



# Forest Park School News

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Principal: Mrs. Jacquie Poulin  
Vice-Principal: Mr. Jim Pascoe

Secretary: Cathy Peace  
Secretary: Joyce Zavarise

June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS

Everyone always says that time seems to keep going faster all the time, but I must say once again that this seems to have been the fastest year yet. Yes, I really am typing in the last newsletter for the 2014 - 2015 school year.

To start off this newsletter, I would like to take the time thank every member of this fabulous community for another absolutely wonderful year. Everyone - students, staff, parents, and community at large - have continued to work hard and be focused on the learning of our students. This is an incredible community and I feel lucky to be working here with everyone.

As this school year draws to a close, I took a few minutes to go around the school to 'interview' some of our students in regards to their highlights this year, here is just a snapshot of what I heard:

"I had an amazing time at the Zone and District track meet, I feel so great about how well I ran - wow!!"

*Grade 6 student*

"Romper Room was so much fun, I am so glad I went, it was a bit scary at first but fun in the end"

*Grade 4 student*

"Using the Daily 5 in my class has been so much fun, my reading has really improved. My stamina keeps getting better"

*Grade 2 student*

It has certainly been a year of many accomplishments and highlights. As I look back on the year to review the educational opportunities and highlights, community events, and student growth we have seen, it is amazing that we were able to fit it all into one school year.

I want to thank everyone for the role they play in the education of the Forest Park students. It is the involvement of everyone - students, teachers, education assistants, secretary, parents, principal, extended family, friends - 'the whole community' - that really does 'raise a child'.

On that note, I would also like to wish everyone a very healthy and fun summer break. Be sure to take time to go for a walk, read a book, and just hang out with the family. I look forward to hearing about everyone's summer adventures in September, whether they were at places close by or far away.

Thank you again for a fabulous year, enjoy your summer!

See you on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am - noon on that first day.

Yours in education,  
Mrs. Jacquie Poulin



## STAFF FAREWELL

We will be saying farewell to some very valued staff members this June. Our students and our community have benefited tremendously from the skills and dedication of these teachers and education assistants. Thank you and farewell to: Ms. Kim Leong, Mrs. Jane Lauzier, Ms. Brenda Nikkel and Ms. Bea Cardinal.

In addition, we have two very well respected and long serving teachers retiring this year. Mrs. Colleen Skipper and Mrs. Shannon Milford are both packing their school bags for the last time at the end of June. Both Mrs. Skipper and Mrs. Milford have had amazing influences on both the students and staff at Forest Park for many years. We thank you both and says thanks for changing all of our lives. We wish them both all the best as they take on new adventures in their retirement!!

We will miss you all and wish you the very best in everything as you continue on new journeys. We also thank you for the many contributions you have made.

### **THANK YOU TO OUR PAC**

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the dedicated parents of the Forest Park Parent Auxiliary Council. This group of parents has worked on many projects and activities, large and small, throughout the year that has added to the overall success of our school. If you are interested in getting more involved next year, be sure to come by for a meeting or talk to one of the executive.

### **ARE YOU MOVING?????**

If you are planning to move away from the Forest Park area this summer, or are transferring your children to another school next year, please advise the office as soon as possible. Your cooperation greatly assists us in determining our numbers and school organization for the 2015-16 school year.

### **SEPTEMBER START-UP**

The first day of school is often a time of great excitement for students, staff and families. As educators we also look forward to September opening with a great deal of excitement and anticipation. With enrollment uncertainties experienced in recent years, the reality is that student class placement often takes several days. This is especially true when a school experiences growth or reduction in enrollment and, or when staffing has not been finalized. It is our intention to settle into routines with as little disruption as possible.

This year, students will attend for only one hour on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. Students will then attend for a full day on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. On Tuesday morning we will ask all Grade 1 - 7 students to meet in the gym for a short assembly before we move to classrooms to do attendance and go over how the week will be organized. Throughout this first week students will work in same grade groups and in cross-grade groups as we re-connect with each other. Staff members will carefully check the attendance, add to the list new registrations, and determine final student placements for 2015/16. We are anticipating that we will not be assigning students to their classes until the Monday morning of the next week.

Parents of Kindergarten students will receive a letter of welcome in the mail in August with specific

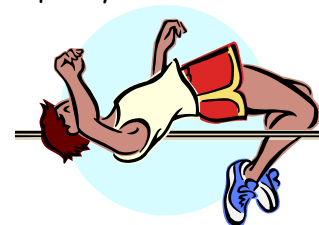
information about your child's first day in attendance and the gradual entry program at Forest Park School. Our teachers are looking forward to meeting all of our new Forest Park School students in September. Please note that Kindergarten students do not attend school on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **TENTATIVE SCHOOL ORG. 2015/16**

At this point there is a tentative class organizational structure that will be finalized during the first week of September. We have worked carefully, following Forest Park School placement guidelines to create balanced classes, placing your child in the next grade level, recognizing their learning styles and needs. Great care is taken to ensure your child has the very best learning opportunity in the coming year.

### **TRACK AND FIELD**

The District Track and Field meet was very exciting and all of our athletes that participated did very well. A congratulations to all these athletes as it is really an amazing feat to qualify for this meet - great work! A special congratulations goes to Sean Duquette as not only did he come first in several events he also broke the district record in the 400 metre race - WOW! Congratulations!!



Once again a special thank you to all those volunteer parents, grandparents', extended family, and friends who came out to help support these events and our athletes and cheer them on in such a positive manner!!

### **LIBRARY NEWS:**

#### **Tumblebooks**

Forest Park students will have access to our Tumblebooks subscription over the summer! These are so many wonderful animated books that your child can follow along with and listen to! Make sure you check them out at:

<http://www.tumblebooks.com/library/>

Username: forestpark250

Password: books

## **SUMMER READING@ VANCOUVER ISLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY**

Summer vacation is almost here and your children are no doubt dreaming about fun times and adventures! But in order to keep your children's reading skills sharp; it's also a smart idea to include reading as a part of their summer fun.

Like all skills, a little practice goes a long way. Vancouver Island Regional Library invites kids aged 0-12 to join Summer Reading Club. Participants will build, craft, and create some fun at the Vancouver Island Regional Library with this year's theme: **Build It!** Summer Reading Club encourages children to read a little every day by providing:

- Fun tools, such as colourful reading records, tattoos, tape measures, and medals
- Chances to win cool prizes—the more they read, the more chances to win.

Best of all, the Summer Reading Club is free.

This year you can register online starting June 20 at [virl.bc.ca](http://virl.bc.ca) or you can drop by your local branch.

For more information, call or visit your local branch of Vancouver Island Regional Library or visit [www.virl.bc.ca](http://www.virl.bc.ca). In remote areas, the program is available through our Books by Mail service. Please call 1-877-415-8475 for information.

Planning a family trip or vacation? Don't forget that children can borrow from and return books to any of the 39 branches of Vancouver Island Regional Library located on Vancouver Island (except Victoria), Haida Gwaii, and Bella Coola on the central mainland coast. We make it that easy for you!

Best of all, the Summer Reading Club is free! For more information, visit [www.virl.bc.ca](http://www.virl.bc.ca)



## **SUMMER ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS**

### **Junior Summer Learn to Row**

We will once more be offering summer learn-to-row sessions through Nanaimo Parks and Recreation. Registration may be done online or at any of the Parks and Rec facilities.

Cost is \$70 payable to Parks & Rec, plus \$20 fee for insurance payable to the club. Snacks provided. We will be offering the following sessions:

#### **Dates:**

- Course #136597: Jul 6-10 10:00 AM-1:00 PM  
Classes: 5 Days: M-F
- Course #136598: Jul 13-17 10:00 AM-1:00 PM  
Classes: 5 Days: M-F
- Course #136599: Jul 20-24 10:00 AM-1:00 PM  
Classes: 5 Days: M-F
- Course #138224: Aug 10-14 10:00 AM-1:00 PM  
Classes: 5 Days: M-F

**Nanaimo Rowing Club** will be offering learn to row sessions for students in grades 7-12 in June.

Where: Nanaimo Rowing Club at Loudon Park, Long Lake

Cost is \$60 for 4 sessions, including insurance. All sessions run from 3:45-6:00 pm.

Session - June 9,11,16,18

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Fri., July 3                | School closes for summer break               |
| Mon., Aug. 31               | School Office Reopens                        |
| Tues., Sept 8 <sup>th</sup> | First day of School (11AM - Noon)            |
| Wed., Sept. 9               | First full day for students!!                |
| Tues., Sept 15              | PAC mtg - 7 pm - Library                     |
| Mon., Sept 28               | Professional Day                             |
| Mon. Oct. 12                | Thanksgiving                                 |
| Oct. 19 - 22                | Parent-Teacher Conferences - early dismissal |
| Fri., Oct. 23               | Pro-d Day                                    |
| Wed., Nov. 11               | Remembrance Day                              |
| Fri., Dec. 18               | School Closes for Winter Vacation            |

