dear Killarney Families:

I hope you are well. Students and staff have settled into semester 2 classes which began February 3<sup>rd</sup>. As we progress through this year, the planning for next year is well underway. Students in grades 8-11 have completed their course selections for next year. Another important factor in determining the staffing available for the school is enrollment. Please let your counsellor or grade administrator know if you are planning on not returning to Killarney next year. We will also start to look at our cross-boundary, Mini school, and in-catchment grade 8 applications. More immediately, we are looking forward to brighter days and Spring Break is right around the corner.

Regards,

*K. Gill*

Kal Gill

Principal





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**2022-2023**

**COUNSELLORS & ADMINISTRATORS**

Principal: Mr. K. Gill  
 Vice Principal: Mr. N. Despotakis (gr. 8)  
 Vice Principal: Mr. B. Soong (gr. 9/11)  
 Vice Principal: Ms. S. Underwood (gr. 10/12)

**Counsellors**

Grade 8: Ms. T. Romano  
 Grade 9: Ms. S. Glynianyi  
 Grade 10: Mr. O. Goncalves  
 Grade 11: Mr. H. Clark



## Achieving Success in Semester 2

We are now one month into new courses for semester 2. The secrets to success are not complicated. The list below outlines some basic things that can be done to ensure that students are successful in their classes.

- Attend all classes.
- Be on time to class and come prepared with all of the necessary materials such as a textbook, notebook, and writing utensils.
- Participate to the best of your ability.
- Make a positive contribution to your class.
- Complete all assignments.
- Seek help from teachers, peers, and parents as needed. Don't wait until it is too late.
- Keep track of course requirements and deadlines.
- Communicate with the teacher or other students in class to find out about missed work when you are away. Check the TEAMS class for posts about the work.
- Make use of FIT time to work on assignments, homework, or projects.

## Interim Report for Semester 2

Interim reports, containing a work habit assessment and a comment, will be published in the MyEd Family portal by 3:00 pm on March 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Homework Club

Looking for some homework help? Need a quiet space to do assignments on our own or with your group? Or, you're just looking for a space to play some card or board games? Killarney Community Centre is bringing their homework club over to the school! Emily Hoang (KCC Youth Worker) will be there to support, along with peer tutors. **Drop by the cafeteria on Mondays afterschool (3:00-4:30).** Snacks available!

## Flexible Instructional Time (FIT)

Every Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon, 50 minutes of flexible instructional time is built into the schedule. Killarney has recently changed its FIT schedule so that students have the opportunity to be in the learning space for each of their classes once every 2 weeks.

- a. Classes students are to attend for FIT will be 2-1 on Tuesdays and 2-3 on Thursdays. Starting April 28<sup>th</sup> (mid-point of semester) the blocks will rotate, and the FIT classes will become 2-2 and 2-4 (still attached to first period on Tuesdays and 3<sup>rd</sup> period on Thursdays)
- b. Student expectations for FIT as per agenda book and shared in Sept:
  - i. Learning focused
  - ii. Be in a learning space
  - iii. Have a plan for the time-if you need to see a teacher other than block 2-1 or 2-3, arrange for that teacher to provide an orange admin slip to document the request
  - iv. Have all required materials
  - v. Remain in the learning space assigned

## Student Learning Survey 2022/2023

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size, and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.



Parents/guardians/caregivers will be able to access their own version of the survey. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at [http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat\\_survey](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey). Any computer with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link without an anonymous logon code by selecting the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the *Results* section.

The e-survey site will be open until April 29<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, please contact Shauna Underwood (Vice-Principal) at the school at 604-713-8950.

## **Pink Shirt Day**

Pink shirt day was February 22nd. Students were asked to wear pink in support of anti-bullying. This was one part of PINKCLUSION Friendship week Feb. 21-24, organized by the Anti-bullying club. If a teacher or a member of the Anti-Bullying club saw an act of inclusion, kindness, or friendliness to someone who really could use it, they would recognize the student with a Pink Card. Examples of these acts could be sitting with someone new, making a new friend, talking to someone new, helping someone or standing up for someone who is being teased or bullied. These acts can occur in the classroom, halls, cafeteria, library, etc... All Pink Cards were then be handed into a box in the office. At the end of the week, we did a prize draw and recognized some of these positive acts on the PA announcements. In addition, to raise awareness around being an inclusive community, students from the Anti-bullying club organized a flash mob in the cafeteria. Click [HERE](#) to view the video.

## **Robotics Club**

On February 25th and 26th, the Killarney Robotics Team competed in the provincials at FTC (FIRST Tech Challenge) at L.A. Matheson Heights in Surrey. Our team that made it to the provincials, now named team INERTIA, all worked very hard to get first place in the qualification matches.

After regionals, we built a completely new robot, using new parts that came around a week before the competition. Now, it was able to reach the highest pylons in the challenge!

On February 26th, we participated in the qualification matches. In a stunning display, we clawed our way to the top of the leaderboard and finished in first place. We did not manage to pass the elimination matches to move on to the next tournament in Houston, Texas, but we are pleased with our results, nonetheless.

Overall, team INERTIA has proven themselves to be worthy, and considering it is our first year, we can only improve moving forward.





## Killarney Athletics

### *Winter Season*

The busy Winter Season is coming to an end and Killarney has been the busiest gym in the district. We hosted the Bantam Boys, Juvenile Boys and Senior Girls Basketball City Championship Tournaments as well as the Vancouver Sea to Sky Senior Boys Basketball Zone Championships. Special thanks to Grace Jones and all the students who worked long hours scoring and timing over 100 games this season.



### *Senior Girls Basketball*

The Killarney Sr. Girl's finished their regular season with a 7-2 record going into the Vancouver city Playoffs. They had some big wins vs Windermere, and Lord Byng. Our girls faced a tall and physical Magee team in the City Championship Game. They competed hard but came up short and took home the 2nd place medal.

All season our girls worked hard in practices and developed a strong bond amongst each other. Our motto all season was to have a mindset of "just compete" all 4 quarters and they truly did.

Thank you to our hard-working players for all their commitment, hard work, cooperation, and their patience for trusting in what we were trying to accomplish.

Thank you to our great assistant coaches for their patience, commitment and time helping lead, prepare and guide our players all season long.

Last but not least a HUGE thank you to the Cougar Country Den (the fans) for all of your support. We could not have got through some of those close games without your positive spirit. Go Cougars!





## *Bantam Boys Basketball*

The Future is bright!

The Bantam Boys had one roller coaster ride of a year. This team was a tough, fast, skilled, and competitive group that shown they could compete with BC's very best. The team had some huge tournament victories over some top tier basketball schools in BC including Burnaby South & Vancouver College. The boys even finished first place at the South Delta Classic.



The team sadly fell short of their goal, losing in the semifinals of the City Playoffs.

However, with such a passionate committed group of players and coaches, they will only look to improve going into next season.

## *Juvenile Boys Basketball*

The team is hosting the Vancouver City Championship February 28 and March 1st. They have a 22 win and 2 loss record and have qualified for the Provincial Championships in Surrey, March 3, 4 and 5.





## *Senior Boys Basketball*

The Sr boys season came to an unexpected halt as we lost a critical game against Van Tech by 3 points! With that loss, our Sr's were eliminated from the city playoffs and a spot in the Zone tournament. It was an up and down season with many positives and teachable moments for our team. We would like to thank and recognize our Grade 12 players for their dedication and participation in our Athletic and Basketball Programs. This team has the pieces to be competitive next season and, we are looking forward to building on this year and growing together as a team.

## Governor General's Medal Winner

The Governor General's bronze medal is awarded to the student with the highest average of all Grade 11 and 12 courses. The top student for the Grad class of 2022 was Tommy Chung. Congratulations Tommy on winning the Governor General's medal.

## Killarney Parents Advisory Council (KPAC) Direct Drive

Welcome to the 2022-2023 School Year! As we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and get back to a sense of normalcy, funding for extracurricular activities is more important than ever.

If you are able, please support our Direct Drive Fundraising Campaign. Your donation will permit enhancement of activities such as:

- Music and Drama Programs
- Robotics Club
- Athletics - Library
- General

The Killarney Secondary School Parent Advisory Council (KPAC) uses the annual gaming grant received from the Province to fund a variety of extracurricular clubs and activities. These extracurricular activities can have a positive influence on a student's academic performance and personal development while building social skills and self-confidence. The funding requests submitted by staff usually exceed the amount of funds available. There are also some expenditures that are not eligible for gaming funds and are supported by PAC fundraising activities. By making a donation, you can enrich your children's learning experiences. Information on how to donate is on the Killarney website under the Families and Parent Advisory Council tab.

**Official tax receipts will be issued for a minimum of \$20 donations.**

## 2023-2024 Budget Development Survey

The District's budget development [survey](#) is open until March 3, 2023. Staff, students, their families, rightsholders and the broader Vancouver public are invited to participate. Feedback gathered will be added to that of the District's formal stakeholder groups and shared with the Board in a summary report before the Board makes its budget decisions at a meeting in May.

## KPAC Meeting

The next KPAC meeting will be in-person on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the school cafeteria.

## March Non-Instructional Days

Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday March 24<sup>th</sup> – Spring Break





## Winter Weather/School Closures

In the event that you are wondering if there is a school closure: by 7:00 am, the VSB will post information about snow closures on its website at [www.vsb.bc.ca](http://www.vsb.bc.ca) and will inform local media stations, including:

- CKNW (980 AM)
- CBC (690 AM, 105.7 FM)
- CJVB (1470 AM)
- CFHG (96.1 FM)
- CKWX (1130 AM)
- CITY TV (Cable channel 13)
- GLOBAL BC TV (Cable Channel 11)

Please do not contact media to ask if Killarney is closed, go to <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/> for current information. Otherwise, the school will be open.

## Contact the School

Please contact the teacher, the counsellor, or the grade administrator if you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress with learning. This newsletter and my previous newsletters are posted under the Student Bulletin section of the Killarney website.