



Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith Elementary School

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Liaison Trustee -Carol Gibson

Director of Instruction - Denise Johnson 604-713-5097

Principal - Brian Anderson PAC Chair - Kenneth Woo

<http://ksm.vsb.bc.ca>

Events for September

- 12 PAC 7:00 -Staffroom
- 15 Assembly 10:45
- 26 Professional Day

Events for October

- 5 Individual photos
- 7 District Closure Day
- 10 Thanksgiving Day
- 14 Kindergarten and grade 6 immunizations
- 21 Provincial Professional Day

Newsletter 1, Sept. 6, 2011

Principal's Message

Welcome back to returning families and a special welcome to families joining our community. Kingsford-Smith (KSM) is a school where students have opportunities to show the different ways they are smart, from physical to artistic to academic to social.

On page two of this newsletter is a message from our superintendent about the British Columbia Teacher's Federation job action that has begun.

Our parents are our partners and one of the ways this happens is through our parent committee or PAC. The first meeting is Sept. 12th at 7:00 pm in our staffroom on the second floor. Child minding is provided.

School fees and payment for agendas will begin next week once student are in their classes for this year so please do not send any money until you receive a notice.

Below is a note explaining the insurance brochures you received today. The insurance is endorsed by our district parent committee.

Again, welcome to an exciting KSM year.

Take Care of Yourself, Take Care of Others, Take Care of This Place

IAP Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance

Did you know our school board does not insure expenses for student injuries that happen on school grounds or during school activities? You are responsible for these expenses as a parent or guardian.

IAP Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance offers protection against the unexpected costs of injury from accidents, and is especially valuable for families who:

- do not have medical or dental plans,
- have limited plans, as it may help supplement health and dental benefits, or
- have active children who enjoy sports and outdoor activities.

For your convenience, we have made arrangements for families to voluntarily purchase student accident insurance through the IAP Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance program, underwritten by Industrial Alliance Pacific Insurance and Financial Services Inc. ("IAP").

IAP Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance has a selection of plans to suit most budgets. Benefits include coverage for:
 The full school year (September to September), 24 hours a day, whether at school or at home;
 Expenses that are often limited or not covered by private or group insurance plans, or Provincial Health Insurance Plans - such as ambulance, physiotherapy, private tutoring, counselling, and much more;
 Injury-related dental treatment (including future dental treatment up to age 26);
 Out-of-province or country emergency medical expenses.

If your address changes during the school year, your IAP Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance plan is transferable from school to school, anywhere in Canada.

Insurance premiums range from \$13.50 to \$31.95 per year, depending on the plan selected, and your child is covered all the time, not just while at school. A discounted premium is available for families with 3 or more children.

For more information or to apply online, please visit www.iapkidsplus.com, or speak with an IAP Kids Plus™ Client Service Representative at 1-800-556-7411.



VANCOUVER BOARD OF EDUCATION
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Letter to Parents
Update on Job Action

As you are probably aware, the BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF), which represents the province's public school teachers, is involved in negotiating a new collective agreement with the BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA), the bargaining agent for the province's school boards. These discussions to date have not produced a settlement and the parties have indicated that they are not close to an agreement. As a result, the province now faces job action. The BCTF has said that the job action will be in phases. The first phase is a "teach-only" campaign which will restrict teachers' ability to participate in administrative duties and other non-instructional activities.

Despite these challenges, the good news is that schools will remain open. While job action may be frustrating for all, it is important to keep in mind that students will not be put in an unsafe or harmful situation. No matter what happens as a result of job action, your children will continue to be educated in a safe environment in the care of dedicated professionals in the classroom, the school office and on the playground.

We continue to hope for a speedy resolution to the contract negotiations. In the meantime, the Vancouver School District will keep parents informed of any developments around job action and its possible impact on student learning. As more information becomes available, please check back to our website at <http://www.vsb.bc.ca> where we will be posting updates.

The district is committed to keeping parents informed of developments and providing current information. As a demonstration of this commitment, we have recently developed an app for the iPad and iPhone. The app will give parents current information and updates from your children's schools. You will find a link to this app on our website and we welcome your feedback.

For information and updates regarding bargaining positions, see the BCTF website at <http://www.bctf.ca/> and the BCPSEA website at <http://www.bcpsea.bc.ca/>

Steve Cardwell
Superintendent of Schools