

September 4, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

It is that time of year again where we start thinking about schedules and routines not to mention lunches. Happy New Year and welcome back to school, I am sure that you have all had a relaxing summer and are feeling ready to hear the bell ring at 7:53am. This year we have about 280 students attending Yarrow Community School. We welcome over 15 new students to Yarrow and we are positive that you will enjoy our unique community school.

We have been working hard to make sure that everyone feels safe and ready to return to school. Safety protocols are in place and we feel confident that we have done everything in our control to keep the community COVID free. Teachers will be in session on Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup> making sure that we have a good handle on all the new protocols. We will also be setting up learning Cohorts at this time. On Thursday September 10<sup>th</sup> we will be welcoming all students back into the building for a morning session from 7:53 – 9:45, buses will be running. Friday September 11 will be students first full day back. You will be receiving an e mail on September 9<sup>th</sup> outlining the shape of the day for Thursday and Friday.

We are asking all parents to make sure that they screen their children for signs and symptoms on a daily basis. The one-page checklist is attached. Please make sure you do not send your child to school if you answer yes to any of the questions. I understand that you may have many questions at this time. I will try to keep you updated on the school website as much as possible.

I believe that a good relationship between the home and school does much to ensure the success of each child. I share the same ultimate goal. I want your child to be happy and safe at school and live up to his or her potential socially and academically.

The school goals this year:

- To improve student achievement and well-being through high quality instruction
- To improve literacy skills for all students
- To improve thinking skills for all students
- To improve social responsibility demonstrated by all students

We will work hard and are committed to improving students' growth in all these areas. We have high expectations for each student and will work together so that they can reach new heights. This means that we all have a responsibility to do our part in making Yarrow Community School positive, safe and a great place to be.

website: <http://yarrow.sd33.bc.ca>

This year the school will be purchasing the bulk of the school supplies on your behalf. Parents will be required to pay \$50 to cover the costs.

Kindergarten parents should have already arranged their first interview time. If you do not have a time slot please contact the office. There has been some minor changes to the startup schedule and Kindergarten's first full day of classes will be **Wednesday September 23rd.**

**Our school hours are as follows:**

First Bell:	7:53
Recess	9:50-10:05
Lunch	11:55-12:40
Dismissal	1:53





The start of the year is always exciting; communication is the key to successful relationships. You may have a lot of questions and are feeling anxious but hopefully TOGETHER we can navigate through these uncharted waters. I encourage all families to keep updated by checking e mails and our school website, it provides such information as General Routines and Expectations, Newsletters, Calendar, Parent Links and a variety of other important information. You can even e-mail us through this link.

Once again, we look forward to having your family as part of our school community. We look forward to an exciting year or great possibilities.

**Charlotte DeBruyn**

Principal