

April 21, 2023

Message from Administration

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

As we physically distance ourselves from friends and families, our main connections with them are done through technology, web-based platforms or social media. We, along with our children, are logging many more hours on the internet than ever.

To ensure that you and your children are practising responsible social media use, take a look at these guidelines. Before posting, **THINK** about how your post will impact your digital community:

- **T** - is it **True**
- **H** - is it **Helpful**
- **I** - is it **Inspiring** or is it **Illegal**
- **N** - is it **Necessary**
- **K** - is it **Kind**



Another code to abide by is, "If you can't say it to someone face to face, you shouldn't be saying it to them over the internet or on social media."

Modeling and practising responsible social media behaviour lead to safety for you and your children.

Online Interactions

Our school has continued to focus on helping our students be responsible digital citizens. We want students to be aware of the importance of keeping private information private. This means not giving out your name, birthdate or other personal information to others online, even if you think you know them. There are a few websites students have used to learn about appropriate interactions and safety precautions. We highly recommend parents check out the Common Sense Media (<http://www.commonsensemedia.org/>) website. This site can be a real support for parents who want to help their children navigate the digital world. Feel free to use this bookmark as a reminder to your child how to be socially responsible on social media.



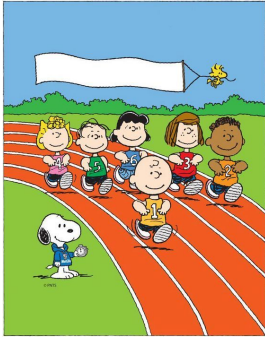
There is also an opportunity to attend a valuable Zoom workshop that the Richmond School District is hosting for parents on May 2nd at 6:30-8:30 called "Holding Onto Our Kids in a Digital World" given by Dr. Deborah MacNamara. Please see attached flyer for more information and registration.

Social and Emotional Learning at Blair

It was wonderful to see so many families attend our Social and Emotional Family event last week. We are on the third year of our Social and Emotional Learning journey together as a community and we were thrilled with the turnout! Thank you to our Social and Emotional learning committee who organized the evening and other staff members who helped to facilitate several sessions for families to further their understanding of the social and emotional skills and strategies we have been teaching the students at Blair. These skills and strategies are also connected to our school framework Blair Cares for Self, Others and Place. Some of the topics that were presented at this evening were: Mindfulness, Gratitude Circles, Self-Regulation Strategies, Outdoor Learning, Emotional Check-Ins, SEL-Using Hands on Materials in the Blair Studio and Social and Emotional Learning through Literacy. I have attached a resource that you may find helpful that Ms. Wood provided at her session, which is information about books and resources that we have in our school library that support Social and Emotional Learning. If you have any questions about our school goal on Social and Emotional Learning, please speak with your classroom teacher.



Track and Field is Back!



For the month of April students in Grades 3-7 have been participating in “Track Attack” three afternoons a week from 1-2 pm. This has been a wonderful opportunity for these students to experience and learn certain track and field events ie: high jump, softball throw, long distance running, sprints and relays and long jump. We are hoping to have as many of our Grade 3-7 students attend the Richmond Elementary School Zone Track Meet which will be held on Thursday, May 4th. Permission forms will be sent home in the next week for those participating. Thank you to all the teachers who have given of their time and expertise to support this physical education program.

Student Learning Survey 2022/2023



The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size, and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

This month, the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 and 7, their parents/guardians/caregivers, and all school staff. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey. Any computer with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link with or without an anonymous logon code by selecting the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the Results section.

The e-survey site will be open until April 30th. If you have any questions, please contact the school at 604-668-6330.

Music In Our Schools 2023



Music in our Schools (MIOS) is a series of concerts held at the Gateway Theatre highlighting our amazing school music programs. Concerts provide an opportunity for our young musicians to share their talents while performing on stage at a professional venue. MIOS dates this year are May 2, 3, 9, 10 and 11. Participating catchments this year are Burnett, McMath, McNair, McRoberts and Richmond.

This year our Blair Grade 6/7 Band students from Div.1 and 2 will be performing on May 11th from 6:30-8:30 pm. Tickets are available for families to purchase directly from the Gateway Theatre (www.gatewaytheatre.com/events/sd38-mios-2023). Parking for all events is covered so parents will

not need to pay at the venue. Please refer to the “Music in Schools” flyer that was sent yesterday for more information.

Summer Learning

Attention Richmond families! Did you know that Richmond Continuing Education Summer Learning Program is FREE for BC students who are Canadian Citizens, Permanent Residents and students who have Refugee status?



With an array of exciting and enriching courses and camps to choose from, your child is sure to have a memorable summer. Choose from Elementary Enrichment, Summer Exploration, Summer Fine Arts, Academic Full Credit, Academic Completion, Secondary Enrichment, and Secondary Enrichment Skill Building Courses. We also offer Summer Camps for both elementary and secondary students, with options for ages 6-16. Don't miss out on this opportunity to grow and learn in a fun and engaging way! Keep your child's learning journey going strong this summer and sign up now for Summer Learning 2023.

Mandarin Language Studies Program 2023 Summer Class

This summer we are offering “Fee Paying” Mandarin Language face to face and remote learning classes. Registration will open on April 20, 2023.

Courses offered:

- Reading and Writing for Level's K-Level 3
- Beginner and Intermediate Conversational classes
- Mandarin Language and Youth & Children Programs - Fall 2023
- Mandarin Language Studies: Mandarin Read/Write (Simplified Characters or Traditional Characters), Conversational Classes (Children / Youth / Adult), Chinese Read/Write for Youth / Chinese Writing Class, Chinese Instructor Training Diploma Program and Chinese Hybrid class (Cantonese Read/Write).
- Youth & Children Program: Cantonese / Chess / Coding & Programming / Computer / Drawing / English Study Skills / French / Math Study Skills / Music / Website Building

The registration for Fall 2023 is OPEN from Thursday, April 20th at 4 PM for current students. The registration for new students is on April 22nd (Saturday), at 10 am. Please visit www.RichmondCE.ca to register online.

Important Dates in May

Drumming Workshop for whole school- May 1st and 2nd

Professional Development day- May 19th

Victoria Day- School is closed – May 22nd