



WILLIAM BRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ÉCOLE ÉLÉMENTAIRE WILLIAM BRIDGE
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PRINCIPAL: MRS. KAREN LIN

VICE-PRINCIPAL: MS. SARA LAI

Year End Newsletter - Thursday, July 7th, 2022

Thank you for another wonderful year together at Bridge!

It has been an exciting, busy and memorable year at Bridge, and we are proud of the growth and progress our students have demonstrated. Thank you to our families for supporting our children and the school community in so many ways. We are approximately half-way through our Seismic Upgrade Project, and we know you are going to be thrilled by the results next year. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to learn in new spaces, move into temporary classrooms and pack and unpack resources and materials all while keeping our students and staff safe.

Thank you to our Amazing PAC

Our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) dedicate their time behind the scenes to help make life and learning at Bridge such a success. We were so happy to be able to start enjoying Hot Lunch Days after Spring Break, as well as many other special events thanks to our PAC.

THANK YOU!
thank you!

Special thanks to the following PAC Executive Members:

Kim Nowitsky – PAC Chair

Theresa MacDonald – Secretary

Angeline Singh – Treasurer

Thank you for your outstanding leadership, unwavering service and volunteer time you gave to the school community throughout the year.

In addition to the Executive Members, so many other Bridge parents and family members have volunteered their time this year to help organize many exciting events and activities including: a fun Pop-up Pumpkin Patch, a virtual Breakfast with Santa, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, the distribution of our Bridge Bulldog T-Shirts, the

sponsorship of field trips, our Saleema Noon Body Science Workshops, great Fine Art Performances and more! We thank you all for your time, creativity, effort and selfless leadership and support you have given to our community and our students.

Our Hot Lunch Program

Thank you so much to our Hot Lunch Parent Volunteers who, under the direction of **Rob and Sally Mah**, made sure that hot lunches were delivered in an organized, quick and safe manner.

Fruit, Veggies and Milk Program

Thank you to **Lynn Wong** and **Wendy** for giving their time each month to clean and sort our fruit and veggie deliveries so that students could try healthy snacks at recess along with donated milk for our primary students.

Grade 7 Farewell Celebration



After two years without being able to have an in-person Grade 7 Farewell Celebration, we were so thrilled to be able to enjoy an assembly in the morning, followed by a parade outside, a delicious luncheon and a fun Amazing Race afternoon organized by our Grade 7 parent community. Thank you to everyone for your time and donations to help make this day a special one for all involved. Although there were many people who helped behind the scenes, we'd like to thank a few parents who organized several essential committees, under the direction of **Sharline Gosal**. Thank you to **Cathy Leong** (luncheon and cupcakes), **Leah Rempel** (Amazing Race), **Sarah May** (Survival Kits), **Amy Pring**, **Billo Puni** and **Aileen Luo** (decorations).



Farewell to Families Leaving Bridge

In addition to the grade 7s students who are moving on to high school, some Bridge families are moving to different schools and/or cities next year. To those students and their families, we will miss you greatly but wish you all the best at your new schools. And remember... **“Once a Bulldog, Always a Bulldog”**.



Farewell Wishes to our Staff

Mrs. Laura Trail

Mrs. Trail taught grades 3 and 4 at Bridge this year and spent most of the year in one of our portables while her classroom was undergoing seismic upgrades. She was excited to move into her new classroom in June just in time for her to finish her teaching career and start enjoying her retirement. She has touched the lives of many students, staff and families and we wish her the best as she begins this new chapter.



Monsieur Jamie Reed

Monsieur Reed has spent the last twenty years at Bridge teaching our intermediate Early French Immersion students. He is known for his creative science experiments, his tie-dye shirts, and his love of Star Wars. Our staff will miss his fun pranks, his tools and duct tape, and his DJ days! All the best at Anderson, Monsieur Reed.



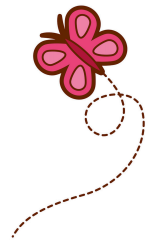
Mr. Chad West

Mr. West has been our event photographer and videographer extra-ordinaire during his time at Bridge while being a passionate teacher and coach whose students love to come back to visit him for after school chats. We're sure your students will find you at your new school and that you'll be back to visit to tell everyone how awesome they are. Thank you for your kindness and passion for learning.



Mrs. Teresa Ward

Mrs. Ward and her family are beginning a new adventure in Alberta. All three of her children attended Bridge and Mr. Ward also worked here so their family has been part of the Bridge Community for years and they will live on in our hallway photos. Thank you for all you did to make Kindergarten so exciting for our newest bulldogs each year, Mrs. Ward, and all the best at your new school and community!



Ms. Jody Zhou

Ms. Zhou has worked tirelessly this year with our primary students to help them learn to read, write and communicate. Her flexibility and organization were very much appreciated, and we wish her all the best as she continues teaching in the district.

Ms. Tracy Lou

Thank you to Ms. Lou who stepped into Division 2 for the last few months of this year just as they had moved into a new temporary learning space. Good luck as you continue your studies!

Ms. Jo-Ann Chiu

Ms. Chiu worked with classes two days a week this year at Bridge, and we often saw her reading with students in the hallway. All the best at your new school!

Ms. Kiselyova

Ms. Kiselyova is currently on a maternity leave enjoying her two young daughters. We were happy to meet her youngest daughter in June. What a cutie!

“Mr. O”

Last, but definitely not least, thank you so much to “Mr. O”, Mr. Allan Osadchy, who joined us in February and brought joy to everyone he met during his time as a bulldog. Now get back to enjoying your retirement!

Good Luck to Our UBC Teacher Candidates

This year, we had the pleasure of hosting four Teacher Candidates from UBC's Faculty of Education. Each of them had very successful practicum experiences at Bridge, contributed to our school community, and are sure to have bright futures as teachers. Best wishes to each of them as they embark on their careers as educators: **Ms. Sydney Vasquez, Ms. Kaylin Dhaliwal, Ms. Jamie Paton and Madame Marissa Kaminski.**

We hope that you look back fondly upon your days here at Bridge and that our paths will cross one day in the future.



Welcome to our New Bridge Staff

We are thrilled to welcome the following staff to Bridge and can't wait to get to know them all in September.

Vice Principal

Ms. Sara Lai

Teachers:

Mr. Mason Lee

Mr. Jas Gill

Madame Kristine Canas

Ms. Kiran Sidhu

We are also happy to announce that three of our temporary teachers this year will be continuing with us next year and we can't be happier for our students. We'll see you in September **Monsieur Joel Lecky, Ms. Valerie Nguyen** and **Mr. Tim Sars.**

2022-2023 School Hours

Please note a few changes to our school hours for next year. These hours are consistent throughout the district:

8:40 am

8:45 am

10:35-10:50 am

12:00-12:50 pm

2:45 pm

Doors open

Classes Begin

Recess Break

Lunch Break

Dismissal



Tuesday, September 6th, 2022

All students in Grades 1-7

9:00-10:00am

Please return to your last year's class using the door and classroom guide on the **Welcome Bulletin Board** in September. New Bridge students will be placed with students at their grade level. We will meet you at the front of the school to guide you to your class for the week.

Kindergarten Students

10:30-11:15am

All EFI (French) Kindergarten students, please meet Madame David-Harel and Madame Yamamoto at the front of the school. They will guide you to Room 8 for your first day of school!

All English Kindergarten students, please meet Ms. Nguyen and extra support staff at the front of the school. They will guide you to Room 13 for your first day of school!

Kindergarten Families: Please refer to the Gradual Entry Schedule and Letter for more detailed information about the first two weeks of school (sent to you in a previous email). We can't wait to see you all in September!

Wednesday Sept. 7th - Thursday, Sept. 8th

8:45am- 2:45pm

All students in Grades 1-7 will attend school for full days. Please remember to send a healthy recess snack, a lunch and a water bottle in your child's backpack. Students will be outside rain or shine for recess and lunch breaks so be sure to send your child dressed and prepared for weather changes.



Friday, September 9th

We hope to have all students placed in their new class for the year by the end of this first Friday.

Important Dates



Please note the following important dates for our upcoming school year. As other events are added to our calendar, they will be communicated via our website and our Week at a Glance newsletters (WAAG).

Friday, September 23, 2022
School-based Pro-D Day

Friday, September 30, 2022
Truth and Reconciliation Day

Tuesday, October 4, 2022
Individual and Class Photo Day

Monday, October 10, 2022
Thanksgiving Day

Friday, October 21, 2022
Province-wide Pro-D Day

Friday, November 11, 2022
Remembrance Day

Friday, November 25, 2022
Pro-D Day

Tuesday, November 29, 2022
Grades 6 and 7 Immunizations

Winter Break:
December 17th, 2022 to January 2nd, 2023
Last day of school before the Break
Friday, December 16th, 2022
Return to school – Tuesday, January 3rd, 2023

Monday January 30, 2023
Pro-D Day

Friday, February 17, 2023
District-wide Pro-D Day

Monday, February 20, 2023
Family Day

Wednesday, February 22, 2023
Pink Shirt Day

Spring Break
March 11 – 26, 2023
Last day of school before Break –
Friday, March 10th
Return to school – Monday, March 27th

Good Friday
Friday, April 7, 2023

Easter Monday
Monday, April 10, 2023

Friday, May 19, 2023
District-wide Pro-D Day

Victoria Day
Monday, May 22, 2023

Summer Break 2023
June 30 to September 4, 2023
Last day of school before the Break -
Thursday, June 29th
Return to school – Tuesday, Sept 5th

William Bridge is Social

Follow our website, Twitter account and PAC Facebook page.

Bridge School Website:
<https://bridge.sd38.bc.ca/>

Twitter: @bridgebulldogs

PAC Facebook Page:
William Bridge Elementary PAC



On behalf of the staff at Bridge, we wish you a summer full of fun and lasting memories. Be safe and enjoy the Break. See you in September!

DIGITAL SAFETY 4 KIDS

5 tips for parents & guardians to help students stay safe on their device

KNOW THE APPS

Parents often do not know what apps or platforms their children are using to communicate and share. Be aware of age restrictions, inappropriate content, and who they are chatting / connecting with online. Talk with your kids about the pros/cons of these apps.



- Discord's age rating is 17+ for the iOS app while the online age rating is 13+
- 50% of teens admit to hiding their online behaviour from parents.
- 40% of kids in grades 4-8 have connected or chatted online with a stranger.

DIGITAL HARASSMENT



Talk with your child about possible things to do if they are harassed or feel unsafe:

- let an adult know
- block / mute / unfriend that person
- take screenshots of the offensive or inappropriate content
- prevent an escalation of the situation (don't share with friends)
- in serious situations, contact the RCMP

SCREEN TIME

Most social media apps are designed to keep users engaged with their content for as long as possible. The more screen time our kids have, the more influence this messaging and built in ads will have on them. Limit the amount of screen time by:



- NOT storing it overnight in their bedroom
- setting daily usage limits on the device
- encouraging them to be active outside
- having device free times
- modelling your own screen time limits



LOCATION SERVICES

Our phones have a built-in GPS that records the location of where we are. Ensure that location services are turned off for the camera and for apps like Snapchat and Instagram. This prevents location stamping of photos and in some cases, where the kids are in real time.

POSTS ARE PERMANENT

Remind students that text messages and photos posted on social media last forever. Talk with your children about this and the pitfalls of content that is deemed inappropriate. A good rule of thumb is to ask "Would I share this with a grandparent?"

