



6551 Lynas Lane, Richmond, BC V7C 3K8 | 604-668-6330 | Early Earning 604 668-6318

Sherry Elwood - Superintendent  
K. D'Angelo - Area Superintendent  
Catherine Ludwig - Principal  
Andrei Sala- Vice Principal  
Monica Glaboff - Admin. Assist  
Carrie McCarthy - Admin Assist

## Important Dates

### SEPTEMBER

**Sept. 8** - Students go to new classes  
**Sept. 8** - Assembly @ 1:30  
**Sept. 13-15** - Camp Jubilee for gr. 6/7s  
**Sept. 20** - Meet My Teacher & Welcome Back PAC BBQ  
**Sept. 21** - Parent Workshop with Dr. MacNamara - more info coming..  
**Sept. 22** - PAC Meeting @ 9:00 am  
**Sept. 25** - Pro-D (No School)  
**Sept. 28** - Terry Fox Run  
**Sept. 29** - Orange Shirt Day

### School Schedule

Doors Open: 8:30 a.m.  
Classes Start: 9:00 a.m.  
Recess: 10:33 - 10:48 a.m.  
Lunch: 12:28-1:20 p.m. Dismissal: 3:00 p.m.

### PAC FACEBOOK PAGE



<https://m.facebook.com/BlairElementaryPAC/>



We welcome Olympian Evan Dunfee to Blair on September 8, 2017 at our 1:30 pm Assembly. Everyone welcome!

We Envision A Joyful Community That:

- ◆ Celebrates Learning
- ◆ Treasures Each Child
- ◆ Values Diversity
- ◆ Teaches the Ethic Of Caring
- ◆ Honours the Wonder Of Our Universe

Dear Blair Families,

Welcome back to a new school year at Blair Elementary. On behalf of the Blair Staff and the Parent Advisory Committee, we hope that everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable summer. A warm welcome is extended to our new families, both those in kindergarten and those with older children. We are confident that your children will soon make friendships that will assist them with settling in to a new school year.

We have a few staffing updates thus far. Due to the needs of the District, we are having an administrative change once again. **Mrs. Susan Tse** is moving to Brighthouse Elementary as Vice Principal. While we just got to know her over the summer, we are sad to see her go!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to **Mr. Andrei Sala**, who brings a wealth of experience. He has served with passion, hard work and dedication as a teacher and Vice Principal in Richmond and will be more than a welcome addition to our Blair community. Please kindly make him feel at home.

We also like to extend a warm welcome to:

- Mrs. Katie Hunter - grade 6/7 teacher
- Mrs. Daisy Khare - grade 2/3 teacher
- Mrs. Amy Pereria - Learning Resource Teacher
- Mrs. Lily The - Noon Hour Supervisor

We appreciate your patience as we finalize our numbers, our staffing allotment and our class lists; while at the same time wanting to welcome all children and settle them down to the business of learning together. We plan on moving our students into their new classrooms on Friday, September 8.

Teachers will be giving students a package of forms to complete on Friday, Sept. 8. These are extremely important and we ask that you complete and return them quickly. All fees will be paid on our school cash-online system. Please ensure your account details are up to date. New families will be given instructions for setting up an account in the package of forms sent home on Friday.

Our parking lot gets very congested during the 10 minutes before and after school. Please follow the traffic pattern for drop off by not leaving your car in the drop off/pick up lane and by pulling forward as cars leave. This allows cars to move more smoothly.

We'd like to invite you to visit our school's website. This will serve as a resource tool for all upcoming events, important reminders and you can catch up with our monthly Blair newsletter (please note this will be the only newsletter distributed on paper, all the rest will be emailed out.) Please ensure your email address is up to date with the office.

Our Back to School Night/Meet the teacher will be on Wednesday, September 20th. More information will come home soon. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Welcome Back!

Mrs. Ludwig and Mr. Sala



*This year we will include tips for your child's mental health in each newsletter.*

Back to school is always a big transition. Moving to a new a new teacher, and a changing social circle can be anxiety provoking for many children. The good news is that a little bit of preparation and forethought can make those first weeks of school easier for your kids – and yourself. Here is one way:

**Facilitate your child's bonding with the teacher.**

All kids need to feel connected to their teacher to feel comfortable in the classroom. Until they do, they are not ready to learn. Our Teachers know this, and "collect" their students emotionally at the start of the school year. There are lots of ways to help your child feel like he knows even a teacher he's never met. Once you find out your child's classroom assignment, begin talking about the teacher in fond and familiar terms.

*"When you're in Ms. Williams class, I bet she'll be impressed with what a great cleaner-upper you are."*

*"I'm pretty sure that Ms. Williams reads stories to the kids; she might read your favourite book if we bring it to school."*

*"Ms. Williams, you are a great teacher and I just know you and my David are going to love each other!"*

*"I am so happy you are in Ms. William's class. What are you excited about?"*

If you know other kids who have been in Ms. Williams' class, ask them to tell your child what their favourite thing was about her. Perhaps encourage your child to draw a picture to bring Ms. Williams. This might help your child will feel a fondness for her. Regardless, the feeling of familiarity, will help your child bond with her. If you believe that your child needs a bit extra reassurance ask the teacher. All teachers understand this issue and will pay extra attention to your child during that first weeks if you make them aware. My own daughter cried every day at the start of fourth grade until I had a conversation with the teacher; a week later she loved her and couldn't wait to go to school each morning!



