

# James Bay Memo

May 2, 2023



Dear Families of James Bay Community School, We are looking forward to hosting our annual Student Led Learning Conferences on Wednesday May 3rd starting at 1pm and ending at 5:30pm. These conferences are led by our students in their classrooms. Your child's teacher will email you with details regarding the time that you and your child can attend. Please note that these conferences are not to be considered parent teacher conferences. This is a special time in which your child can share and celebrate with you the various ways that they have been expressing their learning. So come prepared to interact with your child throughout various learning activities! If possible, please make arrangements for younger children to be supervised during this time as your child will need your undivided attention. In addition, please take time to visit our

Scholastic Book Fair in the library. The book fair will be open after school from May 2nd to 4th. If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's classroom teacher via email. James Bay Community School.....What a wonderful and engaging place of learning and growing together! Thank you

Marla Margetts, principal

### Important Dates

May 3 - Early Dismissal at 12 noon May 3 - Student Led Conferences I-530 May 2 to 4 - Book Fair (Details to come) May 10 - Div I, 2, 7, 8, 9 Fun Lunch May 12 - Div 3, 4, 5, 6 Fun Lunch May 17 - Rainbow Day May 19 - Pro D Day (No School) May 22 - Victoria Day (No School) May 24 - Div I, 2, 7, 8, 9 Fun Lunch May 26 - Div 3, 4, 5, 6 Fun Lunch

### IMPORTANT -Reporting absences and arriving late If your child will be absent, please call the attendance line (250-383-7152) or email the office (jamesbay@sd61.bc.ca) If your child is late please check in at the office.

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize the Songhees & Esquilmalt Nations on whose traditional territories we live and do our work

### **Student Placement**

Our goal at James Bay Community School is to provide optimal learning experiences for every child. The process of student placement is a complex task which we undertake thoughtfully. The unique needs of all learners are carefully considered as we address a variety of factors. Staff expertise and educational experience with class configuration are the drivers for this work. Our staff do an exceptional job of planning for student success at all grade levels and we appreciate your trust and support as we undertake this process.

Process for Student Placements: The School District allocates staffing based on projections for student enrollment and we always anticipate some changes in the fall. Staff moves, teaching assignments and grade configurations change annually.

Configuration of classes must adhere to provincial class size legislation as well as District policy and contractual obligations. Please note: Class configurations often include "combined" classes of two grades. This is standard practice and is educationally sound. All students work on provincially prescribed curriculum and teachers differentiate instruction for all students. There may be circumstances where it is advantageous for a child to have the same teacher two years in a row. While we appreciate that specific friendships are important to children, we also acknowledge that getting to know others and learning to work together is a crucial aspect of learning and social development.

Consideration for Student Placement: Once tentative classes are organized, we begin to allocate students to proposed classes. Staff discussions concerning student placements will happen during a number of meetings with teachers, support staff and administration. We carefully consider the following criteria:

- Number of students permitted in each class (Collective Agreement / District Policy)
- Academic needs and learning styles
- Social and Emotional needs

In exceptional circumstances, parents may have additional information to share about their child. While parental input is considered, we cannot guarantee parent requests will be met. Please note: Requests for specific teachers cannot be considered or discussed. Thank you for not putting staff in an ethically compromising position by discussing your preferences for your child's classroom placement.

If you have additional information to share about your child, please email Ms. Margetts by May 12th, 2023 at mmargetts@sd61.bc.ca .

Thank you.

Marla Margetts Principal James Bay Community School 250-384-7184 phone

#### Dear Families,

We recognize that times have been difficult financially for many families lately, and we want to help. The school has access to supports available to assist and hopefully alleviate some stress around this. Please do let us know if your family would benefit from extra resources right now - be it daily lunches, extra food home, or winter clothing for kids. You can confidentially email Tracey Gibson at tgibson@sd61.bc.ca or Ms. Margetts at mmargetts@sd61.bc.ca

1000 Books by Age Five Children's Book Recycling Project Greater Victoria

We have reached 12 years and 300,000 books! Thank you thank you. And we are not stopping.

Take your extra baby and preschooler books to the pink bin in the Strong Start room.

Help change a child's future.



#### Fruit & Veggie Program

The Fruit & Veggie program starts this month. If you wish to opt out please contact the office.

Lost & Found Items are on display outside the office. Please come by and see if anything is yours!

# PAC News



### Join Us at the Next AGM

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on May 11th. We will be electing new PAC executives to join our team for the 2023-2024 school year. Now is your chance to join the wonderful PAC executive team!

OUR NEXT AGM: MAY 11, 2023

# Games Bay COMMUNITY PICNIC

## **& SILENT AUCTION**

LIVE MUSIC, BOUNCY CASTLES, FOOD, FACE PAINTING, 50/50 DRAW, & MORE AFFORDABLE, FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITES!

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7TH 3:30-6:30PM

THE JAMES BAY COMMUNITY SCHOOL CENTRE

CALL 250-389-1470 FOR MORE INFO OR VISIT WWW.JAMESBAYCENTRE.CA