

Good evening, Sardis Families! Welcome back to your Sunday email from me where you will receive information on what's happening at the school throughout the week. The custodial team has worked hard over the summer to get the building looking amazing and teachers have put in lots of their own time to make the classrooms welcoming and ready to go for Tuesday. We appreciate their efforts! Here are some things you should know as we head into week #1 at Sardis Elementary:

\*Our fantastic Sardis PAC will have **free** Starbucks coffee at the front of the school for anyone that would like to come and get a cup; a great wake-up for what will likely be a busy morning at home as you adjust to getting kids out the door! They will also be selling some limited Sardis Swag and the Great Little Coupon books (\$15) so come on out to say hello and help support future PAC initiatives! They have a square reader so you can pay with cash or card.

\*School on Tuesday for students in Grades 1 – 5 is from 8:15 – 10:15, then back to regular hours on Wednesday, which will be 8:15 – 2:13 this year. New students will come to the library that morning where we will take attendance and then have them join a class at their grade level; they will also dismiss from the library so parents/guardians know where to pick them up.

I will send out information on Tuesday as to where students will be going on Wednesday, and there will be signs up Wednesday morning around the school. Again this year they will move up to a teacher from their grade with the students from their class last year and then teachers will mix them up so they spend time with different students and teachers over the course of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Class lists won't be finalized until the district gives us permission to do so, therefore we don't post any kind of class lists during this first week.

\*School supply fees are \$45 again this year and can be paid after classes are set, so after September 9<sup>th</sup>. Support to cover this fee can be provided by the school; please let your child's teacher know if you could use help with this cost. Once again, we have access to funds through the Affordability Fund and so will be able to help with fees and supplies when needed.

\*A few staffing updates to share with you:

Mrs. Jana Bjorndal is working with Mrs. Sumner in the office this year on Monday, Wednesday, and alternating Fridays as Mrs. Kloot is still off on her maternity leave.

Ms. Mclauchlin (EA) is returning to us after her leave last year and Mrs. Devlin (EA) will be returning until at least the end of October.

Mr. Letson has accepted a teaching position at Little Mountain Elementary so will no longer be with us. He only found out on Friday, so there will be a TTOC covering his class for the first few weeks until we can fill the position with the permanent teacher.

\*I have attached a welcome back letter from Fraser Health with some information on ways to support a safe and healthy back-to-school.

\*We hope the weather stays nice and students can walk or bike to school (walking their wheels once they get on the school grounds!) as much as possible, but just a reminder that cars should not be double parked in the lot, blocking other cars in, and that parking on Manuel Road is only permitted within the designated areas. There are signs with arrows that show where stopping/parking is not permitted, and bylaw officers will be doing checks to make sure cars are not parked along the street in non-designated areas. There is lots of parking at Sardis Park, on Sheffield Way, or in the lot on Britton Avenue at the end of the fields. There is a map on our school website that might be helpful if you don't know the area well yet. Being considerate of our neighbours and only parking in designated spots in the parking lot will help keep our students, parents, and staff safe and we need everyone's help with this.

\*We have supervision outside after school until 2:30 each day. After that, students should have either been picked up or gone home if they don't have an adult with them. We will be bringing students inside to wait at the office after 2:30 if they have not been picked up. Due to liability of the school should an accident occur, we cannot have students wait for pick up alone outside, even if the parent/guardian says so. If you are going to be late you can call the office to let someone know, otherwise, we appreciate your support in making sure your child gets picked up by 2:30.

\*If your child is going to be late or absent from school, the easiest way to let the school know is to use the SafeArrival app. There is a link on our school website (click the Report an Absence tab) for how to access the app, it's quite easy, and then you can use that when you know your child will be away. You can log multiple days, so if you're going to be away on holiday you can enter all the dates at once, as well you can log days ahead if you know your child will be away, you don't need to wait until the morning of the absence. If you don't let the school know that your child will be late or absent, you will get a phone call and/or text from the SafeArrival system notifying you that your child is absent and to contact the school to let the office know why.

Whew...that's a lot for the first email! I will be in touch again on Tuesday but hope you all have a wonderful Labour Day Monday and look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday.  
Mrs. Kasper