



ANDERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Weekly Newsletter

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Anderson School

This Week's News! – May 9th to May 13th

Happy Mother's Day!

We hope all of our Anderson Moms have a special Mother's Day this weekend!

HAPPY 
Mother's
DAY

Saleema Noon
Body Science and Sexual Health Education

Parent Information Meeting Tuesday, May 10th, 6:30-8:00 PM

Please join us for an informative **Parents Workshop** via Zoom on **Tuesday, May 10th from 6:30-8pm**. In this session, Saleema or a member of her team will give an overview of student presentations and, using humor and straight talk in an open, interactive environment, will show parents how easy it is to convey healthy, meaningful messages about sex and growing up to young children.

Student sessions will take place during the school day on June 7th, 8th and 9th.

This meeting will be a virtual meeting and we hope you can join us.

Saleema Noon is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting:

Topic: Henry Anderson Parents
Time: May 10, 2022 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82274291828?pwd=WTZOR203TktqbnRuUEtnUIBERmlvZz09>

Meeting ID: 822 7429 1828
Passcode: 689458



Welcome To Kindergarten Orientation



Students who are registered to begin Kindergarten at Anderson in September, are invited to attend the *Welcome To Kindergarten* drive thru event on Thursday, May 19th. This is a great way to introduce the Anderson community to new students, and for the students to meet some of the Anderson Staff. Invitations will be emailed out to new Kindergarten families for this event next week.

Special Congratulations!

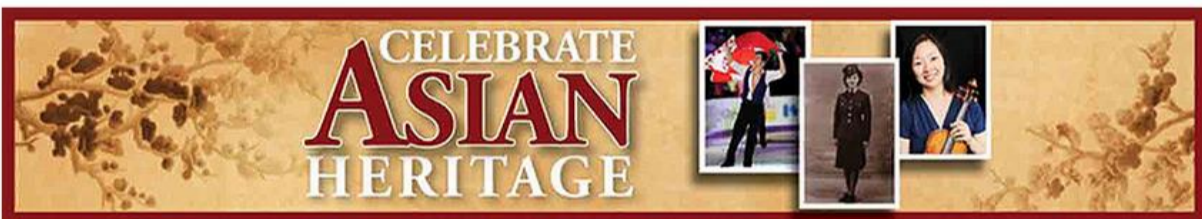


Special congratulations to Bryan Ning (Div 17 Grade 5) who recently took the Elmacon Math contest held by UBC. Bryan ranked in 1st place in both sprint -target and written and countdown categories. Bryan was excited to see his name and his elementary school together on the top of the list.

Well Done, Bryan!

May is Asian Heritage Month

This year's theme, Recognition, Resilience, and Resolve, embodies pan-Asian diversity and the invaluable achievements of communities of Asian descent in all parts of Canadian society. It also acknowledges their resilience and perseverance in continuing to overcome adversity through Canada's history. During Asian Heritage Month, we honor the significant contributions that Canadians of Asian descent have made, and continue to make, in shaping our society from coast to coast to coast. This month also provides a unique opportunity to learn more about the vast diversity of Asian cultures, languages, cuisine, arts, and more.



Grade 4 to 7 Students – Track Attack Starts Next Week!

Come ready for Track Attack in proper exercise gear... Having running shoes and comfortable clothing is important. Track Attack will run from 1:30 to 2:30 on Tuesday and Thursday next week, assuming the weather cooperates!



Understanding Combined Classes

It's the time of year when the Anderson staff begins to look at building classes for next year. Staff work very hard to ensure that all students are successful.

Often, the philosophy behind combined classes is misunderstood by parents. Children who are placed in the upper grade of a combined class are not placed there because they struggle in school. In a combined grade 4 and 5 class, we do our very best to ensure that for each grade, we have students who encompass a range of learning styles and abilities. **We do not place all of our strongest grade 5 learners into a grade 5/6 when a grade 4/5 classroom is also available.**

Teachers are trained to provide instruction to diverse classes of students, looking at children as individuals, and providing individual educational plans where warranted for students who are slower or faster to develop.

Combined classes offer enhanced opportunities for all students to demonstrate confidence, positive self-concept, and a strong sense of belonging. Combined classes can help students form broader and more varied friendships as older students provide role models for younger students. Sometimes the teacher/student relationship can be enhanced if the same teacher teaches a student for more than one year, leading to increased feelings of security for returning students and a smoother transition in September because the teacher already knows their learning styles and needs well. Teachers in combined classes, like those in straight grades, follow the curriculum requirements defined by the Ministry of Education.

Parent Input – Class Placements

Each year at this time, we begin to make school organization plans for September based upon the number of students we know are returning and new registrations that we have received. Before school ends in June, your child's current classroom teacher, resource teacher, educational assistants and administrators will work together to place students for the upcoming school year. These plans are tentative until the first week in September when final student numbers are known. In the first few days of September, all staff meets to confirm teaching assignments and review student placements.

In the organizational meetings, many factors are considered when placing students. These considerations include:

- learning styles and strengths
- work habits
- social/personal characteristics
- gender balance
- special needs
- friendship groups
- ELL levels
- contractual obligations
- age and physical maturity

If you would like the opportunity to provide the school with information about your child's placement for next year, you are welcome to complete a Parent Input form by **Friday, May 27th, 2022**. Please email Mr. Harrington at sharrington@sd38.bc.ca to request an input form – electronic copy.

The information you provide should **not include a request for a specific teacher** but rather some important personal or educational information that will assist us in our decision. Students who work well together or recent/ongoing conflict with other children would be helpful in placing students.

With limited placement possibilities, **input can be considered but never guaranteed**. All information provided will be shared with the teacher(s) and taken into consideration. Please be aware the final decision regarding placement will be a school based decision.

Accepting input after the Friday, May 27th is often problematic, as each child placed into a classroom is an important part of the structure that helps create a positive learning environment for all children placed. Like a house of cards, pulling one from the pile often impacts others and we would like to avoid this scenario.



Social Media 4 Parents

Our children need guidance to ensure their online experience will be safe. Your child has easy access to a very public place, which is quickly changing. Keeping current on new ways that social media is being used by our children is a daunting task. This workshop will provide an overview of the jargon, the risk, and how to explain the importance of internet safety to your child.

This workshop has been adapted for online facilitation.

The Anderson Elementary School PAC, is pleased to present this workshop with facilitators from the BC Teachers' Federation, on Monday, May 16, 2022 at 6pm, via Zoom.

Please register by sending an email to AndersonPACworkshop@gmail.com

Important Dates

Wednesday, May 4 Start of Morning Soccer Club for interested grade 3 – 5 students (8:10 – 8:40 am)

Tuesday, May 10 Saleema Noon Parent Meeting 6:30 – 8 pm. (Body Science)

Friday, May 20 Professional Development Day – **School not in session**

Monday, May 23 Victoria Day – **School not in session**