



**Quilchena Elementary  
School District #38**

3760 Moresby Drive, Richmond, B.C. V7C 4G6

Tel: 604 668 6224 Email: [quilchena@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:quilchena@sd38.bc.ca) Twitter: @QuilchenaC



Principal: Nichole Kusch    Administrative Asst. Sue Hughes    School Liaison Trustee: David Yang

**Quilchena Community**

**The Week Ahead ~ September 16<sup>th</sup> – September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**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 15-16 – Mawlid-al-Nabi*

*September 18 – PAC Meeting (7pm)*

*September 19 - Open House for Families (5pm-6pm)*

*September 20 – Professional Development Day (no school for students)*

It was our first full week, and it is wonderful to see students making new friends and reconnecting with familiar faces. September start-up is a busy time of the year, and we thank you for your diligence in returning the needed information and forms promptly. We would like to welcome the following staff to Quilchena this year. Jack Tubajon (Div. 4), Pauline Both (Resource & ELL), Hermia Ting (Fine Arts for Div.4-8), John Hudson (Band for Div.1-3), Julie Freemantle (EA) and Kimiko Takayama (EA), Subashini Athmanathan (EA), Shannon Jones (EA) and Lauren Hurley (SLP). A big Cyclone welcome to our Quilchena family. We are still in the process of hiring for Ms. Lau's maternity leave in the Resource role.

**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:**

**Mawlid al-Nabi:** *Mawlid al-Nabi* is a special day in Islamic calendar to remember the birth of Prophet Muhammad. It is observed on the 12th day of the month of Rabi-ul-Awwal, the third month of the Islamic lunar calendar. Every year, Muslims around the world celebrate the occasion by wearing new clothes, offering prayers, and exchanging gifts. The day is celebrated by preparing special meals at mosques and at home with friends and family. *Happy Mawlid al-Nabi* to all our Quilchena families who celebrate this special day.



**Terry Fox:** We ended our week with our school-wide Terry Fox Run. **Thank you** to all our families who donated to support *Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope*. We surpassed our goal and have raised \$535.70 so far! Donations will continue to be accepted **HERE** until September 30th and can also be brought to school.



Our local Richmond Terry Fox Run is this coming Sunday at 10am at Garry Point Park if you would like to participate.

**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.**

**Meet the Staff Evening - September 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-6:00pm:**



Please come by for an informal visit to see your child's classroom, meet their teachers and the Quilchena staff, and say hello! We will be having a draw for some Quilchena swag so make sure to fill out a ballot and be present for the draw at the front of our school. We would love to see you!

The PAC will be selling **TCBY** (The Country's Best Yogurt) 3oz frozen yogurt cups at the Open House on September 19<sup>th</sup> at the front of the school. \$3 for 3oz cup. **Cash only**, limited quantities until sold out. Three Flavours: Vanilla,

Chocolate and Mango Sorbet (dairy free). Thank-you for your support! Questions? Contact Vanessa at [quilchenafundraising@gmail.com](mailto:quilchenafundraising@gmail.com)

**Needing Support:** This past spring, the provincial government announced a renewal of one-time funds for the *Student and Family Affordability Fund*. This fund is designed to assist families who require financial assistance with school supplies, field trips or other school-related costs. We are requesting that families reach out to Mrs. Kusch ([nkusch@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:nkusch@sd38.bc.ca)) As always, all requests will be treated with dignity and your privacy will be respected. We want to work with our families to ensure that our students, your children, have everything they need to be successful at school. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can help.

**Opt-in to District/School Text Message Communication:** The Richmond School District is implementing a new communication tool that will enable both the district and our school to send you text messages. This is being implemented to improve the ability to deliver time-sensitive information to you, including emergency notifications. Given the significance of this communication tool, we strongly encourage you to opt-in for this service. You can choose to opt-in by sending a text message to 978338 with the comment 'Yes'.



**Ms. Jessy:** Many of you may have already met Miss Jessy who runs the Before & After Childcare at our school. We would like to remind families that Miss Jessy is employed by the families of the children who attend her program. She is not available to intervene in playground squabbles or to supervise other students. If your child is remaining at the playground afterschool a parent or guardian must be supervising them.



**Quilchena's Grab & Go Fridge:** At Quilchena we have a snack fridge called the "Grab and Go Fridge." This fridge was funded through the Ministry of Education Feeding Futures Program. Students can access food in the fridge when they need a nutritious snack to help them get through the day. We know that healthy minds and bodies begin with fresh quality food. The fridge will be stocked with food delivered by the Richmond Food Bank and Fire Fighters, and we are grateful for their support!

These past weeks, teachers and staff have been reviewing and reminding students to understand the purpose for the fridge, as well as the difference between a want and a need (please see attached). Our goal is to have students access the fridge when and if needed and encouraging them to make responsible decisions and not taking when they don't. This will help ensure that there is enough food for when students need it.

**All About Early Literacy - Information for Parents and Caregivers:** The Ministry of Education and Child Care released a new Ministry resource for parents and caregivers this past summer to support early literacy at home.

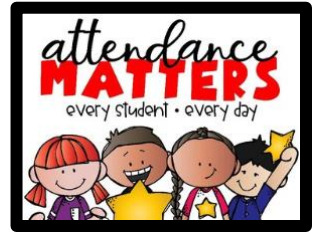
This guide outlines early literacy as what children learn about reading and writing *before* they can fully read and write. The guide targets suggestions for learners before starting school and in the early grades (kindergarten to Grade 3). This brief guide provides parents and caregivers with:

- Helpful tips to build a child's early literacy skills at home.
- An explanation of how teachers support early literacy in school.

- Steps parents and caregivers can take if they think their child needs extra support.

Please see the attached guide for more information.

**Attendance:** Attendance is important and valued. 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 unfavourable 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. Placement cannot be guaranteed back at Quilchena if your child is withdrawn.



**PAC News:** Please feel free to email us at [quilchenapac@gmail.com](mailto:quilchenapac@gmail.com) if you have any questions. We look forward to meeting you at our first PAC meeting on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. 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).



**PAC Food days are back!** Our PAC food days will take place **weekly** on Mondays or Tuesdays for the October to December Term 1. **Ordering is open now and closes on September 22, 2024. No late orders can be accepted.** Ordering and payment is done in the Hotlunches.net system. 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>

Food Days are as follows:

Oct. 1 Bala Foods	Nov. 12 Libby's Kitchen
Oct. 7 Sushi Lover	Nov. 18 Just Poke
Oct. 15 Freshslice	Nov. 26 Bala Foods
Oct. 21 Taco Luis	Dec. 2 Sushi Lover
Oct. 28 Just Poke	Dec. 9 Taco Luis
Nov. 4 Bala Foods	Dec. 16 Libby's Kitchen

Should you have any questions, please contact Noel at [noelleung82@hotmail.com](mailto:noelleung82@hotmail.com).

**Please Note:** Every year parents need to register again to set up your account and place your order. Your login from last year won't work.



**Family Photo Night:** Our very popular PAC Family Photo Night fundraiser is back! This year we have teamed up with Vivian Chung Photography and it will take place on October 4<sup>th</sup> from 3 - 9 pm. Please visit the PAC fundraising page on the school website for more information and to sign up for your time [HERE](#). Spots are limited so be sure to sign up early!

A Peek into Our Terry Fox Run

