

# Kingswood Eagles News

Newsletter #1 September 11th, 2025



Telephone: 604-668-6280  
Student Absence: 604-668-6220  
Website address: [kingswood.sd38.bc.ca](http://kingswood.sd38.bc.ca)  
School email: [kingswood@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:kingswood@sd38.bc.ca)

Principal: Mr. Rusty Mason  
Admin. Assistant: Ms. Gina McCallum  
Area Superintendent: Ms. C. Brautigam  
Trustee: Ms. A. Wong

這是重要的通告，希請人譯讀。  
ਇਹ ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਹੈ; ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਵਿਸ਼ੇ 'ਤੇ ਵਿਸ਼ਲੇਸ਼ਣ ਕਰਨਾ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਹੈ।

Welcome back to a new school year at Kingswood Elementary.  
We are so happy to be in the school together!  
We are looking forward to a great year.

We are thrilled to welcome the following new staff members to Kingswood:

Ms. Stephanie David – Classroom Teacher in Division 8  
Mr. Ryan Chang – Classroom Teacher in Division 3  
Mr. Jordan Hirayama – Prep Teacher and Learning Assistance Teacher  
Mr. John Javerto – Learning Resource Teacher  
Ms. Brooklyn Kirkbride – Educational Assistant  
Mr. Rusty Mason – School Principal

### School Organization

We have completed our classroom organization and students have been in their new classes for four days. The staff have spent many hours to ensure that the students were placed in classrooms that would be most beneficial for their learning and social needs. Kingswood staff and students are excited to start the new school year together.

### Kingswood Teaching Staff 2025-26

|                     |                                       |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Mr. R. Mason        | Principal                             |
| Mr. D. Taylor       | Div. 1 Intermediate Teacher           |
| Mr. C. Leung        | Div. 2 Intermediate Teacher           |
| Mr. R. Chang        | Div. 3 Intermediate Teacher           |
| Ms. A. Arnsdorf     | Div. 4 Intermediate Teacher           |
| Ms. M. Olding       | Div. 5 Primary / Intermediate Teacher |
| Ms. E. Conway       | Div. 6 Primary Teacher                |
| Ms. A. Loughheed    | Div. 7 Primary Teacher                |
| Ms. S. David        | Div. 8 Primary Teacher                |
| Ms. E. Piperni      | Div. 9 Primary Teacher                |
| Ms. S. May          | Div. 9 Primary Teacher                |
| Ms. N. Kargopolova  | Teacher-Librarian / ELL Teacher       |
| Mr. I. Chen         | Learning Resource / ELL Teacher       |
| Ms. S. Gaia-Maretta | Learning Resource / ELL Teacher       |
| Ms. S. Ip           | Learning Resource / ELL Teacher       |
| Mr. J. Javerto      | Learning Resource / ELL Teacher       |
| Mr. J. Hirayama     | Prep / Learning Assistance Teacher    |
| Mrs. L. Elliott     | Band Teacher                          |
| Ms. J. Davies       | Educational Assistant                 |
| Ms. C. Johnson      | Educational Assistant                 |
| Mr. D. Kelm         | Educational Assistant                 |
| Ms. B. Kirkbride    | Educational Assistant                 |
| Ms. H. Sandhu       | Educational Assistant                 |
| Ms. A. Tamoyose     | Educational Assistant                 |
| Mr. J. Tang         | Educational Assistant                 |



|                  |                                    |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Ms. K. Hunter    | School Counsellor                  |
| Ms. D. Markoff   | Speech and Language Pathologist    |
| Ms. A. Dennstedt | Hearing Resource Teacher           |
| Ms. M. Bharaj    | SWIS (Settlement Worker in School) |
| Ms. V. Shanmugha | District Inclusion Support Team    |
| Mr. J. Campbell  | Indigenous Success Teacher         |
| Ms. M. Chan      | Educational Psychologist           |

### Kingswood School Support Staff

|                  |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ms. M. McCallum  | Senior Administrative Assistant |
| Ms. L. Mckibbon  | Noon Hour Supervisor            |
| Mr. G. Rodrigues | Noon Hour Supervisor            |
| Ms. V. Sarkaria  | Noon Hour Supervisor            |
| Mr. E. Aquino    | Custodian                       |
| Ms. K. Chow      | Public Health Nurse             |

## Messages From The Office



### Safe Arrival

If your child is going to be absent from school at any time, please phone the **Kingswood Early Warning Line at (604-668-6220)** to report your child’s absence or leave a message. In your voicemail, please leave your child’s name, division or teacher’s name, and the reason for their absence. Parents of children who are unaccounted for will be contacted to determine their child’s whereabouts. We may follow up with a phone call to find out if their absence is due to an illness. **PLEASE KEEP YOUR CONTACT NUMBERS UPDATED at the office.**

### Parking Lot

Please use the DROP OFF area to let your children out of your car. THIS IS THE RIGHT LANE OF OUR TRAFFIC CIRCLE.



•Please do not park and leave your car in the Drop Off lane of our Parking Lot. If you drive to the school and then want to accompany your child to their classroom, we ask that you park in empty parking spaces in the school lot or you find a parking spot in the neighbourhood. Please help us to reduce congestion in our busy parking lot and keep students and visitors safe. The best way to reduce traffic in our parking lot is to walk to school with your child – it helps the environment and is healthy exercise for you and your child!

## **Driving in Neighbourhood School Zones**

With school starting up, it is important to remind both drivers and pedestrians to keep traffic safety in mind and remain alert during their commutes. Here are some tips for drivers, pedestrians and parents from ICBC to make travelling to and from school safe for everyone.

### **Drivers**

- **Stick to the Speed Limit**

A 30 km/h speed limit is in effect in school zones from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every school day, unless otherwise posted. In playground zones, a 30 km/h speed limit is in effect every day from dawn to dusk.

- **Scan Crosswalks and Intersections from Left to Right.** As you approach the school watch for pedestrians waiting to cross, especially during school hours.

- **Leave your phone alone.** Distraction is the leading factor for drivers in crashes involving pedestrians and cyclists.

- **Notice if other drivers are slowing down or stopping.** If a vehicle is stopped in front of you or in the lane next to you, they may be yielding to a pedestrian, so proceed with caution and be prepared to stop.

- **Give yourself enough stopping distance.** You need more time to stop when you're driving fast. At a slower speed, motorists have a better chance to react when children or others are crossing the road. This could be the difference that saves a life.

- **Watch for School Buses.** When their lights are flashing, vehicles approaching from both directions must stop.

### **Pedestrians**

- **Cross Only at Marked or Controlled Crosswalks.** Do not ‘jaywalk’ or cross when it isn’t your turn. Look both ways before crossing the street. Ensure it is safe to cross from both directions of traffic before setting foot on the crosswalk. Make eye contact with drivers approaching the crosswalk. Be certain they see you and that they’ve committed to slowing down to a stop.

- **Double-Check lights and signals are working at controlled crosswalks.** Make sure that the flashing traffic lights are operational and haven’t timed out before crossing.

### **Parents**

- **In the school parking lot,** let your child enter and exit your car on the side closest to the sidewalk (passenger side). It’s safest to drop off and pick up as close to the sidewalk as possible.

## **Early Dismissal From Class**

Parents if you wish to pick up your child from the school before the end of the regular school day, we ask that you send an email or note to your child’s classroom teacher so the teacher knows you will be picking up your child before regular dismissal time.

Please also try to email or call the School Office before you arrive to pick-up your child, so we can have your child ready at the office when you get to the school. This will save you time and you won’t have to wait for your child. Please check-in at the School Office when picking up your child.



# Health and Safety Protocols and School Schedule Changes

Our main focus this year, besides student learning, is to keep all students and staff safe and healthy. Our Health and Safety Protocols were successful in the past four years. We continue the following Safety Protocols this year:



- Hand Washing throughout the school day (upon arrival, when changing locations in the school, after using the washroom, before and after eating, before and after break times, before going home for the day)
- Recess and lunch play breaks are outside rain or shine
- If a student is ill, they should stay home
- If a student is appearing ill at school, a parent will be notified and asked to pick up their child
- Daily Cleaning and Disinfecting of common surfaces at the end of each day in preparation for the next day
- Mask Wearing for students and staff is welcome and the choice of each individual

## Lunch Time

 Each weekday, lunch starts at 11:50am and ends at 12:42pm. Students play outside first (11:50am-12:22pm). Students come inside to eat in their classrooms from 12:22pm to 12:42pm. Afternoon instruction begins at 12:45pm.

All students are to remain on the school grounds during lunchtime, unless a parent informs the office that their child may go home for lunch.

**PLEASE HAVE LUNCHESES AT SCHOOL BY 12:20p.m. Please do not disturb classes by delivering lunches to the classrooms.**  
**You can leave your child’s lunch on the table outside the office, please label your child’s lunch. Thank you.**



## School Timetable

### PLEASE HELP YOUR CHILD(REN) ARRIVE AT SCHOOL ON TIME!

#### School Hours

Monday - Friday 8:40 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

**Note:** The first bell rings at 8:40 a.m. Students are expected to be entering their classroom at 8:40am and ready at their desks for attendance at 8:45am. **Part of being Socially Responsible is caring for others. When students are late, they disturb the teacher and students who have started on time.**

**Recess:** Monday – Friday 10:10 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.

**Lunch:** Monday – Friday 11:50 a.m. – 12:42 p.m.

**Dismissal:** Monday – Friday - 2:45 p.m.

**Thank-you for noting the arrival time in the morning at 8:40am.** It is important that students are in class before 8:45am so they do not miss the start of daily instruction. If your child arrives later than 8:45am, their classroom door may be closed.

**Entrance to the school after 8:45am should be done through the Main Entrance at the front of the school.**

## **Student Cell Phones and Electronic Musical Devices**

We acknowledge that many of our older students have personal cell phones. However, in order to respect the learning environment within the school and classrooms, students are to ensure that all phones are turned off from 8:40 am to 2:45 pm. If there is an emergency situation, or a student needs to call parents during the school day, staff will gladly assist them. Please do not call or text your child on their phone during the school day.



With regards to all personal electronic devices, please note the following: if personal electronic devices are reported lost, damaged or stolen (as has unfortunately happened in the past) the school cannot be held responsible. We thank you for your support in this area.

## **STUDENT SUPPLIES**



### **Basic School Supplies for Elementary Students**

The Board of School Trustees has approved the Schools Supplies Service Program for 2024-25. The cost to each student for their school supplies for the entire school year is \$35.

The School Board continues to offer this service as a cost saving support to families, and as a way of standardizing basic supplies for classroom use. Exercise books, duotangs, papers, pencils, pens, crayons, felts, pencil crayons, rulers, erasers, glue, paint and more are supplied in quantities appropriate to each grade level. Individual teachers may ask students to bring other items not covered by our School Supplies Service Program. Information on how families can pay for school supplies and student planners was sent home in paper form with your child(ren) on Wednesday, September 10th: payment is to be made online through SchoolCashOnline.

### **Student Agendas – All Divisions**



As part of the personal planning curriculum students in Divisions 1-7 are expected to use a daily agenda. In order to provide uniformity for all classes the school provides agendas at a cost of \$6. Students received their agenda this week. You can pay for your child's agenda on SchoolCashOnline.

## **Student and Family Affordability Fund**

Recently, the provincial government announced the renewal of the [\*Student and Family Affordability Fund\*](#). This fund is designed to assist families who require financial assistance with school-related costs such as school and course fees, workbooks, specialty supplies, field trips and other school-related charges and costs. The Student and Family Affordability Fund will also be used to support school meal programs and other nutritional supports for students.

At this time, we are requesting that families reach out to Mr. Mason if you are in need of assistance with school supplies, fees or other school-related costs. 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 in order to be successful at school. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can help. **Call Mr. Mason at 604-668-6280 or email at: [rmason@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:rmason@sd38.bc.ca)**

# UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS



## Meet the Staff Evening – Tues. Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> (5–6pm)

The Kingswood 'Meet the Staff' event is set for Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm to 6:00pm next week. All families are invited to come to the school to meet the staff. Families can meet their child's classroom teacher in their classroom from 5:00pm to 5:40pm, followed by a short assembly in the gym where all staff will be introduced to families.

Mark your calendars. We hope you can join us for this welcoming event.

## First Parent Advisory Council (P.A.C.) Meeting of the school year on Wed. Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The Parent Advisory Council's mandate is to facilitate and promote effective communication between home and school and to foster parent participation in educational activities and decision-making. Every parent or guardian of a student at Kingswood Elementary is a member of the Kingswood PAC and are encouraged to become involved.



The **first P.A.C. meeting** for this school year will take place on **Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:00p.m. – 7:30p.m.**

This meeting will be in-person at Kingswood School and can also be watched online through Microsoft Teams. Mr. Mason will send out a link to join the Microsoft Teams meeting very soon.

## PRO-D DAY – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22<sup>nd</sup>



Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, is a Professional-Development Day for teachers. **Students do not come to school on this day.** The Kingswood School Staff will be meeting on this day to learn and plan together.

## **Individual Photo Day -** **Wednesday September 24th**



**Individual student photos will take place Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.** Students are encouraged to look their best. All students will receive a photo print to take home. If parents wish, they can order photo packages after the print is brought home by their child.

## **Terry Fox Run to Cure Cancer -** **Friday Sept. 26th**



The TERRY FOX RUN at Kingswood will take place on Friday, September 26th at 1:30 p.m. Parents can join us! Please consider sending a Toonie or more donation with your child to school for The Terry Fox Foundation, so the Kingswood Community can do our part to help find a cure for cancer. Our goal is to raise \$500 for the Canadian Cancer Foundation. We can do it together, Kingswood Family!

## **Orange Shirt Day at Kingswood - Monday** **Sept. 29th**

Orange Shirt Day is a commemorative day that honors the survivors of Residential Schools and remembers the children who attended Residential Schools and never made it back home to their families.



## **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation -** **Tuesday, Sept. 30th**



The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation takes place each year on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Schools will be closed in observance of this day on Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

We encourage everyone to wear an Orange Shirt on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Wearing orange is a symbol of our sadness from the stripping away of culture, freedom, and self-esteem, experienced by Indigenous children and families over many generations.

# **IMPORTANT** **FORMS**

## **1. Student Verification Forms**

Please ask your child(ren) for their Student Verification Form that was sent home with them yesterday. This form should be reviewed by parents to make sure that all student information, including contact numbers and medical information is correct. **Please return the Student Verification Form to your child's teacher by Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

## **2. Media Release Form**

Please return the Media Release / Email Consent form that was sent home yesterday with your child. You must tick 'Yes' to receive school district emails. If we don't hear from you, or you choose 'No', then you will not receive the school emails and newsletters. **The Media Release Form should be returned to your child's teacher by Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

## **3. Walking Field Trips Form**

This form allows your child to participate on walks into the Kingswood Neighbourhood with their class and teacher. **Please return this form to your child's teacher by Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

# **SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS**

**Moving forward, Newsletters will be written for the last Friday of every month.** We will be putting them on our website along with other school information. Check it out!



**Website address: [kingswood.sd38.bc.ca](http://kingswood.sd38.bc.ca)**

**PLEASE NOTE:** This year, in an effort to be environmentally conscious, newsletters will be sent home electronically, by email, to families. Kingswood Elementary newsletters will be sent to parent email addresses. If you choose to not receive electronic newsletters, please remember to watch for the latest newsletters on our website.



**\*\* Please make sure to add [rmason@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:rmason@sd38.bc.ca) to your contacts list, so that emails go to your inbox and not your junk mail!**

# DATES TO REMEMBER

## Dates to Remember

- |                                    |                                                              |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| • Tuesday Sept. 16 <sup>th</sup>   | Meet the Staff Evening Event (5-6pm)                         |
| • Wednesday Sept. 17 <sup>th</sup> | PAC Meeting @ Kingswood (6-7:30pm)                           |
| • Monday Sept. 22 <sup>nd</sup>    | ProD Day – no school for students                            |
| • Wednesday Sept. 24 <sup>th</sup> | Individual Student Photo Day                                 |
| • Friday Sept. 26 <sup>th</sup>    | Terry Fox Run @ 1:30pm                                       |
| • Monday Sept. 29 <sup>th</sup>    | Orange Shirt Day at Kingswood                                |
| • Tuesday Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup>   | National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (school is closed) |
| • Friday Oct. 3 <sup>rd</sup>      | September Recognition and Sharing Assembly                   |
| • Monday Oct. 13 <sup>th</sup>     | Thanksgiving Holiday                                         |
| • Tuesday Oct. 14 <sup>th</sup>    | Richmond School District Fun Run                             |
| • Thursday Oct. 16 <sup>th</sup>   | Early Dismissal @ 11:50am for Parent Teacher Conferences     |
| • Friday Oct. 24 <sup>th</sup>     | Provincial ProD Day – no school for students                 |
| • Thursday Oct. 30 <sup>th</sup>   | October Recognition and Sharing Assembly                     |
| • Friday Oct. 31 <sup>st</sup>     | Hallowe'en at Kingswood                                      |