



JOHN HENDERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

451 East 53rd Avenue
Vancouver, B.C. V5X 1J3

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Director of Instruction: Richard Zerbe
Principal: Harjinder Sandhu
Vice Principal: Amber Logie
PAC Chairpersons: Melissa Hayward-Cheung and Monica Singh
School Liaison Trustee: Janet Fraser



Ushering in the 2022-2023 School Year – Looking Forward to Playing, Laughing and Learning Together!

After an enjoyable and restful summer, it is wonderful to see all the students and families return to Henderson. We are enthusiastic and eager to begin our exploration of learning this year. We especially welcome new families to the Henderson School community. The staff is looking forward to working together with parents and the community to continue to provide great learning opportunities that enable Henderson students to thrive emotionally, socially, intellectually and to build strong relationships. We want the learning to nurture students' natural curiosity, creativity and critical thinking.

This first week of school students reviewed school routines and expectations. This week students will be learning their new entry and exit locations. Having students lined up and distributed around the school has helped us smoothly and efficiently begin each day. All eating of snacks and lunches will be done in the classroom, where we can continue to practice good hygiene and eat lunch with fewer distractions, before going out to play. **Students need to arrive each day with their snack and lunch.** Please **try to avoid coming** to the school during the day with the intent to drop off lunch as it is disruptive. If you must, please drop the lunch off at the office and we will ensure it is delivered to your child. We thank you for your support.

This year our school inquiry question is: **What educational practices, strategies, programs and school wide common language might we implement to increase students' skill development in Social Emotional Learning (SEL) to better self-regulate and thus be more equipped to engage in learning?** Also, we will continue our work on the district goal: **To increase knowledge, acceptance, empathy, awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal histories, traditions, cultures and contributions among all students.** We will explore how can we make First Peoples teaching and learning more authentic?

All our classes will be working hard on these goals in addition to all of the other areas of the curriculum and core competencies.

Each month, a Newsletter will be prepared to highlight students' achievements, informing parents and caregivers of the latest educational developments and announcing upcoming events. A lot of time and energy goes into the composition of the monthly school newsletter, and we greatly appreciate the effort it takes to read it. It is often emphasized in research that student success in education is dependent on their parents' strong commitment and involvement. Parents being informed of the school's year-round activities and projects is one way of showing interest in their children's school life. This year we are continuing to be environmentally responsible by posting newsletters, calendars and important updates on our website. We will also be emailing out the links to all parents/caregivers/guardians that have provided an email address. Please continue to keep involved by reading our newsletters at: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/john-henderson/Pages/default.aspx> and following us on Twitter @hendersonleme1.

We as a staff are rejuvenated and excited for the many new learning opportunities we will experience alongside students this year! We are can hardly wait to see where our collective curiosity and passions will take us!

Thank-you for your support of Henderson School.

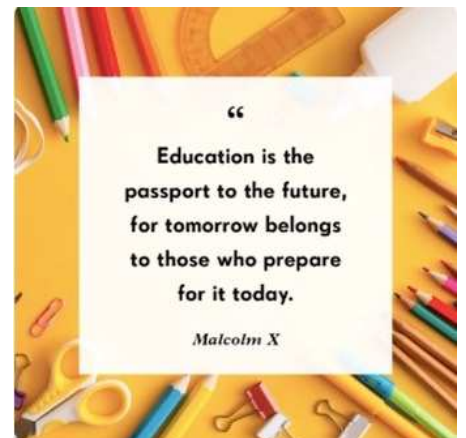
Sincerely,
Harjinder Sandhu
Principal

Amber Logie
Vice-Principal

Staff Updates

We would like to welcome the following new staff members to the Henderson community:

Amber Logie (VP), Michelle Martin (Teacher), Juliene Marqueda (Teacher), Jane Tymos (SSA), Brandi Breen (SSA), Natsuko Fujii (SSA), Valerie Pomeroy (YFW), Cassandra Savage (SLP), and Evelyn Chan (Psychologist).



As a result of an increase in student enrolment over the summer and into the fall, two new classes have been added to our organization for this year. We will be welcoming more new staff members to the team in the coming weeks.

Introducing Henderson Hawks staff...

Office Staff

Ms. Harjinder Sandhu, Principal
 Ms. Amber Logie, Vice Principal
 Ms. Jane Fether, Office Admin Assistant
 Ms. Thalia Kroll, Office Admin Assistant

Classroom Teacher	Div.	Grade	Room No.	SSA TEAM
Mr. Kevan Chao	1	7	206	Ms. Natsuko Fujii
Ms. Ashley Bodnar	2	6/7	209	Mr. Ken Batty
Ms. Sonia Jagpal	3	6/7	204	
Mr. Greg Alstad	4	6	113	Mr. David Knight
Ms. Katie Smith	5	5/6	117	Ms. Jane Tymos
Ms. Sundeep Sahota	6	5	210	Ms. Brandi Breen
Ms. Carrie Baker	7	5	114	
Ms. Joan Jung	8	4	115	Ms. Nusrat Sharmin
TBA	9	4	116	
Mr. Ian Poole	10	3	176	
Mr. Rod Ratzlaff	11	3	181	Ms. Brandi Breen
Ms. Aoife Leavy	12	3	203	
Ms. Jasvinder Grewal	13	2/3	173	
Ms. Elaine Li	14	2	174	
Ms. Pawan Sumra	15	1/2	205	
Ms. Marnie Candido	16	1/2	101	Ms. Sarb Pannu
Ms. Marguerite Leahy	17	1	104	Ms. Carolyn Morgan-Chan
Ms. Sheri Hawksworth	18	1	106	Ms. Sahiba Kang
Ms. Jennifer Marsland-Root	19	K	103	Ms. Karin Barianna
Ms. Megan Guenter	20	K	102	Mr. Parm Segal
Ms. Amanda Bonetti/Michelle Martin	21	K	105	Ms. Sonia Gautam
Ms. Juliene Marqueda	22	K	180	

Resource Teacher	Div.	Grade	Room No.
Ms. Amber Logie		6/7	208
Ms. Andrea Shelford (Tu-Thu)		1/2	120
Ms. Leslie Roosa		3-6	208
Ms. Kim Seto		4-7	128
Ms. Vicky Edmonds		K/1	120

Prep Teachers	Room No.
Ms. Teala Machowetsky	ADST 108 Maker Space
Ms. Michelle Martin (W)	
Ms. Kimberly Matterson (T,Th)	Librarian 111 Library

Enhanced Services Team	Room No.
Ms. Birgid Lehmann Literacy Teacher	128
Ms. Lillie Rowell School and Student Assistant	127
Ms. Valerie Pomeroy Youth & Family Worker	127

Supervision Aides

Ms. Elizabeth Roller, Ms. Jas Uppal, Ms. Rebecca Chen

Other Staff	Room No.
Ms. Indira Dhari (M/F& mornings W/Th) Area Counsellor	116
Ms. Cassandra Savage Speech and Language Pathologist	180
Ms. Evelyn Chan Psychologist	180
Ms. Carmen Helin (Tu) Indigenous Education Worker	116
Ms. Zabeen Hussain Strong Start	179

Facilities Team	Room No.
Mr. Robb Go, Head Building Engineer	

Multicultural Workers

Vandana Nagpal (T) South Asian	vnagpal@vsb.bc.ca
Audrie Leung Chinese	aaleung@vsb.bc.ca
Yung Quach Vietnamese	dquach@vsb.bc.ca
Joy Jose Filipino	jjose@vsb.bc.ca
Claudia Sandoval Spanish	csandoval@vsb.bc.ca

Keeping Healthy and Safe

The health, safety and well-being of students and staff continues to be a top priority. The Vancouver School District and Henderson School continue to follow the guidance of the Ministry of Education and Child Care, the BC Centre for Disease Control and Vancouver Coastal Health in putting in place measures to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. The BC Centre for Disease Control updated [guidance](#) for the K-12 sector indicates that, "Transmission within K-12 schools settings accounts for a minority of COVID-19 cases even amongst students and staff."

Measures that will continue to be in place for the coming school year include reminders to all staff, students and their families to monitor their health daily and to stay home if they are ill. Information about COVID-19 symptoms can be found on the [BCCDC website](#). Students who become ill during the school day will be asked to wear a mask and wait in a supervised area, away from other students, until they can be picked up by a parent or guardian.

Staff will continue to remind students of the importance of regular hand washing/hand sanitizing and of coughing/sneezing into their elbow or a tissue. We will continue to ensure school sinks are well stocked with soap and that hand sanitizer is available. Staff will also continue to remind students to be respectful of others' personal space while going through daily school activities.

Wearing a mask, other than what is recommended by public health, is an important personal health choice for students and families. Some staff and students will choose to wear a mask throughout the day or for certain activities. Others will choose not to wear a mask. Individual decisions around mask wearing will be supported and respected at Henderson School.

Clean air and proper ventilation is an important part of the prevention measures in all Vancouver schools. During the past months, District staff have undertaken the refurbishment and rehabilitation of ventilation equipment in all schools and will continue to install new ventilation and heating equipment in portables. Air filters in schools have been upgraded and are replaced three times per year.

More information on COVID-19 prevention measures in Vancouver schools can be found [here](#).

Henderson Code of Conduct

Henderson has a set of guidelines for conduct, and these are the expectations for all our school community. It is based on our motto and our mission statement: to encourage students to respect themselves and others and to strive to do their personal best in all ways.

And our Code of Conduct is: **Be Safe. Be Fair. Be Kind**

These guidelines reflect the school's philosophy. Henderson is a safe and caring place, where everyone tries their best, treats others kindly, respectfully and behave safely. It is a place where students, staff, families and the community work together to share ideas and create a wonderful place to learn. There is a rising expectation that as students develop with age, they will show increasing maturity, self-responsibility, decision-making ability, and leadership.

We are also working on our online skills to be responsible **Digital Citizens**. More information regarding Henderson's Code of Conduct please see our website <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/johnhenderson/Guidance-and-Support/Code-of-Conduct/Documents/Code%20of%20Conduct.pdf>

Henderson Before and After School Care

If you are looking for Child Care spaces for before and after school at Henderson School, please make enquires by contacting the South Slope YMCA at 604-939-9622. After school care is also provided by Sunset Community Centre. They can be contacted at 604-718-6512.

School Forms and Fees



There will be several important forms sent home in early September, these include forms that request emergency contact numbers, pertinent health issues, neighbourhood field trip permission and media permission. These forms need to be returned to your child's classroom. If information changes throughout the year, please update the school immediately by calling the office. The school must be able to always contact parents. We sent out information on school fees and how to pay them online in June. School

fees for all ages are \$35.00, agendas for Grades 2 to 7 students are \$8.00 and Math workbooks for participating classes are \$20.00, the applied skills and technology fee is \$25. You will be able to access and pay fees online shortly. Please be on the lookout for more information in the following days.

Please do not send money to school. We will be collecting fees through cash online.

Lunch Time



Our lunch break time this year is 12:05pm to 12:52. Please send a packed lunch with your child. Students will eat their lunch in their classrooms. If students would like to go home for lunch, it can provide a pleasant break in their school day. Students who are going home for lunch should be picked up at 12:05 and are to be back at school by 12:50. If older students are going home unaccompanied by an adult, we request a note of permission and they sign in and out of the office, going directly home and coming back directly to school.



When packing lunch, we want you and your child to think about your child's health: Is the lunch nutritious? And we want you to think about the environment: Is this lunch going to provide a lot of waste for the landfill or recycling? This year we want to cut down on our waste and spend less time having to pick up the waste that is littered on our school grounds!



The Food4School Program is available to help children who require nutrition services at school. The program does not provide for special diets. If you would like to learn more about this program, please contact us in the office.



IMPORTANT SAFETY ALERT



Please do not send tree nuts to school. Please avoid nut products in your child's lunches.

*This year we have students in our school with severe and life-threatening allergies to peanuts and/or tree nuts, shellfish and egg products. Because of the seriousness of these allergies, we are asking you to refrain from sending food including these products to school for snacks or class parties. We are asking that our lunchrooms and classrooms be an allergynut - **awareness zone**. Due to shared tables, computer equipment and art supplies in the classroom, as well as the ease with which food residue is transferred from one student to the other, we would like to keep our classrooms **"allergy aware."** Our goal is to make school a safe place for all our students. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding. If you have any questions, please contact the school.*

Student Valuables at School



Parents are reminded that there is **no VSB insurance coverage** for student belongings. Students who bring iPods, cell phones and other devices do so at their **own risk**. These items are to be kept off and in back packs during the school day, unless being used under supervision of a staff member for lessons. When personal items are brought to school, they can easily get lost, broken or misplaced. Please keep this in mind, especially with collector cards and electronics.



IT is TIME to PLAY!



Studies show that students who are engaged in regular physical activity perform better in class. We have two scheduled breaks in our day for students to eat and exercise. Please make sure your child has healthy food each day and is dressed to play outside.



We expect all students to be outside every day. If it is cold or raining out, they should be wearing a jacket. During rainy days we have many puddles and mud around the school. It would be a good idea for students to have raingear for playing outside (rain jacket, rain boots and even rain pants!) You might also want to send an extra pair of sweats and even runners to keep in their classrooms “just in case” for those muddy,



wet days. **We will only call for ‘Inside Days’ when the weather is extremely bad. Students should be dressed for going outside everyday rain or shine!**



Bell Schedule

- 08:57 a.m. Warning Bell
- 09:00 a.m. Class
- 10:30 a.m. 10:50 a.m. Recess
- 12:05 p.m. 12:52 p.m. Lunch break
- 12:52 p.m. 3:03 p.m. Class
- 3:03 p.m. Dismissal

Student Supervision

Please do not send your children to school before 8:45am and please pick them up at 3:03 as we have limited supervision from 8:45 to 8:55 am and from 3:00 to 3:15 pm. You are responsible for your child after your pick them up. If a student wishes to play on the school grounds at 3:30, they must be accompanied by an adult or have gone home and get permission from a parent/guardian before returning. It is the parents’/guardians’ responsibility to supervise play after 3:15 pm.



Student Safety and Traffic

We encourage families to walk or bike to school to reduce automobile congestion. Students can bring a lock and secure their bikes in the bike storage area. Please go over the traffic safety rules with your children. With the “back to school” excitement, children can forget these important pedestrian rules. If you are dropping children off, please make sure that it is on the school side of the street as it is safest. If walking to school, please do not walk through the staff parking lot/ driveway—use the path. The **staff parking lot is only for VSB employees and school deliveries. Do not enter or drop off your child in this area.** It can be dangerous as vehicles back up and small children are difficult to see.

If you or your child is riding an electric scooter or bike, please make sure you dismount when you arrive at the school grounds and walk your scooter/bike to keep all the other pedestrians safe.

Safe Arrival



Reporting Student Absences:

Student safety is of paramount importance at the Vancouver School District. Ensuring student safety is a shared responsibility. In order to assist schools, we ask parents to notify the school of student absences. If your child will be absent from school, please phone the school to report this absence as early as possible. Parents should leave a message on the dedicated answering service by calling 604-713-5159 ext. 36. Messages will be received before the office is open. School offices are busy places: consistently notifying the school in advance of your child’s absence will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Safe Arrival Morning Routine.

To Report Your Childs Absence – Please Call 604-713-5159 ext. 36 prior to 9 am on the first day of the absence.

Student Sign In/ Sign Out Procedure

It is important that your child arrive on time to start school each morning with his/her peers. The morning routine helps your child stay connected to his/her classmates and sets a positive tone for the day. And currently, it also helps maintain our Health and Safety protocols. When your child is late for school, it not only disrupts his/her learning, but also the learning of his/her classmates. Please do your best to ensure your child arrives to school on time each day. If you are going to be late, please contact the Safe Arrival number and let us know. When your child arrives at school, please ensure he/she signs in at the office. Any time you are bringing your child in after 9:00 am we need you to check in with the office. Your child will need to enter on the east side of the school.

When you pick up your child during the school day, please ensure that you have contacted the school in advance, and that you sign them out in the school office with either Ms. Fether or Ms. Kroll. If you do not sign out your child, they will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. If the school staff do not locate the child, and are unable to reach a parent promptly, the school will call the Vancouver Police Department. Therefore, clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches.

Thanks for your help in keeping our students safe.

Remembering Terry Fox-Keeping His Dream Alive



This year marks the 42nd year that the Terry Fox Run has been held in communities across the country. For those of us who followed Terry's journey or had the good fortune of meeting him, we could not help but be inspired by this remarkable individual. He is a Canadian Hero, for in him and through his actions, we saw courage, a sense of purpose, empathy, persistence, resilience, compassion, determination, imagination and positivity. Terry exemplified the values we want our children to exhibit. When he was challenged in his life, he could have felt sorry for himself, but instead he thought of helping children who faced the same disease that he faced. He could not bear to see their pain and so he wanted to help find a cure for them. He

inspired us to take on his Marathon of Hope. He wanted to raise \$1 million for cancer research and in his name that goal was passed. Each year more money is added to that total and researchers continue to make advances in treatments. One day soon we hope researchers will find a cure. It is for these reasons we continue to share Terry Fox's story and dream with our children each year. Terry was a remarkable young man, and his story showcases the positive impact that one individual can have to a community. He aimed big and in the end what he has achieved is remarkable. By remembering Terry and raising money for cancer research, may we also inspire our children to persist, aim big and strive to change the world for the better. During this year's campaign, our goal is to collect donations for this cause online. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

We will launch this year's campaign in the coming days, and we will host our runs around the school later this month. More information will be sent out so out so keep an eye out for it!

Bedtime Routines A Part of School Readiness

Learning is hard work and requires a lot of energy. Children who are more rested are better prepared and ready for learning at school. Some children will need extra sleep to adjust to the new routines and demands of school. Although some children need less sleep and others need more, most feel and act better when they go to sleep at a regular bedtime. Most children need between 10 and 12 hours of sleep per night. Children often become cranky, impatient or have a shorter attention span when they are not getting enough sleep. A routine bedtime helps to set regular sleep patterns and good sleep habits. Please help support your child's learning by establishing a bedtime routine that consists of 8 pm or 9 pm bedtime.



STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE - The Family Accident Reimbursement

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE - The Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP)

The kids plus student accident insurance program has changed and is now called The Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP). This coverage is still provided by Industrial Alliance and is a voluntary plan which offers coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses and critical illness. The FARP is ideal for supplementing costs not covered by provincial health insurance or existing employer extended health and dental plans. Families can register online to participate in the Plan by using the URL provided: <https://www.solutionsinsurance.com/aonbc>

There is no administration required on the part of the school. If any of your families have questions about the program, they can contact Industrial Alliance directly using the following contact information:
Phone: 1.800.266.5667 or Email: solutions@ia.ca

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Parents play an important role in the school and we encourage parents to participate as much as they can. Henderson School is well supported by our PAC. The PAC provides wonderful support in many areas of the school— planning and organizing special events, fundraising for fieldtrips and school needs, communicating with parents and the school. They are always open to new members and welcome both new families and returning families to become involved. PAC meetings are held 7 or 9 times per year. The first PAC meeting will be held in person on September 25th. Child minding will be provided. Look for more details coming to you shortly from the PAC.



Mark Your Calendars

- **September 23rd** Professional Day – **No School for Students**
- **September** Terry Fox Run
- **September 26th** **PAC Meeting @ 6:30pm** in the library
- **September 30th** National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – **No School**
- **October 10th** Thanksgiving—**No school** 🍁
- **October 20th** Great Shake Out - Earthquake preparedness drill
- **October 21st** Professional Day – **No School**
- **October 26th** **Early Dismissal 2:00pm** – Goal Setting Conferences
- **October 27th** **Early Dismissal 2:00pm** – Goal Setting Conferences
- **October 31st** Hallowe'en Dress Up

