

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



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Welcome - it is good that you are here!

First Day Back - Students will be heading back to their last year's teacher with dismissal at 10:20am for the entire school. Any new students to Leary will head to the gym. The remainder of the week, students will be in learning communities (made up of combined grades, 2 teachers, an Inclusive Design Teacher, and support staff). The whole first week, students spend time in learning communities to build relationships with each other. This allows us to have the best possible placement for all students. Your child will come home with information on where to line up the remainder of the week after the first day. Looking forward to a great year as we ROAR together!



DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sept. 8 - School Opens: **Early Dismissal @10:20am Gr. 1-5**
- Sept. 9 - Regular Day for Gr. 1-5 8:20am-2:20pm
- Sept. 8-18 - Kindergarten Gradual Entry
- Sept. 14 - Classes Set for Gr. 1-5
- Sept. 24 - Open House @5:00pm
- Sept. 29 - **Orange** Shirt Day
- Sept. 30 - National Truth & Reconciliation Day - No School



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

We provide classroom supplies your child needs. Payment per child is \$50. This is paid online using Rycor Quickpay System: <https://www.studentquickpay.com/sd33/> Please send inside shoes and a full-size backpack.



RAIN OR SHINE

We go outside regardless of the weather every day. If your child needs a clothing item to help make that more enjoyable, please reach out to the classroom teacher.



COMMUNICATION

Monthly newsletters and a weekly email are sent to families with important information/reminders for the upcoming week. Your child's classroom teacher is the first person to reach out to with questions, concerns or comments regarding your child. Please ensure we have an updated email and contact information.



MESSAGES TO STUDENTS

If you need to get a hold of your child during school hours, contact the office as per the District Student Cell Phone Policy.



REPORTING ABSENCES

For any student absence/lates, we need you report it. Our Safe Arrival Program is available 24 hours per day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported. You can use one of the following:

1. Download and install the SchoolMessenger App. (First time users need to create an account, select Attendance and then Report an Absence).
2. Access from the website:
<https://www.sd33.bc.ca/safe-arrival>
3. Call toll free: 1-833-698-6567



ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Family Accident Reimbursement Plan – iA Financial Group offers a comprehensive accident insurance plan for those who may not have additional coverage to cover student injuries that occur on school grounds:

<https://sd33.bc.ca/accident-insurance>



E-SCOOTERS/E-BIKES

To align with provincial laws, students are not permitted to bring these to school under the age of 16. Students are welcome to ride bikes and scooters.



CODE OF CONDUCT

We expect our students, staff, families and community members to follow our Code of Conduct. We can ROAR together with Respect, Open-Heartedness, positive Attitude and are Responsible. For reference throughout the school year, our Code of Conduct is posted on our website.



PET FREE SCHOOL

For the safety and comfort of all students and staff, our school grounds are a pet-free zone.



VISITORS

All visitors must check in at the office. We need to know who is in our building at all times for the safety of all. All visitors will be given a pass to indicate that they have checked in at the office. Dropping off items or students, we ask families to say goodbye at our office to build independence.



DRESS GUIDELINES

Clothing needs to be suitable for a school learning environment. We expect student, staff and families to dress in a way that respects this, our [District Policy](#) and the BC Human Rights Code.



PHOTOS/VIDEOS

Due to privacy, we ask you to be present and enjoy events. Photos/Videos taken on school grounds are not permitted to be shared online/social media.



ALLERGY AWARE

There are students with severe allergies (Nuts, fragrances, bee stings, etc). For these classes, certain items may be prohibited, which will be communicated to families to create a safe space for all.

PARKING ETIQUETTE

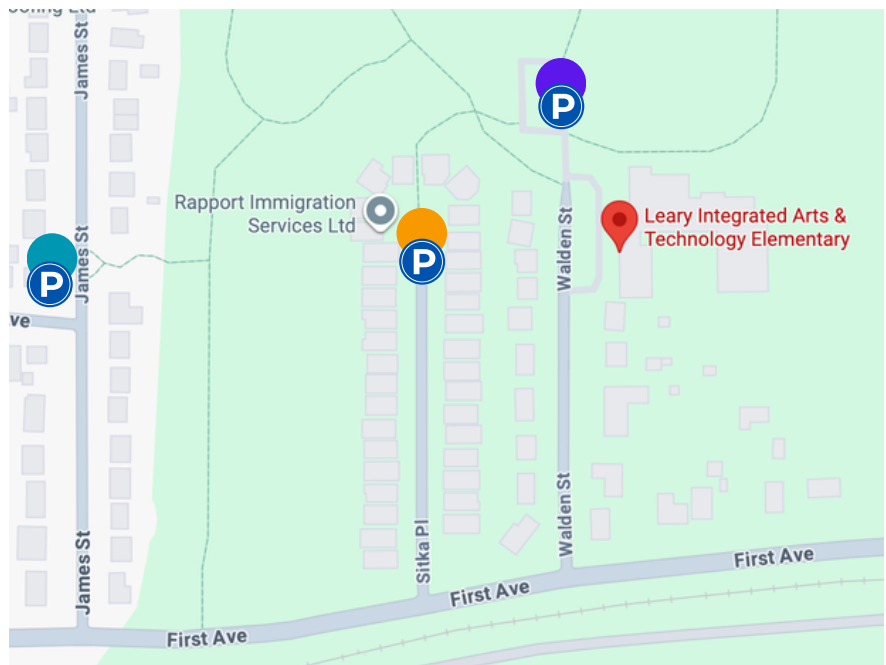
Parking is limited.

Thank you in advance for being patient and kind to everyone.

We encourage those who can, to walk or ride when possible.

Options for drop off and pick up with short walks along paths:

- **Walden Park**
- **Sitka Place (250m)**
- **James Street (400m)**



Drive Thru Drop Off Zone: Driver must remain in the car - student gets out on the school side.

Staff Parking: The lot attached to the school is for staff use & those who need accessible parking.

Crosswalks: Stop for pedestrians and let them cross.

Follow the flow of traffic.

Drive slow & be alert.

WHERE WAS THAT?

Can't remember exactly what was shared and need to find it? It is probably on our [website](#). We post all past newsletters. Check your email, as we send any changes in the weekly email to families. You can also give our office a call [604-792-1281](tel:604-792-1281) and we can help!



Fair Notice

Common programs and integrated services shall provide information to those who receive or are affected by their services. This is referred to as **Fair Notice** that such a multi-agency program/initiative exists. The Chilliwack School District is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment for all staff, clients, students and community members, and as such, is a member of the Chilliwack Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA or ARTO) Protocol.

WHAT IS A VIOLENCE THREAT RISK ASSESSMENT (VTRA) PROTOCOL?

The protocol is designed to enhance communication between all partners. It is incumbent upon the partners to share necessary and appropriate information that may initiate or facilitate the Assessment of Risk to Others (ARTO) process. It is a trauma-informed and equity-inclusion guided practice that utilizes an Assessment of Risk to Others (ARTO) process to:

- To ensure the safety of all individuals,
- Begin to understand the factors that contribute to the Individual of Concern's (IOC's) threatening or high-risk behaviour,
- View the Individual of Concern (IOC) as in need of intervention and support rather than discipline.
- Be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the Individual of Concern (IOC). It may include disciplinary action but will include appropriate supports to aid in the Individual of Concern (IOC) in developing and using more appropriate strategies,
- Promotes the emotional and physical safety of all.

It is NOT a Disciplinary tool or response.

WHAT IS A THREAT?

A threat is an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something. Threats may be verbal, written down, posted on the Internet, or made by gesture. Threats must be taken seriously, investigated, and responded to appropriately.

DUTY TO REPORT?

Often when we hear in the media about a violent incident, we learn that the Individual of Concern had made threats in advance of acting violently. To keep our communities safe, staff, community members, students, and parents all need to act responsibly and report all threat-related behaviours and high-risk activities. This report can be made to any community partner of the Chilliwack VTRA/ARTO Protocol.

When a report of a threat is received by any member of this protocol, and upon screening it is determined the threshold for the "Categories of Action" is met, the Chilliwack VTRA/ARTO Protocol will be activated.

"Categories for Action" may include, but are not limited to:

- Serious violence or violence with intent to kill,
- Violence with intent to do serious bodily harm,
- Verbal/written threats to kill others ("clear, direct and plausible"),
- Verbal/written threats to do serious bodily harm ("clear, direct and plausible"),
- Social Media/Technology generated threats to harm/kill others,
- Possession of weapons (including replicas),
- Bomb threats (making and/or detonating explosive devices),
- Fire setting,
- Sexual intimidation or assault,
- Ongoing pervasive and targeted bullying and/or harassment,
- Gang related intimidation and violence,
- Hate incidents motivated by factors including, but not limited to, race, culture, religion, and/or sexual and gender diversity,
- Suicidal ideation or attempts as related to "Fluidity" or "Conspiracy to Two or More".

CAN I REFUSE TO PARTICIPATE?

It is important for all parties to engage in the process. If for some reason there is a reluctance to participate in the process, by either the Individual of Concern or parent/guardian, the threat assessment will continue in order to ensure and restore a safe and inclusive environment for all.