



Quilchena Community

The Week Ahead ~ September 11th – September 15th, 2023

We invite families to visit the School Calendar on our website: <https://quilchena.sd38.bc.ca/> for all of our future notable dates and events. Simply click on the 'event' for more details.

September 13 – Fire Drill #1

September 14 – Individual Photo Day

September 15 – Terry Fox Run (1:30pm)

September 15-17 – Rosh Hashana

And we are off to a positive start to the school year! A great deal of time, effort and thought has gone into the process of student placement for the 2023-2024 school year. There is always the feeling of excitement, nervousness, and anticipation at the start of a new year. We appreciated your patience as we finalized our numbers, our staffing allotment, and our class lists. Our goal is to have regular, ongoing communication; each Friday we'll send home The Week Ahead (TWA). We also keep our website up to date and send frequent posts on our X (formerly Twitter) page (@QuilchenaC). Please keep yourself up to date and feel free to connect with the school should you have any questions whatsoever.

Divisions:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| • Ms. Davis | Division 1 Gr.6/7 |
| • Mr. Simpson | Division 2 Gr.6/7 |
| • Mr. Henderson | Division 3 Gr.5/6 |
| • TBD | Division 4 Gr.4/5 |
| • Ms. Cantwell | Division 5 Gr.3/4 |
| • Ms. Deacon | Division 6 Gr.2/3 |
| • Ms. Maier/Ms Cavazzi | Division 7 Gr.1/2 |
| • Ms. Preswick | Division 8 Gr.K/1 |

Don't forget to pack everyday and bring with you in the morning...

A labelled water bottle



A snack and lunch



Proper clothing



In Other Quilchena News:

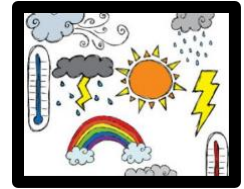


Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, is one of Judaism's two High Holidays that arrive each fall. It is a time to reflect on the past year, sing, pray, gather with loved ones over traditional foods such as apples dipped in honey and challah. *l'shana tova* to our Quilchena families who celebrate this holiday.

Health & Safety: As we begin a new year, schools have been able to open their doors and we are pleased to continue to welcome visitors to assemblies and school events, similar to how we did before the pandemic. Visitors should continue to arrive at the front door and check in at the office. We continue to be mindful that Covid19 still continues to circulate around the province and are maintaining protocols such as hand washing, respecting personal space, limiting congestion in common areas and staying home when not feeling well. Thank you to everyone for respecting these protocols.



Outside Weather: Every day is an outside day at Quilchena. Students will not only be outside for recess and lunch play but taking part in learning activities outside throughout the day. Please remember to dress for the weather, especially as we move into our fall. A change of socks, pants and shoes are highly recommended as we want to limit the amount of phone calls home and drop offs at school. Thank you for your support with this.



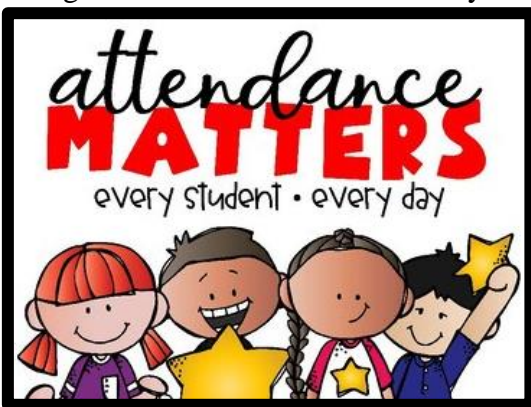
Being Prepared: Thank you for remembering to bring a water bottle, recess snack and a packed lunch with you to school each morning. **A reminder that our first bell rings at 8:40am and we begin our day together at 8:45am.** Each morning we start with a school wide *Morning Walk* that begins at 8:45am. This is where the whole school goes out together for a morning walk and gives us a chance to connect and start the day off as a community. Giving yourself time in the morning so you are not rushed helps you begin your day in a calm manner.

Parking Lot Safety: Thank you for making the effort to walk/bike to school, which greatly reduces the amount of congestion in our parking lot. Safety is important to us and maintaining speed limits and parking rules, help immensely with this. Please only park in designated parking spots, while adhering to city signage.



Appointments: Please schedule appointments outside of instruction time wherever possible. If this is unavoidable due to a specialist or urgent appointment, please pick up your child during a natural break in the day such as recess (10:15am-10:30am) or lunch (11:50pm – 12:45pm). This will allow the teacher to continue with their lesson plan uninterrupted and prevent your child leaving during an important part of the day. **Please always advise the classroom teacher and office in advance that you will be picking up your child and whether they will return.**

Attendance: Attendance is critical. We have had a great deal of disruption over the past several years and the best thing for our students is consistency and routine. Although we understand that on occasion voluntary absences from school are unavoidable, our expectation is that vacations be taken during the generous time allowance of Winter, Spring, and Summer Breaks. Teachers rely heavily on *all students* being in attendance when they plan class collaboration and group projects. Not only is it detrimental for the student who is absent, but those remaining in-class are left without partners or valuable collaboration input. An Extended Absence Form will need to be completed if your child is going to be away. The District limits the number of voluntary absence days, if exceeded, your child will be withdrawn and will need to be re-registered on your return. Quilchena is almost full, and placement cannot be guaranteed if your child is withdrawn.



Terry Fox: The annual Terry Fox Run has become a Canadian tradition every fall with the country coming together to fundraise for cancer research. Our school-wide Terry Fox run will happen the afternoon of **September 15th** with the city of Richmond hosting their run on Sunday, September 17th at Garry point Park. Donations (our goal is to collect \$2 per student) to support Terry's *Marathon of Hope* can be brought to school or you can donate online [HERE](#)





PAC News: On behalf of the PAC Executive team, WELCOME back! We hope everyone had a rejuvenating summer break. As a part of the Quilchena community, you are a valued member of the Parent Advisory Council. The PAC is a forum for parents and guardians to discuss matters that impact our school. We also plan fundraising activities and community-building events that support our students' learning. Please attend our monthly meetings to stay informed with school happenings, connect with other families, and have a voice in making the most of your child's experience. Our first meeting will happen on Thursday, September 28th at 7pm.

Please feel free to email us at quilchenapac@gmail.com if you have any questions. We look forward to meeting you and wish you the very best for the school year!

Sincerely,

Pawan & Brent Follett

PAC Co-Chairs

PAC Food days are back!

Tired of packing lunches for your child? Not to worry! This year our PAC food days will take place **weekly** on Mondays or Tuesdays. Vendors include Fresh Slice Pizza, Sushi Lovers, Subway, Taco Luis and Olive Lunch for the October to December term. Ordering and payment is done in the Hotlunches.net system. **The ordering and payment deadline is September 24th. Don't delay!** Please visit the PAC Fundraising page under the Parents tab in the school's website to find all the information on how to register and order your lunches in the Hotlunches system!

<https://quilchena.sd38.bc.ca/parents-0>



Our very popular **PAC Family Photo Night fundraiser** is back! This year we have teamed up with Xavi & Co. photography and it will take place on the nights of October 12 and 13. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks !!

To learn more about our Quilchena Parent Advisory Council (PAC), please visit the [Quilchena PAC page](#) , (under the Parents tab in the school's website).

Bookmark our page so you can get the most current PAC information, events and updates!

<https://quilchena.sd38.bc.ca/parents/pac>