



École Herbert Spencer Elementary School

September 2021

Principal Karen Catherwood
Vice Principal Carly Eirikson

Upcoming Events in September

- September 15- PAC meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
- September 21: Collaboration Day- **Early Dismissal for all students @ 12:24 p.m.**
- September 24- School Terry Fox Run
- September 27: Professional Development Day **(no school for students)**
- September 30- Truth and Reconciliation Day- (no school)

Principal's News

Dear Families and Friends,

Welcome to an exciting year at Spencer. We are looking forward to having all of you and your children take this journey with us.

The students have settled into their new classrooms with their new teachers and are already underway learning and adjusting to routines and general school events. The staff have been very busy preparing for another successful and enjoyable year. There have been changes since the end of the last school year and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new staff, students and their families to Spencer.

It is an honour to be the principal of École Herbert Spencer Elementary School. I have been in the school district for over 30 years and count myself lucky to be a part of this community. I have heard many great things about this school and I know it was very hard for Mme Cameron to leave. It will take me some time to get to know the students and families of Spencer, but I can't wait to start this journey with all of you.

At Spencer we have an excellent and competent staff whose focus is to help nurture the heart first and foremost. When we tend to the emotional, social and physical needs of our students, their minds are ready to learn academically. The staff cares for, nurtures, loves, guides, nurses, disciplines, plays, feels, listens, discusses and teaches the students.

Thank you for placing your children in our care.

Karen Catherwood

Principal

"Children won't care how much you know, unless they know how much you care."



SCHOOL ROUTINES

Morning Procedure for students and Parents/Guardians

The morning bell rings at 8:50. The students are to meet their teacher at their designated spot at the back of the school. Teachers will begin bringing students in at the 8:55 bell.

We ask that parents dropping off or picking up their children wait for their children off school grounds. Please ensure that you have left space on the sidewalk to allow our classes to walk unobstructed to their classrooms at the beginning of the day and to their dismissal locations at the end of the day.

At 9:00 a.m. the back doors to the school will be locked for the remainder of the school day. If your child arrives to school after 9:00 a.m., they will need to enter the school through the front doors where they will check in with the office. Students who are in the modulars and arrive late must check in at the office before going to class.

For appointments during the school day, please let your child's teacher know as well as the main office by email. This will help us have your child ready for you when you come to pick them up. Be sure to sign your child out before exiting the building. If your child is returning to school later in the day, they must be signed back into the school. We want to ensure that you and the school are aware of your child's whereabouts.

VISITING THE SCHOOL

We are looking forward to having parents and visitors at the school this year! ALL VISITORS on the school site must wear identification so that they are identifiable to students, staff and parents as permissible visitors. If you are volunteering, visiting in a classroom, or attending a field trip, you must first sign-in at the office. You will be given a VISITOR tag to wear. Please return this tag to the office and sign out when you are finished. In any emergency, we must be able to account for the whereabouts of all students, staff and visitors, on site or off-site.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

<https://herbertspencerschool.ca/>

Collaboration Day

Monday, September 21st

**Early Dismissal @ 12:24
p.m.**

Classroom Organization: Split Grades

At times it is necessary to organize the school with classes that combine two grades. Split classrooms are common in schools. It is important to note that **students in split classrooms experience similar curriculum learning outcomes as those placed in one grade group.** In all classrooms, teachers plan to meet the needs of students and grade level requirements. Like their colleagues, split classroom teachers work to accommodate individual student needs. Our goal is to encourage all students to view themselves as one learning community, crossing the boundaries from one grade to another. Working with others of varying ages in and out of the classroom helps children learn early in life, that people of all ages and skill levels can work with and learn from each other.

Foundation Skills Assessment

Each year, our grade 4 students participate in the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA).

The Foundation Skills Assessment is an annual province-wide assessment of all B.C. students' academic skills in grades 4 and 7, and provides parents, teachers, schools, school districts and the Ministry of Education with important information on how well students are progressing in the foundation skills of Reading, Writing, and Numeracy. FSAs will be administered to students over a two week period in October.

For more information about the FSA's, please visit the following website:

www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/



REDESIGNED CURRICULUM

Interested in learning more about the changes to the curriculum?

Check out:

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>

MEDICAL INFORMATION AND ALLERGIES

Medical Information

If your child has allergies or medical issues, we need to be aware of, please let the office know right away. We need to make sure we have the appropriate information on file in case of emergency. Please note that students should not be in possession of any medication at school. **The staff may not administer medication to students unless the required form is completed and signed by the parent/guardian and physician.**



Allergies

There are adults and students at the school who have a variety of allergies. **We are a nut-aware school.**

HEALTHY EATING

Young children need nourishing food throughout the day for the development of sound minds and bodies. The staff encourages you to make healthy food choices with recess and lunches that you provide. A selection of nutritious snacks/meals will help your child develop healthy eating habits to last a lifetime.

HEALTH

As students return to school, it is important that they learn about precautions that can help safeguard everyone's health. We ask for support from parents in teaching students these concepts:

- Stay home when you're sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or elbow when coughing or sneezing.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Practice other good health habits. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage stress, drink plenty of fluids and eat nutritious food.

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Terry Fox Run-Friday, September 24th, 2021.

Students at École Herbert Spencer Elementary School will be participating in the annual Terry Fox Run. We will participate rain or shine. Please send your child in runners and appropriate clothing for the weather. The students in K and Grade 1 will run in the school yard and our Grade 2 to 5 students will run around the perimeter of the school or Queen's Park.

This year is the 40th Anniversary of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope and Herbert Spencer Elementary is proud to be continuing the legacy of one of our greatest heroes. Please join us and support this wonderful cause by donating to: <http://www.terryfox.ca/HerbertSpencerElementary>. Together, we can all make a difference! #terryfoxschoolruns @terryfoxfoundation

Spencer PAC

The Spencer PAC is a very active group that truly makes a difference in our students' school experience helping with:

- Fieldtrips
- Sports Day
- Fine Arts Programs
- And so much more...!

We would also like to invite all our parents to come out to our PAC meetings. These meetings provide parents with yet another opportunity to be involved in their child's school experience.

Our next PAC meeting will be held on:

Wednesday, September 15,
2021
@
7:00pm
In the Spencer Gym

Truth and Reconciliation Week:

September 27-October 1

We invite everyone to wear an Orange Shirt throughout the week in recognition of the harm that Canada's residential school system did to the students' self-esteem, and as an affirmation of our commitment to ensure that everyone around us matters.



Dressing for Wet/Cold Weather

With wet and colder weather slowly creeping upon us, we would like to remind families that whenever possible, students will go outside for recess and lunch. Please send your children with weather appropriate clothing and footwear for rain and colder weather- raincoats, warm coats, boots and umbrellas.



Upcoming Events in October

- October 4- November 12- FSA administered to Grade 4's
- October 6- PAC mtg @ 7:00 p.m.
- Oct. 11- Thanksgiving Day (school is closed)
- Oct. 14- Picture Day!
- October 22- Provincial Pro-D Day (no school for students)



Picture Day:

Thursday, October 14

Retakes:

Wednesday, November 17

SEPTEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 First Day of School Welcome Coffee	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 PAC Meeting 7:00pm	16	17	18
19	20	21 Collaboration Day (Early Dismissal @ 12:24 p.m.)	22	23	24 Terry Fox Run	25
26	27 Non-instructional Day (students do not attend)	28	29	30 Truth and Reconciliation Day (no school)		



École Herbert Spencer Elementary

The Ministry of Education requires schools to formally provide the school Codes of Conduct. As you probably know, from your child, our Code of Conduct is built on the principles of respect, responsibility and relationships. The children know them as the '3 R's' and are able to articulate quite well what they represent – they begin to learn and discuss them in Kindergarten! These principles guide our actions and our words and provide a 'road map' for us to rely on. Our Code of Conduct supports the continued development of our goal to be socially responsible. It creates the opportunity to discuss where we've gone wrong and is a framework to consider how we can make things 'right'. We would request that you discuss this Code of Conduct with your child and appreciate your participation in supporting these important expectations! Herbert Spencer will promote the values expressed in the BC Human Rights Code respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law, prohibiting discrimination based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, age, physical or mental disability, sex or sexual orientation or gender identity and expression.

Showing Respect is:

- Using appropriate language and tone with peers and adults
- Respecting the environment, property of others, and personal space
- Listening to and honouring the opinions and feelings of others and their culture
- Respect for learning, good listening, moving quietly through the halls
- Using good manners, being polite, "please... may I... thank you"

You are not respectful when:

- you use offensive language, talk back, tease or say hurtful things.
- you push, hit, kick or do hurtful things.
- you litter, damage property or do harm to the school environment.
- you interrupt, call out or disrupt the learning environment of yourself and others.

Showing Responsibility is:

- Being honest and owning up to your mistakes
- Coming to school ready to learn, staying on task and doing your best
- Looking after your belongings including agendas, notices and homework
- Looking after school property including library books, chromebooks and gym materials
- Appropriate use of washrooms
- Being a good role model for others by demonstrating our 3 R's

You are not demonstrating responsibility when:

- you are dishonest
- you disrupt the learning environment of others
- you damage or misuse school property
- you forget or lose your materials, homework and assignments

Behaviours which support Relationships:

- Active listening
- Empathy, thoughtfulness and kindness
- Including others and sharing
- Patience, Honesty and Cooperation

Students may not:

- make hurtful comments or do hurtful things
- humiliate, intimidate, or exclude others, tease or joke in a hurtful manner
- engage in physically aggressive behavior

Consequences:

Responses to, and consequences for, unacceptable conduct will be consistent and just. Wherever possible, disciplinary action will be restorative and include logical consequences. We will take into consideration the circumstances and severity of the misconduct and the students' ability to meet behavioural expectations. The following steps may guide the process:

- Verbal warning, change or removal from the environment, communication from the teacher, communication from the administration.

École Herbert Spencer Elementary

2021-2022 STAFF		
Principal		Karen Catherwood
Vice-Principal		Carly Eirikson
Secretaries		
		Cheryl Serraglio
		Bonnie Dyrndahl
Division 1		
Division 1	Kindergarten	Hillary Kerr
Division 2	Kindergarten	Brianna Strachan
Division 3	Kindergarten	Tina Keech
Division 4	Kindergarten	Sandra Loewe
Division 5	Kindergarten (EFI)	Jen Loukidis
Division 6	Grade 1	Samantha Marthold
Division 7	Grade 1	Erika Warkentin (M-W)/TBD (Th-F)
Division 8	Grade 1	Hilda Zivarts
Division 9	Grade 1 (EFI)	Nathalie Tremblay/ Barbara Farmer (Th)
Division 10	Grade 2	Navneet Hans Al-Ashkar
Division 11	Grade 2	Stephanie Fong
Division 12	Grade 2	Brianna Wong
Division 13	Grade 2 (EFI)	Talia Ellett (M-Th)/ Nisha Bagha (F)
Division 14	Grade 2 (EFI)	Debbie Louis-Charles (M-W,F)/ Nisha Bagha (Th)
Division 15	Grade 3	Sarah Nottingham
Division 16	Grade 3	Lauren Neufeld (M-W)/ Rachel Sebestyen (Th-F)
Division 17	Grade 3	Carly Eirikson (M-W)/ Aman Grewal (Th-F)
Division 18	Grade 4	Beau Gabiniewicz
Division 19	Grade 4	Jessica Deitcher (W-F)/Erin Siddall (M,T)
Division 20	Grade 4/5 (EFI)	Kate Copely
Division 21	Grade 4/5 (EFI)	Audrey Roy
Division 22	Grade 5	Daryl Winpenny
Division 23	Grade 5	Sheila Grubb
Teacher Coach		
Teacher Coach		Jessica Deitcher (T)
Music Teacher		
Music Teacher		Rhonda Jeschke (M-Th)
Teacher Librarian		
Teacher Librarian		Kim Thomas
LST/Resource Teacher		
LST/Resource Teacher		Melissa Haffner
LST/Resource Teacher		Rob Peacock
LST/Resource Teacher		Tristan Ranford
Speech and Language		
Speech and Language		Megan Kleisinger
Counsellor		
Counsellor		Rosanna Di Francesco

École Herbert Spencer Elementary

2021-2022 STAFF cont'd		
Education Assistants		Tara Dean
		Shabnam Khatri
		Lee-Anne Palmer
		Shelley Rossiter
		Lora Sunberg
		Mimi Ratcliff-Sung
		Noiba Umaralieva
		Emily Wong
		Sadie Lukas
Child and Youth Care Worker		Mason Meghi (T,F, & every other W)
Aboriginal Cultural Worker		Jasmine Tannahill (Wed)
SWIS Worker		Alin Arakelian
Crossing Guard		Lisa Vegas- 6 th Avenue & 2 nd Street
		Marcellina Arnold- 8 th Avenue & 2 nd Street
Noon Hour Supervisors		Val Bishop
		Ashley Gray
		Kellee Mulhern
Custodians		Vasile Stupar
		Arnel Tapon

École Herbert Spencer Elementary

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605 Second Street
New Westminster,
BC

V3L 5R9

Phone: 604.517.6030

Email:
spencer@sd40.bc.ca

All Newcomer Immigrant and Refugee Families:

What is the role of the Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS)?

Settlement Workers are stationed in schools to provide information and services for newcomer families and youth. SWIS Workers are employed by MOSAIC. We serve students of New Westminster School District (SD 40) and their families with Permanent Resident status. We assist newcomer students and their families to adapt to life in Canada through 1-on-1 consultations, workshops for children, parents, grandparents, field trips, volunteering opportunities for adults and youth, and leadership training for youth.

SERVICE Languages: English, Chinese, Farsi, Dari, Korean, Tagalog, Turkish and more.

Contact: Alin Arakelian (SWIS Worker) arakelian@mosaicbc.ca

Canadian Parents for French

Furthering bilingualism by promoting and creating opportunities for students to learn and use French.

ÉCOLE HERBERT SPENCER 2021-2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR

LENGTH OF SCHOOL DAY

	Start	End
WELCOMING BELL	8:50am	
INSTRUCTION	8:55am	10:45am
RECESS	10:45am	11:00am
INSTRUCTION	11:00am	12:24pm
LUNCH	12:24pm	1:10pm
INSTRUCTION	1:10pm	3:00pm
DISMISSAL		3:00pm

CALENDAR INFORMATION

2021	Date	Event	Explanation/Purpose
	Tuesday, September 7	School Opening	Partial day: Dismissal time 9:55am
	Tuesday, September 21	Elementary Collaboration Day	Partial day: Dismissal 12:24pm
	Monday, September 27	Non-Instructional Day	School closed for students
	Thursday, September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	School closed
	Monday, October 11	Thanksgiving Statutory Holiday	School closed
	Friday, October 22	Provincial Pro D Day	School closed for students
	Thursday, November 11	Remembrance Day Statutory Holiday	School closed
	Friday, November 12	District Pro D Day	School closed for students
	Wednesday, November 17	Parent/Teacher Interviews	Partial day: Dismissal 12:24pm
	Thursday, November 18	Parent/Teacher Interviews	Partial day: Dismissal 12:24pm
	Friday, December 10	First Report Card	
	December 20, 2021 – January 3, 2022	Winter Break	School closed
	2022		
	Tuesday, January 4	Schools reopen	
	Tuesday, January 18	Elementary Collaboration Day	Partial day: Dismissal 12:24pm
	Monday, February 21	Family Day	School closed
	Tuesday, February 22	Non-Instructional Day	School closed for students
	Wednesday, March 2	Three way conferencing	Partial day: Dismissal 12:24pm
	Thursday, March 3	Three way conferencing	Partial day: Dismissal 12:24pm
	Thursday, March 10	Second Report Card	
	March 14 – 25	Spring Break	School closed
	Monday, March 28	Schools reopen	
	Thursday, April 14	Non-Instructional Day	School closed for students
	Friday, April 15	Good Friday Statutory Holiday	School closed
	Monday, April 18	Easter Monday Holiday	School closed
	Tuesday, May 3	Elementary Collaboration Day	Partial day: Dismissal 12:24pm
	Friday, May 20	Non-Instructional Day	School closed for students
	Monday, May 23	Victoria Day Statutory Holiday	School closed
	Monday, June 27	Final Report Card	
	Wednesday, June 29	Last Day for Students	Partial day: Dismissal 2:00pm
	Thursday, June 30	Administrative Day	School closed for students