

The Roy Stibbs Reporter



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<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/rovstibbs/Pages/default.aspx>



September Newsletter



DATES TO REMEMBER

September

Monday, September 14th
First Day in Assigned Classes

Wednesday, September 16th
PAC Meeting @ 6:30pm

Thursday, September 17th
Kindergarten Tea 11:15am

Friday, September 18th
Kindergarten Class
Assignments

**Monday, September 21st to
Thursday, September 24th**
Book Fair

Wednesday, September 22nd.
Terry Fox Assembly/ Terry Fox
Run

Thursday, September 24th
Open House/ Community
BBQ

Friday, September 25th
Pro-D Day- NO School

Tuesday, September 29th
Assembly – Truth and
Reconciliation

Orange Shirt Day

Wednesday, September 30th
Truth and Reconciliation Day
– No School

Friday, October 2nd
Photo Day

We hope children settle comfortably into their new classrooms and rekindle old friendships while forming new ones. It has been wonderful to see the excitement, energy, and enthusiasm throughout the school as we begin another year of learning together. This year, our school community grown substantially and we are pleased to have added two additional classroom divisions to support our increasing enrolment.

A very warm welcome to our **Kindergarten families** and to all families who are joining our school community for the first time. We are delighted to have you with us and look forward to getting to know you throughout the year. Our Grade 1-5 students are now fully engaged in their regular learning routines, while our Kindergarten students continue their gradual entry as they settle into school life and begin building trusted relationships with their teachers and new friends. We would like to extend a special invitation to Kindergarten parents and caregivers to join us for our **Kindergarten Parent Tea on Wednesday, September 17th from 11:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. in the Library.** This casual gathering is a wonderful opportunity to meet other Kindergarten families, share experiences, ask questions, and begin building connections (*sharing contact information to establish playdates if desired*).

Please mark your calendars for our **Welcome Back BBQ, Open House, and Book Sale on Thursday, September 24th.** This special event provides families with an opportunity to visit classrooms, meet staff members, reconnect with friends, and celebrate the start of a new school year together. We hope you will join us for an evening of community, conversation, and fun.

At our school, we believe that strong partnerships between home and school contribute greatly to student success. If you are interested in becoming more involved, our **Parent Advisory Council (PAC)** offers a wonderful opportunity to connect with other families, support school initiatives, and help strengthen our vibrant school community. New members and fresh ideas are always welcome.

As we begin the year, our staff remains committed to working alongside families to ensure every child feels a strong sense of belonging. We believe that every student contributes something unique and valuable to our classrooms and school community. When children are present, engaged, and connected, our entire community benefits. Should you have any questions, concerns, or celebrations to share, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher or our office staff. We are here to support your family every step of the way. We look forward to a year filled with learning, growth, connection, and joyful experiences together. Wishing all our students and families a wonderful school year ahead!

Britt Walton

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance plays a key role in your child's success at school. Each day provides opportunities to learn important academic skills, build friendships, develop confidence, and establish positive routines. Consistent attendance also helps foster a growth mindset by encouraging children to embrace challenges, persevere through difficulties, and recognize that learning happens over time with patience, effort and practice.

Families can make a powerful difference by highlighting what school has to offer and encouraging children to approach each day positively with curiosity and enthusiasm. **When students attend regularly and feel positive about their school experience, they are better able to stay engaged, connected, and successful in their learning, including school completion.**

We understand that illnesses and unexpected circumstances occur. **Whenever possible, please make school attendance a priority** so your child can benefit from all the learning and experiences each school day offers.

Our staff is here to support school attendance by working closely with families and fostering strong relationships. We believe every child plays an important role in our school community and brings something special to the classroom each day. By building a culture of belonging and connection, we want every student to know that they are valued, needed, and missed when they are not at school.

ATTENDANCE/ LATE STUDENTS/ PICKING STUDENTS UP EARLY

- If your child will be absent/ late for any reason, please send an absence report <https://www.sd43.bc.ca/roystibbs> phone the office at 604-939-2486 or email Mrs. Tipper at roystibbs@sd43.bc.ca before 9:00 a.m. We have an answering machine to pick up the messages if you call before 8:00 a.m. or you can fill out the absence report on the school website.
- If your child is late – please come with them to the office to check in and pick up a Welcome Slip to take to their classroom teacher.
- If you are picking up your child earlier than the regular dismissal time, please come to the office when you arrive to sign your child out of the building, and we will call them down to meet you.
- We need to make sure they have been signed in or out for safety reasons.
- Do not email a staff member directly about an absence. The office must be informed roystibb@sd43.bc.ca

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

We want to make you aware that this year we continue to have a substantial number of students with severe allergies that require the use of EpiPens. To ensure the safety and well-being of all our students, **no food items will be permitted for birthday celebrations.**

Should families wish to honour their child's birthday they can voluntarily choose an alternate item to food like a birthday pencils, small erasers etc. but this is not an expectation and there must be enough for everyone in the class should you chose. During instructional time, classrooms also do not host birthday parties; such events are to be planned by families themselves outside of the school.

We appreciate your understanding.



SNACKS AND LUNCHES

Please provide a nutritious snack and lunch that is easy for your child to consume. Please do NOT plan to drop off lunches later in the day – this is an unnecessary complexity when we have over 325 students. Of course, there may be a rare occasion when you must do this due to illness or mix up, but please teach your child to check for their own lunch/water bottle/snack and utensils etc. before leaving home! All eating will be done inside (before play time). There is no sharing of food or drink with others.



If your child requires any utensils in their lunch, please make sure to pack them in your child's lunchbox. The school does not have a supply of cutlery.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP INFORMATION

Please follow all posted traffic signs and regulations and only stop or park in designated areas. Please note that the area **in front of the school stairs is a No Stopping Zone**. Traffic enforcement officers issued numerous tickets for violations in this area last year.

PARKING LOT

For the safety of our students and staff, please do not enter the parking lot to park, drop off, or pick up students. **The parking lot is reserved for staff and has limited capacity.**

If you park on nearby streets, please use the sidewalks or grassy areas when walking to and from the school. For safety reasons, please avoid walking through the staff parking lot.

MEDICAL ALERT/MEDICATION



If your child has a medical alert that you would like the school to be aware of, please email Mrs. Tipper (stipper@sd43.bc.ca) to fill out a Medical Alert Form.

Please remember that all medications, including Tylenol and Advil must be kept at the office with a Medical Administration form completed and signed by a parent or legal guardian as well as a doctor. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office

NUT ALLERGIES



Several students in our school have severe allergies to peanuts and other nuts. Because of this health concern please **do not** send any snacks or lunches containing peanuts/peanut butter, Nutella or any other nut products to school.

Please remind your child not to share their food and drinks with other students so that you know what your child is eating at school. Washing hands after eating (including breakfast), especially if peanut products are eaten, is a healthy routine for all of us to establish and practice. Your cooperation in this situation will help to ensure the safety of all students in the school.

PHOTO DAY

On Friday, October 2nd our individual photos. Ordering information will be sent with your child at a later date.

IMPORTANT FORMS

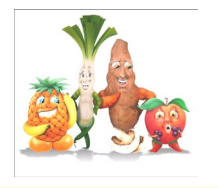
Emergency Release form will be sent home on Monday. **Please complete you return by Friday, September 18th**. This information is needed to keep your child safe and to ensure that we have updated information to contact you especially in the case of an emergency. Remember this form is different than your everyday pick-up this form is only in case of emergency releases.



School Policies and Procedure forms will be online through School Cash Online and need to be **completed by Friday, September 18th**. Please make sure to go and sign online to complete that form.
<https://www.schoolcashonline.com/>

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM

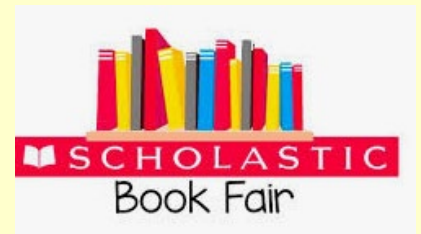
We are pleased to announce once again our school is participating in the fruit and vegetable program. Our school is involved in a province-wide healthy living initiative. One of the goals is to encourage healthy eating by providing fresh B.C. Fruits and Vegetable to the students during classroom time. The students will receive picked, washed and ready to enjoy produce for 13 weeks at no charge. If for any reason your child is unable to participate, please inform the office.



BOOKFAIR

The first exciting event will be our book fair with the grand finale taking place on our Open House Day! Check out the link below and the posters that have been placed around the school's entry/exit points for more details:

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.ca/bf/roystibbselementary2>



SKIP THE DISHES/UBER EATS ETC.

While we understand that lunches may occasionally be forgotten, we ask families to avoid using food delivery services such as Skip the Dishes or Uber Eats, as they can disrupt school operations and create supervision and safety concerns. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Grades 1- 5 - <https://www.sd43.bc.ca/roystibbs/school-supplies>. Please make sure your child has their school supplies for Monday, September 14th.

Kindergarten students will be charged a fee over the next two weeks. Stay tuned.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Personal items such as cell phones, Pokémon cards, toys, and sporting equipment should **stay at home and not be brought to school**. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items, and trading or lending these items can lead to unnecessary conflicts.

For safety reasons, sporting equipment should not be used at school.

Students who ride bicycles, scooters, or skateboards to school must wear a helmet and bring a lock, as the school is not responsible for missing items. Thank you for your support.

E-SCOOTERS & E-BIKES

The BC government has recently updated their regulations for E-bikes and E-scooters to highlight the importance of safety. It's worth noting that E-scooters are permitted to be operated by anyone 16 years of age or older. "Light E-bikes" (max 250W) are permitted to be operated by anyone 14 years of age or older, while "Standard E-bikes" (max 500W) are permitted to be operated by anyone 16 years of age or older. There are also regulations pertaining to where E-bikes and E-scooters are permitted to be operated.

For the safety of students, staff, and others within our greater community, those old enough to ride E-bikes and E-scooters should not operate them on school grounds. Please hop off and push carefully through crowded areas while on school property.

Below families can review these updated regulations here:

[Electric kick scooter rules and safety - Province of British Columbia](#)

[E-bike requirements - Province of British Columbia](#)

It is noted in the above documentation that those old enough to operate such methods of transportation, must wear approved helmets (appropriate modelling is important for our children) as well as, operators are not to carry additional passengers. Safety is everyone's responsibility. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

SCREENTIME & CELLPHONE POLICY

We recognize that children are increasingly exposed to digital content through personal and family devices. Unfortunately, premature exposure to online material that is not age appropriate can sometimes lead to confusion, discomfort, and challenges that may carry over into the school environment. To help create a safe and positive learning community for all students, we strongly encourage families to use parental controls and actively monitor children's access to devices and online content. Working together, we can help ensure that students engage with digital experiences that support their well-being and development. Below are some helpful resources for parents.

Common Sense Media. This is a helpful link for parents to determine what is age appropriate for their children including online games, movies and websites.

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>

Media Safety for Children & Exposure to Tech

There are **four main strategies** to help children become resilient to online risks.

We can:

- **Curate** our kids' media experiences;
- **Control** who can access our kids and their data;
- **Co-view** media with our kids;
- and be our kids' media **Coaches**.
- **Model** healthy screen time & habits

Here is the link to **Fraser Health's recommendation for screen time** for children.

<https://www.fraserhealth.ca/health-topics-a-to-z/children-and-youth/physical-activity-for-children/screen-time-for-children>

We strongly encourage families to make use of **parental controls** on social media platforms, gaming systems, and messaging apps. Limiting access to the broader internet—especially on week days can help reduce exposure to inappropriate content and support healthy, age-appropriate online habits and help with focus and attention in school. A quick google search for free parental controls for devices can help you to determine what will work best for your family and the type of devices families may have.

As per **School District 43 (Coquitlam)** expectations, elementary students (**Grades K–7**) are **not** permitted to use cell phones during the school day. Cell phones **may be brought to school for before- and after-school safety**

purposes, particularly for older students who walk to and from school independently. However, devices must remain

securely stored in backpacks while students are on school property; cellphones prior to school and at the end of the day that do not involve parent communication cause disruption and is poor modelling for our younger children. Personal digital devices are expected to be **turned off and kept out of sight while on school property**, including instructional time, recess, and lunch; This aligns with the District Code of Conduct and supports focused learning, student well-being, and positive social interactions.

PAC> PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WE NEED YOU! New members are always welcome. Our next PAC meeting will be held Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 16 @ 6:30pm in the School Library. A link will also be sent for parents to join virtually!

This is a great way to learn more about your child's school and get involved! If you have any questions regarding PAC, please email roystibbspac@gmail.com.

What is a Parent Advisory Council (PAC)?

It is a committee made up of a group of volunteer parents who get together for meetings on a regular basis, with the principal and other staff, to discuss ideas and issues, i.e. fundraising events, hot lunch and popcorn days, performing arts, outdoor education and special activities. The PAC helps by contributing monies raised from fundraisers to help subsidize some field trips, audio/visual and gym equipment, musical instruments, and other special events throughout the school year.



Studies have shown that the more involved parents are in their children's lives, the more successful those children are in their schooling. Children are proud of the fact that their parent is the one helping at their Hot lunch days or at a Special event.

This is also a great way to meet new parents and find out what is going on in the school and get to know who the other students are that your child interacts with. With School District budgets being impacted the need for more ideas and support increases. There is no obligation to join the committee, just come and listen. A parent with a student in the school has a right to attend as a voting member.

GROWING TOGETHER A Monthly Family Connection

Growing Together is a monthly opportunity for families to explore belonging, identity, respect, and community. Together, we can help create schools and communities where every person feels valued, included, and supported to thrive.

September: Belonging

We All Want to Feel That We Matter

A new school year brings opportunities to meet new people, build relationships, and discover new strengths. One of the most important ingredients for success in school and life is a sense of belonging. When children and youth feel accepted, valued, and connected, they are more likely to engage in learning and take positive risks.

Families can help foster belonging by listening with curiosity, encouraging participation, and helping children recognize that everyone has a role to play in creating a welcoming community.

Try it at Home: Talk about the small actions that help people feel included and welcomed.

Family Conversation Starters

YOUNGER STUDENTS:

"What helps you feel like you belong at school?"

OLDER STUDENTS:

"What makes a school or community feel welcoming and inclusive for everyone?"

WEST COAST RECESS/LUNCH

At Roy Stibbs we are committed to providing our students with many opportunities to play outside. Your children will be going outside on many days when it is raining; we call this **West Coast Recess/Lunch**. Please ensure that your child has a good raincoat, proper footwear, a hat, gloves, and umbrellas during the coming fall and winter months. If you need any assistance with accessing proper clothing, please contact us at the office.



TERRY FOX

In 1980, Terry had a dream of a world without cancer. Forty-five years later, Terry's Marathon of Hope lives on. If we work together, we can make such a difference in the lives of so many. Please help fund critical cancer research in Canada by supporting our participation in the 2026 Terry Fox School Run.

Crossing the finish line means hope for everyone with cancer. Together, we can Finish It.



If you would like to donate online please go to:

<https://schools.terryfox.ca/138508>

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

After School Programming is now open for registration on [DWUL](https://www.dwul.ca). See programs below for offerings. Please be mindful of age range and dates. Please note that these programs operate in our school, but they are not staffed by the school.

Multisport	Soccer Program	Clay Modeling	Theatre	Arts
 CA\$115	 CA\$115	 CA\$219	 CA\$189	 CA\$209
Roy Stibbs Thur Gr1-2 Mor...	Roy Stibbs Tues Gr3-5 Coq...	Roy Stibbs (Thurs): Gr 3...	Roy Stibbs (Wed): Gr 2-5 ...	Roy Stibbs (Tues): K-2 CL...
Tri-Cities Oct 22, 2026 Extracurricular	Tri-Cities Oct 20, 2026 Extracurricular Soccer	Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, + 2 Oct 01, 2026 Extracurricular Clay Modeling	Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, + 2 Sep 23, 2026 Extracurricular Theatre	Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, + 2 Sep 22, 2026 Extracurricular Arts
7 session(s) 11 Seats Remaining	7 session(s) 17 Seats Remaining	10 session(s) 19 Seats Remaining	9 session(s) 20 Seats Remaining	10 session(s) 19 Seats Remaining
Moresports BC	Moresports BC	Rise Arts Company Incorporated	Rise Arts Company Incorporated	Rise Arts Company Incorporated

CARING FOR OUR SCHOOL GROUNDS

We have recently completed repairs to the slope area and are hoping to preserve these improvements for the safety of everyone who uses our school grounds.

Please reiterate to children the following expectations:

- **Digging is allowed only in the designated digging area (sandbox)** located next to the spider web behind the daycare portables.
- **Digging is not permitted in the long jump pit**, which was recently repaired and maintained for physical education and track and field activities.
- **Refrain from moving large rocks or the stumps** that are part of our learning circles and spaces.
- Please enjoy and appreciate our beautiful trees, but **do not pull branches, leaves, nuts, or other natural materials from them**. Our trees provide shade, beauty, habitat, and environmental benefits, and they deserve our care and respect.

We also encourage families to support **litterless lunches whenever possible**. Reducing waste helps keep our grounds clean, safe, and inviting for everyone while supporting our collective responsibility to care for the environment.

At our school, we encourage **creative and active play in nature, along with care and stewardship for the environment**. By working together, we can ensure that our outdoor spaces remain safe, beautiful, and enjoyable for all children. Should you see anything of concern, please email roystibbs@sd43.bc.ca.

MINISTRY SURVEYS

Over the coming months, families of Kindergarten and Grade 4 students will have an opportunity to participate in two important provincial initiatives led by the BC Ministry of Education and Child Care. We strongly encourage participation, as the information gathered helps schools, districts, and the ministry better understand and support student learning and well-being.

The **Childhood Experiences Questionnaire (CHQ)** is completed by families of **Kindergarten students** and provides valuable information about children's early learning experiences and development prior to entering school. The survey helps educators and policymakers better understand children's strengths and needs as they begin their educational journey.

Students in **Grade 4** will participate in the **Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA)**, a provincial assessment that measures literacy and numeracy skills. The FSA provides information about student learning in relation to provincial curriculum expectations and helps support continuous improvement in schools and across the education system.

Additional information, timelines, and participation details for both the CHQ and FSA will be shared with families in the coming weeks.

MABELS LABELS

Our school is fundraising with Mabel's Labels. If you're unfamiliar with them, they are personalized, durable and waterproof labels. They are dishwasher, laundry and microwave safe. Label shoes, clothing tags, water bottles, anything you want! Don't like stickers? They also offer name stamps, silicone bracelets and medical alert labels. To support this fundraiser, go to campaigns.mabelslabels.com and search **Roy Stibbs Elementary PAC**. Your order will be shipped free of charge directly to you!



KEEP IN TOUCH WITH US ON OUR NEW WEBSITE

We believe it is important for us to communicate with you consistently and regularly for you to be aware of what is going on at school and to keep you involved. To keep up to date be sure to read our newsletter or check the school website at: <https://www.sd43.bc.ca/roystibbs> Please note that the district recently changed our website to be more accessible for everyone including toggling language at the top of the page. With change comes new navigation on the page. We appreciate patience as we quickly learn together.

TRICITIES KIDSPORT

TriCities Kidsport is a wonderful organization that offers vulnerable families accessibility to sports by providing grants to help cover the costs of registration so that all kids aged 18 and under in Tri-Cities can play a season of sport. Their grant application can be found [here](#) as well as a list of programs they support.