



Queen Elizabeth Elementary School

September 2023

Acting Principal: Marlene Jack
Vice Principal: Debbie Ramen

Upcoming Dates:

September 22: Terry Fox Run

Sept. 27 Individual and Class Picture Day

Sept. 28 PAC meeting 7:00 Via Zoom

Sept. 29 Orange Shirt Day

Oct. 2 National Truth and Reconciliation Day (Stat)

Oct. 2 - November 10 FSAs

Oct.6 Fire Drill

Oct. 9 Thanksgiving (stat)

Oct. 16 Book Fair Week

Oct. 18/19 Family Conferences- Early Dismissal 12:05

Oct. 20 Provincial Professional Day

Oct. 25 Earthquake Drill

Oct. 26 PAC meeting 7:00

Oct.26 Collaboration Day- Early Dismissal 12:05

Oct.27 Pumpkin Run

Dear Queen Elizabeth School Community,

We are off to a great start! Students have begun settling into their new classrooms and adjusting to routines. The teachers have been busy preparing their instruction and classroom environments, and learning is underway. We have welcomed our Kindergarten students and they began full days on September 19th.

The first two weeks of school were exciting and full of anticipation. It has been wonderful to welcome families into the new school year and watch the students play and interact with their peers.

We are looking forward to a year of learning, curiosity and engagement. The staff will continue to build on the competencies of the students and take joy in watching the students grow.

At Queen Elizabeth our vision is, *"to build a caring and inclusive community where children, staff and families learn together"*. In working together, we hope this vision comes to fruition, as we learn from one another.



Please ensure you check your email for any upcoming news and events.

You can also check out the website at: <http://queenelizabethschool.ca/>

If you have any questions please contact me at mjack@sd40.bc.ca

Post the yearly calendar on your fridge for reference <https://queenelizabethschool.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/QE-School-Year-Calendar-2023-24.pdf>

2023-2024 Organization

Enrolling Teaching Staff

Grade	Division	Div/Teacher	Room	Recess/Lunch	Schedule
4	1	Rod Dominguez	P6	B	
4	2	Alayne Madlambayan	P10	B	
4	3	Beth Minto	P7	B	
3/4	4	Lauren Elliott	P4	B	
3	5	Sarah Grant	P2	B	
3	6	Tracy Budiman	P9	A	
3	7	Navjyot Cheema	P1	A	
3	8	Jessica Baker	P3	A	
3	9	Shannon Peters/Debbie Ramen	P8	B	M-W/Th-F
2	10	M-W/Th-F	P5	A	
2	11	Aman Grewal	15	B	M,T,W,F/ Th
2	12	Sage Perry (M,T,W,F)/Elizabeth Laman (Th)	M1	B	
2	13	Christina Penny	24	A	
2	14	Allison Janz	M2	B	
1	15	Raj Dhaliwal	16	B	
1	16	Marlin Toftager	11	A	
1	17	Chelsey Rodgers	7	B	
1	18	Fionna Lenahan (Barnes)	10	A	
1	19	Rachel McClelland	23	A	
K/1	20	Kayla Yee	20	A	
K	21	Carina Harris/Giuliana Baracco	4	A	
K	22	Christine Blakeway	3	B	
K	23	Jeevan Sandhu	2	B	
K	24	Andy Lee Sept-Dec	8	A	
K	25	Sarah Wong Jan-June	5	B	

Non-Enrolling Specialist Staff

Staff	Position	Scheduled Days
Valerie Cho	Resource	F
Lucy Choi	ELL	M,T
Alim Kabani	Resource	M-F
Alice Kuo	ELL	M,W,TH,F
Ruchi Shangari	ELL	M-F
Oksana Stroutinska	ELL	M-F
Angela Essak	Resource Support	M, T
Sukhdeep Grewal	Resource Support	W, Th, F
Lindsay Mellor	Music Prep	T-F
Ravinder Toor (0.5/0.2/0.1)	Library Prep/Collab/Prep	M, T, Th, F
Georgia Nichols	Prep	T
Elizabeth Laman	Prep	W, F

Alin Arakelian	SWIS Worker	Th
Megan Kleisinger	SLP	M
Sarah Heinz	CYCW	M, W pm, Th
Jasmine Tannahill	Aboriginal Cultural Wk	Th

Educational Assistants	Custodial
Carmond Bell	Jag Chohan
Alicia Blandon	Mandeep Gill
Tara Cameron	Arturo Billena (Jet)
Trudy Duhra	
Marlene Furlong	Noon Hour Supervisors
Hannah Therrien	Dianna Blackmore
Sue Hoce	Jaswinder Shoker
Manpreet Kaur	Momo Yamasaki
Rav Kang Sidhu	Kamaljit Toor
Karamjit Mangat	Ashley Neufeld
Jocelyn Milne	
Sheena Marounek	
Claire Mun	Office Staff
Jocelyn Milne	Marlene Jack
Karuna Naidu	Debbie Ramen
Yvonne Patrignani	Paul Manville (currently on leave)
Shabnam Sandhu	Karen Hodgins
Claudia Zavaleta	Sheila Bachra
Nina Priddle	
Mae Anne Alay	

Here is the 2023/2024 PAC executive:

Chair: Tabitha Guichon

Vice Chair: Harpreet (Happy) Bal

Recording Secretary: Anu Sharma

Treasurer: Harpreet Grewal

DPAC Rep: Vacant

Members at Large: Carly Ballarin, Melissa Porrás-Sidhu



The email to contact the PAC is queenelizabethpac@gmail.com

Morning Procedure for Parents/Guardians

At QE there is a welcoming bell at 8:45 signalling school will soon begin, and students should head towards their designated classroom area for the morning bell that rings at 8:50.

If your child arrives to school after the bell, they will need to enter the school through the front doors where they will check in with the office.

For appointments during the school day, please let the office and your child's teacher know by email. This will help us have your child ready for you when you come to pick them up. Be sure to sign your child out before exiting the building. If your child is returning to school later in the day, they must be signed back into the school. We want to ensure that you and the school are aware of your child's whereabouts.

All students will be dismissed at 3:00 p.m. Please make sure that someone is at the school to pick up your child(ren) on time.

Student Absence:

We ask that a student absence be reported before the start of the school day. This helps to ensure that you have given permission for your child to be absent and supports our staff in accurately tracking and following up on absences. When we have an unreported absence, we need to contact you to confirm the absence and ensure your child's safety. This can be a time-consuming task for the office staff and can be avoided by reporting your absence before school starts. It is important that even though you may have communicated the absence directly to your child's teacher, that you inform the office as well. Your support and diligence here is greatly appreciated.

Absences can be reported:

- 24 hours a day through our voice message system at 604-517-6080
- Any time in advance, or before 9:15 am on the day of the absence, using the Report a Student Absence form on our school website at: <https://queenelizabethschool.ca/report-a-student-absence/>
- You can also email us at queenelizabeth@sd40.bc.ca

Bell Schedule

- Welcoming Bell 8:45 am (getting ready)
- Instruction 8:50 am to 10:15/10:30 am
- Recess A 10:15 to 10:30 am Recess B 10:30 to 10:45 am
- Instruction 10:30/10:45 am to 12:05 pm
- Lunch 12:05 pm to 12:51 pm
- Instruction 12:51 pm to 3:00 pm
- Dismissal 3:00 pm

Weather and Outside Activities

As the summer ends and fall (September 23) is upon us, the weather may become cooler. At Queen Elizabeth Elementary inside play days are rare. We keep students inside at recess and lunch play breaks when the weather is excessively wet, cold, or windy. We believe children need daily fresh air and in addition to regularly scheduled play breaks, staff at QE take advantage of our natural surroundings and will take students for outdoor lessons and activities. Children are far more resilient than we give them credit for; however, without proper jackets and footwear, cold, wet weather can be uncomfortable for anyone. Please ensure your child comes prepared for inclement weather with a proper RAIN jacket (one that sheds water instead of absorbing) and BOOTS (rubber/vinyl). Umbrellas and a change of clothes are also encouraged.

Recess and Lunch:

We will continue to do the split recess and lunch breaks as they have been successful. The student population is divided up, and our youngest students remain in their own specific play areas where they are supervised for the duration of the break. While one half of the school plays, the other half remains in their classrooms eating, maximizing the available play space.

Medical Information

If your child has allergies or medical issues, we need to be aware of, please let the office know right away. We need to make sure we have the appropriate information on file in case of emergency. Please note that students should not be in possession of any medication at school. **The staff may not administer medication to students unless the required form is completed and signed by the parent/guardian and physician.**



Anaphylaxis (allergies)- In the school there are allergies that range from mild to life-threatening anaphylaxis. It is important not to send food to the class without checking in with the classroom teacher.

A reminder our school is a nut safe school. We have many students that have serious allergies to nuts and we ask that you please DO NOT provide lunch or snack items that contain nuts, including Nutella.

Fuel Up! School Lunch Program

The district is proud to provide parents with the option to order a healthy and nutritious lunch on a daily, weekly, monthly, or occasional basis with our new provider the Lunch Lady.

Their budget-friendly and healthy daily lunch options meet the [BC School Nutrition Guidelines](#) – with menu options available to order through an easy-to-use online platform.

If you are interested, please see the following for more information: <https://newwestschools.ca/programs-services/fuel-up/overview/>

School Cash Online

Please ensure you have a school cash online account set up and ready. We use this account to process all payments to the school for planners, field trips, graduation hoodies, etc. Perhaps more importantly we use this system to complete school permissions for technology use, walking field trips and media and photo use. Your child will not be able to participate in these activities until these permissions are completed. You will find the School Cash Online on the school website and on the link below:

<https://queenelizabethschool.ca/register-now-for-school-cash-online/>

Student Verification Information:

Every year at this time we send home Student Verification sheets for families to update contact information for our records. Having up to date contact information is very important. Please watch for this coming home with your child, check your contact information carefully to make necessary changes or additions, sign and return them as soon as possible.

Traffic: Please help us keep our students safe.

As school has just begun again, it is a pertinent time to remind families of Traffic Safety in and around the school. **30 km/h School Zone** markings are up and around our school. They serve as a visual reminder to slow down, particularly on Salter as it is a busy pedestrian area at drop off (8:50 AM) and pick up (3:00 PM).

Drop off parking is limited in front of the school, and this is purposeful. We do not want more cars in front of the school, and we ask that you leave early, park further away on Salter or other side streets and walk the short distance to your class lineups each day.

School Roundabout and Staff Parking Lot – Parents are welcome to use the roundabout and drop off older students on the curb side, but we ask that you do not park in the staff lot at drop off and pick up times unless using the handicapped zone. There may be available spots, but these are needed for our staff, especially as our school is growing in size.

Please be reminded that there is a clearly posted NO STOPPING zone at the junction of Carter and Salter Street. This is our most challenging area, as the road narrows here and any vehicles parked in the no stopping zone impedes two-way traffic. This results in delays and unsafe conditions for drivers and pedestrians alike.



We love our pets, but not all individuals are comfortable around them. To support the health and safety of others on school property, animals are not permitted on school district property without prior approval or unless they are service animals. We ask all families who bring their pets to drop off and pick up students to arrange a spot just off school grounds to meet. We appreciate your support in this matter.

<https://newwestschools.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/AP-255-Animals-on-District-Property-180529.pdf>

Truth and Reconciliation Orange Shirt Day

September 29

We invite everyone to wear an Orange Shirt in recognition of the harm that Canada's residential school system did to the students' self-esteem, and as an affirmation of our commitment to ensure that everyone around us matters.



Foundation Skills Assessment

Each year, our grade 4 students participate in the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA).

The Foundation Skills Assessment is an annual province-wide assessment of all B.C. students' academic skills in grades 4 and 7, and provides parents, teachers, schools, school districts and the Ministry of Education with important information on how well students are progressing in the foundation skills of Reading, Writing, and Numeracy. FSAs will be administered to students between October 2- November 10.

For more information about the FSA's, please visit the following website:

www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/



Picture Day:

Wed., Sept. 27

Retakes: Fri., Nov. 3



For more information on the Code of Conduct click below:

<http://queenelizabethschool.ca/about-us/learner-success/code-of-conduct/>

Reminder:

During special events at QE, we understand that parents want to capture a photo or video of their child for a special memento. We ask that you be mindful that other children and adults are not comfortable having their photo taken or being recorded on video. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Community School Programs- <https://queenelizabethschool.ca/community-schools-programs/>

Rise Up Sports (Grades 2-4)

Have fun with sports! Learn and play basketball, soccer, and other fun sports and activities. Wear running shoes and bring a water bottle. Suitable for all skill levels.

The Power of Drawing (Grades 1 - 4)

Young Rembrandts teaches drawing, the fundamental skill of all visual arts to children. Your child will develop drawing and art skills, expand their creativity, imagination, and confidence.

New Westminster Soccer Club (Grades 2 – 4)

NWSC's weekly training sessions follow a progressive curriculum with the primary focus being on having fun through a games-based approach.

Canada Scores (Gr. 4 - 5)

Join our Canada Scores team - practice soccer, poetry, and mindfulness!

District Threat Assessment Protocol: Fair Notice

In the interest of student and staff safety and security, there may be times when schools conduct Threat Assessments.

What Behaviours Initiate a Student Threat Assessment? What is a Threat?

A student threat assessment will be initiated when behaviours include, but are not limited to, serious violence or violence with intent to harm or kill, verbal/written/drawn threats to harm/kill others, Internet, social media, email or text threats to harm/kill others, threatening gestures, possession of weapons (including replicas), bomb threats, and fire setting. All threats must be taken seriously, investigated and responded to.

Duty to Report:

To keep school communities safe and caring, staff, parents, students and community members must report all threat-related behaviours.

What is a Threat Assessment Team?

Each school has a Threat Assessment Team which is multi-disciplinary. The team may include the Principal, Vice-Principal, Counsellor, Resource Teacher and Police Officer. The District Threat Assessment Team may consist of District Staff, the Safe Schools Coordinator and other Ministries/Agencies (e.g., Ministry of Children and Family Development or Fraser Health Authority). District Staff and Community Agencies are trained in the Threat Assessment protocol and process.

Ideally parents/caregivers are involved and engaged in the process and have given consent to share information to support student safety. However, in emergency safety situations, such as Threat Assessments, all parties (the school, School District and the appropriate Community Agencies) have the ability to share information on a need-to-know basis; as supported by case law, and expanded upon by privacy commissioners, without consent or participation of the threat maker and their parents/caregivers.

What is the Purpose of a Student Threat Assessment?

- Ensure the safety of students, staff, parents/caregivers and others.
- Ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat.
- Understand factors contributing to the threat makers' behaviour, including the impact of trauma
- Be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat maker.
- Promote the emotional and physical safety of all.

What Happens in a Student Threat Assessment?

All threat making behaviour by a student shall be reported to the Principal who will activate the protocol for the initial response. Once the team has been activated, interviews may be held with the student(s), the threat maker, parents and staff to determine the level of risk and develop an appropriate response to the incident. Intervention plans will be shared with parents, staff and students as required.

Can I Refuse to Participate in a Threat Assessment Process?

It is important for all parties to engage in the process. However, if for some reason there is reluctance to participate in the process by the threat maker or parent/caregiver, the threat assessment process will continue in order to promote a safe and caring learning environment, with or without the consent of the threat-maker and/or their parents/caregiver.