

# RANDERSON RIDGE SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

- Newsletter #1

Principal: Mr. D. Brick  
VP : Ms. K. Needham  
Secretaries: Mrs S. Milne/Ms. M. Foulem

Phone #: (250) 758-5076



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year! A special welcome is extended to all new arrivals to our school community. We look forward to meeting you, your child(ren) and family and working together to ensure that Randerson Ridge Elementary School is a positive, enriching experience. Please feel free to introduce yourself to the staff and myself when you are at Randerson. Your role as parents is an important one. Your involvement in your child(ren's) daily school experience through talking about classroom activities, providing regular reading and homework time and by communicating regularly in daily planners will let your child(ren) know that you value their learning experience and support them in their efforts. This involvement in school activities and events will build the important bridge between home and school.

The school will maintain regular communication with you through EMAIL and the school newsletter. Newsletters will be distributed to parents via email. Please note that the school newsletter may contain commercial content "eg. school fundraisers." If at anytime you do not want to receive this information via email you may "unsubscribe" at anytime. If you want a paper copy of the newsletter, please let us know at the office.

On behalf of the entire Randerson Ridge Staff, welcome back!

Yours truly,

Mr. D. Brick  
Principal

## STAFF CHANGES

Please welcome the following new staff members to Randerson Ridge: Best wishes are extended to these staff members in their assignments!

Ms Riley—teacher

Ms. Baldwin—teacher

Ms. Hooper—teacher

Ms. Corcoran—Counselor

Ms. Manson—Hul 'q'umi' num teacher

Ms. Seymour—Aboriginal Education Assistant

Ms. Foulem— Secretary

## DATES TO REMEMBER

September 16	First fire/EQ drill
September 17	Football starts
September 18	Cross Country Running Starts
September 24	School photo day
September 25	Open House— 6:30 pm
September 27	Terry Fox Run— 11:15 am
September 30	Orange Shirt Day (Truth & Rec)
October 11	Non- Instructional Day
October 25	Non-Instructional Day

## New School Clothing

At our **Open House evening on Wednesday, September 25th, from 6:30– 7:30.** we will have school clothing for sale in the front foyer.

A chance to pick up some clothes for playing school sports, showing school spirit or a simple Christmas present.

Order forms will be emailed prior to the event and will be available that night. We will also have clothing samples on site that evening.



## Bell Schedule for the 2019-2020 School Year:

### Monday (early dismissal day)

Welcoming Bell	8:27 a.m.
School Begins	8:30 a.m.
Recess	10:15 - 10:30 a.m.
Lunch Break	11:45- 12:20 p.m.
Students' Lunch	12:21 - 12:36 p.m.
<b>Dismissal</b>	<b>1:22 p.m.</b>

### Tuesday-Friday

Welcoming Bell	8:27 a.m.
School Begins	8:30 a.m.
Recess	10:15 - 10:30 a.m.
Lunch Break	11:45- 12:20 p.m.
Students' Lunch	12:21 - 12:36 p.m.
<b>Dismissal</b>	<b>2:22 p.m.</b>

**CONTACTING THE SCHOOL** Throughout the year, if problems or concerns arise, or if you have any suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact the school promptly. The telephone number is 758-5076.

If, at any time, you wish to make an appointment to meet with any of the teachers please contact the school secretary Mrs. Stacey Milne who will arrange a meeting time that is mutually convenient for both you and the teacher. Many teachers are available via email as well.

## STUDENT EXPECTATIONS/BEHAVIOUR

During the first few weeks of a new school term, it is very important for students to review and to understand what will be the expected behaviour both in the classroom and on the playground. Throughout the year the following will be emphasized so that a safe and non-threatening environment can be maintained.

Students are expected to:

- Act in a safe and responsible manner, recognizing and respecting the rights of others as well as their own.
- Develop the use of self-discipline.
- Be courteous at all times; and
- Achieve to the best of their ability.

## LUNCH HOUR EXPECTATIONS

***STUDENTS are not able to leave the school grounds at any time without permission from their teacher(s) and written parental permission.***

Expectations for pupils remaining at school over the lunch break requires everyone's understanding. The following is basically the system that will be used and with cooperation from all, can be effective. Pupils will:

- play outdoors from 11:45 am. until 12:21 pm.  
Mon – Fri

- eat their lunch from 12:21-12:36 pm

- remain in their respective seats to eat their lunch.

This is a good habit to develop as it usually reflects the positive pattern set at home for the eating of meals.

## SCHOOL STUDENT AND PARENT HANDBOOK

The current school parent/pupil handbook has been included in the student day planners. Basic school policies, procedures and programs are outlined in these introductory pages. We hope that this format will serve as a useful reference for use throughout the school year.

## STUDENT SAFETY

If your child rides a bicycle to school, please review the rules of the road with him/her and ensure he/she has a bike lock. Bicycle helmets are mandatory for all riders. It is a good idea to have your child's name on the helmet. Also, students walking to and from school should use designated sidewalks and crosswalks.

## STUDENT PROPERTY

To assist the school with the return of any student property, should the need arise, it would be greatly appreciated if all school items and articles of clothing such as jackets, hats and gym strip were labeled with your child's name. Please check the Lost and Found periodically for lost items. Thank you.

## CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

Students are issued with several textbooks, supplies, equipment, etc., throughout the school year. It is the pupil's responsibility to take care of any item that is on loan to him/her. A school has a very limited budget for the replacement of materials and resources. Pupils who lose, deliberately deface or destroy school property will be expected to replace the same.

SCHOOL'S  
IN.



LOOK  
OUT.

NYPD

## STUDENT DAY PLANNERS

Teachers continue to stress the importance of preparing for today's world by teaching the skills of organization and time management. The student journal/planner is an effective tool in realizing these goals as it encourages interaction and communication between the child, the parent and the teacher.

Students in grades 2 to 7 (and some in grade 1) will use a planner to arrange, organize and co-ordinate all their assignments and correspondence between home and the school. **The cost for each planner is \$7.00. Planners will be on sale in the front foyer on Monday– Wednesday morning of the second week of school. Cheques can be made to SD 68 or cash Thank you.**

These Planners can be very useful in the areas such as:

- goal setting – home and school (long and short term)
- planning for future events
- keeping track of homework
- communication between home and students

**Students can make good use of their Planners by being responsible for:**

- having them at school on their desk or table, every day
- recording their homework
- recording their long and short range goals
- recording "coming events" reminders

**Parents can help by:**

- reviewing the Planner with your child(ren) (there are other useful parts of the book – times tables, calendars, math and spelling information, tips, etc.)
- looking at the daily entries and initializing the Planner
- writing a comment to the teacher if needed

**At school, teachers will assist by:**

- reviewing the Planner with the class
- checking the Planners regularly
- talking to students about goal setting
- allowing a few minutes at the end of the day for students to complete their Planners

## **RANDERSON RIDGE SCHOOL IS "NUT AWARE"**

We have students who have life-threatening allergies to peanuts, peanut butter, almonds, ground nuts and products which have peanut butter, peanuts or other nuts in them.

These students have an anaphylactic reaction to these products. They do not have to eat a peanut product to have a reaction. If someone nearby has a peanut product and touches a student, this can cause an anaphylactic shock.

**Once classrooms are set and if there is a child that has these issues, we ask that you do not send or bring any of these products containing peanuts in your child's lunch and/or snacks.**

Our "NUT AWARE" approach offers no absolute guarantees of safety but is our sincere attempt to do everything possible to ensure the safety of all of our students. Your cooperation, understanding and compassion are very much appreciated. Thank you!



## BACK TO SCHOOL TIPS TO HELP STUDENTS SUCCEED

(from the Ministry of Education)

**Here are some tips to help parents help their children start off on the right foot on the first day:**

- \*Check what time school starts
- \*Get your children started on their routine before the first day.
- \*Consider having them shift to their school bedtime and wake-up routine the week before school begins.

**Developing good study habits early plays a factor in student achievement. Parents can help their children study by:**

- \* Letting your children see you read and setting aside time each day for family reading.
- \* Setting up a homework area away from the TV with adequate supplies and lighting.
- \* Keeping an assignment calendar on the fridge for quick reference of due dates, exams and how they fit in with other activities.

**Parents play an active role in the school year by keeping students safe and healthy. Some ways to achieve this are:**

- \* Give your children's minds the fuel they need - make sure they eat breakfast.
- \* Make it easy. Keep nutritional snacks, such as cut-up fruit and vegetables, cheese sticks, low-fat yogurt and butter-free popcorn, on hand.
- \* Schedule regular medical and dental checkups.
- \* Ensure that backpacks are no more than 10 to 20 per cent of the student's bodyweight and that students use both shoulder straps.
- \* Make sure your kids know safe routes to and from school.

### Elementary School Students

- \* Get your children settled with their new routine by having them shift to their school bedtime and wake-up schedule the week before school begins.
- \* Have your children select their outfits the night before. This helps start the morning on a calm note.
- \* Meet your children's teacher and school principal. You can get valuable insight into your children's progress by talking to school staff.
- \* Get involved in the school community. Contact your local school board or the Parent Advisory Council at your child's school for volunteer opportunities.
- \* Talk to your children about the upcoming school year. Be positive and remind them of the friends they will meet, the new things they will learn and the fun they will have.
- \* Ask them to talk about the positive parts of their day. One good thing inside and one good thing outside—gets thought patterns focused on the positive.

Staff email addresses are on the school website along with an up to date calendar. Use these tools to stay aware of what is going on at the school and to keep communication open.

## FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM

Our school continues to be enrolled in the *BC Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program*. Every month, a different fruit and vegetable is provided to students in our school. The objectives of this program are to have students increase their consumption of fruits and vegetables and to increase their awareness of the positive health benefits.

If your child has any food allergies or you **do not want your child** to participate, please advise the school office as soon as possible. Our first scheduled delivery will be **Tuesday, October 8.**



## Professional Learning Communities (PLC)

Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools has adopted a framework for Professional Learning Communities. Professional learning communities are recognized as one of the most effective strategies schools can use to improve student outcomes. The PLC model for our district includes a combination of professional collaboration and learning to address provincial, district and school goals. In order to effectively establish our Professional Learning Community, an implementation plan has been designed.

On early dismissal Mondays, staff members will be engaged in professional learning and collaborative meetings to promote improved student learning during this time.

## OPEN HOUSE

Parents are invited to **Randerson's Open House on Wednesday, September 25th, 2019 between 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.** It will be an informal "meet and greet" evening. This is a perfect opportunity to visit the school, meet staff, and students can show their classroom to parents. **This is also sign up for Parent Teacher Interview in October and ordering school clothing.**



## **RISK/THREAT ASSESSMENT**

SD 68 takes all threats seriously. What parents and students need to know? Students and parents need to be aware of the steps the school district will take in responding to a threat:

- Any threats must be reported to the school principal, counselor, or some other responsible adult
- Nanaimo-Ladysmith schools will follow up on every reported threat.
- Follow-up may involve the police
- Interviews will be held with the threat-maker and any other students who may have information about the threat.
- Threatening behaviour may result in discipline for a student
- Intervention plans may be developed for the student making the threat and a support plan developed for any students who are the target of threats

## **FOOTBALL COACHES NEEDED**

Let Mr. Brick know if you can help in grade 6 or 7, girls and boys teams.



## **OUR WEBSITE** <https://rr.schools.sd68.bc.ca/>

This is the best place to keep up to date with what is going on in the school. By the end of the week, we hope to have the important dates for the year up. As more events get added, keep checking back to see what is going on that week. Thank you.

## **ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTERS/LISTSERVE COMMUNICATION**

Friday your child will receive a "1701" form that asks you to update all information about your child. We use this as the basis for all our contact information. We received a lot of positive feedback about our listserve messages and electronic newsletters last year. To continue, we need the bulk of our population to please fill in their email address on the form. If you are unable to receive electronic information, please indicate this on the form where it asks for your email address. We will endeavor to provide your child with a paper copy of the newsletter. Thank you and looking forward to increasing the ease of communication with our parents .



September 2017

Dear Parents/Caregivers:

I would like to inform you that numerous students in our school have **LIFE THREATENING PEANUT AND/OR TREE NUT ALLERGIES**. For this reason, we will ask your support in making sure your child **does not** bring Peanuts/Tree nuts, OR food items containing Peanuts/Tree nuts to school.

If you are planning to bring food items for class or birthday parties please refrain from sending items containing peanuts/nuts or any food that may contain traces of peanuts or tree nuts.

Please inform your caregivers of this situation as they may, at times, provide snacks or lunches for your children.

I appreciate your understanding and your support regarding this very serious health issue and I realize that this will require some adjustments on your part; however we need to ensure we do not put any of our students at risk at any time. Our school goal is to ensure all students are happy and healthy.

Thank you for your support and cooperation in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or the classroom teacher, if you have questions or concerns, and again thanks for your understanding.

**Suggested Snacks for School:**

- |               |               |                  |
|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| apple sauce   | crackers      | pears            |
| apple slices  | carrots       | peaches          |
| grapes        | celery sticks | rice cakes       |
| orange slices | kiwi          | pretzels         |
| strawberries  | fruit cups    | pepperoni sticks |
| cucumber      | melon         | blueberries      |

Sincerely,

Mr. Darren Brick  
Principal  
Randerson Ridge Elementary

### Library Volunteers Wanted!

Happy September Randerson Ridge Families! I am excited to return to our wonderful library, and as with last year, I am looking for adult helpers to lend me a hand with sign in/out, shelf reading, organization, and special events. Library volunteers, past, present, and future, provide invaluable support, helping to put books into students' hands.

Many volunteers choose to help during their child's library block or for special occasions. Please note that the **Scholastic Book Fair** is scheduled from **Oct. 13-19** to coincide with parent/teacher interviews.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cornthwaite 10:30-11:05	Kawaguchi 12:50-1:30	Hooper 11:05-11:45	Burnham 1:40-2:22	Uhlmann 9:00-9:40
Thompson 11:05-11:45	Noesgaard 1:35-2:15	Rounis 12:50-1:30		

\*Library times are subject to change over the next two weeks

If you are interested in volunteering either for a library block or for the book fair please attend my orientation session on **Wednesday, Sept 20 from 8:30-9:00 a.m.** Coffee and muffins will be provided in addition to information about library organization and book sign in/out processes.

If you have any further questions please feel free to send me an e-mail, or to swing by the library:

Sincerely,  
Currin Windecker—Learning Commons, I&I, and FSL  
Randerson Ridge Elementary  
[Currin.windecker@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:Currin.windecker@sd68.bc.ca)

## **Randerson Ridge Classroom Organization for 2017/2018**

Division 1	Grade 7	Ms. Adelborg
Division 2	Grade 6 and 7	Ms. Jamont
Division 3	Grade 5 and 6	Mr. Nixon
Division 4	Grade 5 and 6	Ms. East
Division 5	Grade 4 and 5	Mr. Rosenau
Division 6	Grade 4	Ms. Rosenau
Division 7	Grade 3 and 4	Ms. Hooper
Division 8	Grade 3	Ms. Burnham
Division 9	Grade 3	Ms. Kawaguchi
Division 10	Grade 2	Ms. Uhlmann
Division 11	Grade 1 and 2	Ms. Cornthwaite
Division 12	Grade 1	Ms. Thompson
Division 13	Kindergarten and 1	Ms. Rounis
Division 14	Kindergarten	Ms. Noesgaard

Student support	Mrs. Mack and Mrs. Bradshaw
Library	Ms. Windecker
Music	Mrs. Raducu
Counsellor	Ms. Kuffler
Child Family Support	Ms. Buckland
Educational Assistants	Ms. Balan, Ms. Birkeland, Ms. Cresswell, Mr. Davidson, Ms. Foulem, Ms. Henderson, Ms. Zavarise
Speech Language	Ms. Ziemanski
Police Liaison	Cst. Nowicki
Secretary	Mrs. Milne
Principal	Mr. Brick