

Blair’s Week-At-A-Glance (WAAG) for Families:

May 6-10, 2024

There continues to be a lot happening at Blair! We have completed our Track and Field stations and are preparing for the Track Meet on May 13; many students, staff, and parents enjoyed the Just Us performance at the Gateway Theatre; our student Sexual Health Workshops begin this week; we are preparing for our Welcome to Kindergarten event on May 16; our Rocks and Rings curling program was very much enjoyed by participants; the school gardens have sprouted and are growing; and our staff continue to plan enriching experiences for students! At Blair we continue to teach acceptance for diversity as we celebrate our individuality. Through our Blair Cares for Others common language, we emphasize respectful and inclusive language towards others, and that there is no place for hurtful or disrespectful comments or language. We are looking forward to continuously growing as a community and are excited for the weeks ahead!

-Mr. Livingston

Highlights For Next Week Include:

<p>Monday May 6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:00 pm Pizza Day • 6:00 pm Options for Sexual Health Parent Night (virtual)
<p>Tuesday May 7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual Health Student Workshops (Div. 1, 2, 7, 10)
<p>Wednesday May 8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual Health Student Workshops (Div. 1, 2, 7, 10)
<p>Thursday May 9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richmond Honour Band Performance 9:30am • 1:00 pm Rocks and Rings Program (Div. 3, 7, 8)
<p>Friday May 10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:00 PAC Hot Lunch

For individual class/club/team activities please check with the specific Blair staff member

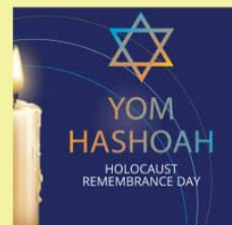
Significant Dates in our Community



May is Asian Heritage and Canadian Jewish Heritage Month

May 5th-6th:
Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day)

May 10th:
Bear Witness Day



Upcoming Important Dates and Special Events:

- May 13** District Track Meet @ Minoru (grades 3-7 students)
- May 15** Rain Out Track Meet
- May 16** Welcome to Kindergarten @ Blair 1-2pm
- May 17** Pro-Day - No School for students
- May 20** Victoria Day – School closed for Victoria Day holiday
- May 21, 22, 23** Student Sexual Health Workshops (Div. 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9)
- June 3-7** Bike to School Week
- June 14** Sports Day; Early Dismissal
- June 24** Grade 7 Farewell Assembly
- June 27** Last Day of School before summer break

Notes from the Office:

If your child is going to be absent from school for an extended period of time, contact the office for an Extended Absence application form and please let your child's teacher know.

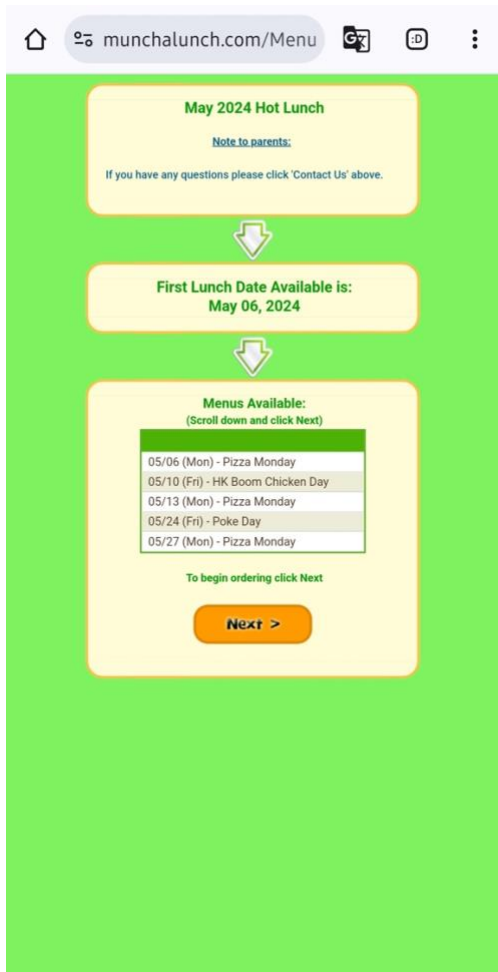
If you know that you will be returning late to next September (due to extenuating circumstances) please see Notice of Late Return form on our school website.

<https://blair.sd38.bc.ca/news/2024/05/notice-late-return-form-september-2024>

On April 24th, your child's Term 2 Written Learning Update was posted! Please view and download.



May Hot Lunches from the PAC are loaded to MunchALunch!



Sexual Health Education at Blair, Term 3

Each year, students in all elementary grades in BC receive instruction in sexual health education, as part of the Physical Health Education area of learning. Please view the BC Ministry of Education's curriculum website for reference:

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/physical-health-education>

In Term 3, all students at Blair will be learning about sexual health through a unit taught in their classrooms, based on the curriculum. To support Blair teachers, we are fortunate to have a professional sexual health educator (Hayley) from Options for Sexual Health support each classroom for two sessions, on either May 7, 8, 21, 22, or 23! Please see the handout below from Options for Sexual Health. Here are some details:

- This classroom unit, supported by a professional sexual health educator, will teach grade-level content, as specified in the BC Ministry of Education curriculum
- Parents are invited to a Parent Night/Workshop on Monday May 6, from 6-8pm to meet Hayley, ask questions, and learn strategies about how to share information with their child as a parent/caregiver
- The Options for Sexual Health elementary school education program is supported by SD38, and is highly recommended by other schools in Metro Vancouver
- Each division will have two workshops with Hayley, to support the unit taught in the classroom
- The workshop schedule has been shared with families
- The school has appreciated feedback from parents, through consultation with the PAC and discussions at PAC meetings, to find a program that teaches within grade-level curriculum!
- There is no cost to families

Remember, if you have questions about the student workshops, PLEASE COME to the Askable Adult Parent Information Session/Workshop on Monday May 6 from 6-8pm!

Please contact Mr. Livingston or your child's classroom teacher if your child will not be participating in the workshops with their class. Please indicate if you will keep your child at home OR if they will need to stay at school in an alternate learning environment.

*Please note: families will need to address these sexual health education curriculum topics by an alternate means of delivery if their child doesn't participate in the workshops.

Blair school respects each family's decision to have their child participate in the workshops or not!

BC Sexual Health learning standards

Topics are selected from the BC Ministry of Education learning standards for Sexual Health Education.

Options for Sexual Health-Certified Sexual Health Educators have extensive training and backgrounds in sexual and reproductive health, and have numerous years of experience teaching health education to all grade levels. All sessions are delivered in an age-appropriate manner, tailored to meet the needs of each group, and based on the most current scientific data.

Below lists what students are expected to know at each grade level and suggested class time. A minimum of 2 sessions should be considered with each grade level.

Elementary School level

Kindergarten-Grade 3 (3 sessions each): (30min classes for Grades K-2 and 45min classes for Grade 3)

- Names for parts of the body, including male and female private parts
- Appropriate and inappropriate ways of being touched
- Hazards and potentially unsafe situations
- Strategies and skills to use in potentially hazardous, unsafe, or abusive situations
- Factors that influence self-identity

Grade 4 and 5 (2-3 sessions each):

- Physical, emotional, and social changes that occur during puberty, including those involving sexuality and sexual identity
- Factors that influence self-identity, including body image and social media

Grade 6 and 7 (2-3 sessions each):

- Physical, emotional, and social changes that occur during puberty and adolescence
- Influences on individual identity, including sexual identity, gender, values, beliefs and relationships
- Practices that reduce the risk of contracting sexually transmitted infections and life-threatening communicable diseases
- Reproductive structures and functions (from Science 6 curriculum, but necessary to discuss safer sex practices)



[District Update] City of Richmond – Youth Week (May 1-7)

The City of Richmond recognizes Youth Week during May 1-7, with lots of activities for youth! <https://www.richmond.ca/culture/calendar/special-events/youthweek.htm>



Student and Family Affordability Fund

The provincial government recently announced a renewal of one-time funds for the Student and Family Affordability Fund. This fund is designed to assist families who require financial assistance with school-related costs in the following areas:

- *school and course fees*
- *school supplies and course materials*
- *field trips*
- *school-related extracurricular opportunities*
- *clothing and footwear required for sports and school activities*

Please reach out to Mr. Livingston at alivingston@sd38.bc.ca if you are in need of assistance. As always, all requests will be treated with dignity and your privacy will be respected. We want to work with our families to ensure that our students, your children, have everything they need to be successful at school. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can help.

(link)



Cybersafe from Exploitation

Parent Presentation

Did you know?

- Luring counts for more than 75% of online sexual exploitation reports
- Sextortion (digital blackmail) affects boys the most
- Fortnite, Roblox, Minecraft, and Discord are the top dangerous gaming platforms
- It is difficult to experience a gut feeling online
- At any moment, there are 750,000 predators online looking to connect

What we will cover:

- Defining sexual exploitation and why online poses more risk
- Current online exploitation trends
- Effective language to use when talking to children
- The red flags and warning signs of grooming
- How AI and Deepfakes connect to exploitation
- Digital blackmail into sextortion, trends, and what to do
- Information sharing- What is and is not okay
- Addressing risks associated with online gaming platforms
- Age of consent laws and how they can help you as a parent
- How to have effective conversations with your child
- The answers to common concerns amongst parents

May 23, 2024

7pm Register at:
<https://shorturl.at/tOPUo>



www.exploitationeducation.org

RICHMOND
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38