

Miracle Beach Elementary School Newsletter

Hello Miracle Beach Families,

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer! With just over one week to go before school returns, I know some of you are starting to look ahead to the new school year. Below are a few information items that will help you get ready for “back to school” 😊

Week at a Glance

September 2	September 3	September 4	September 5	September 6
Labour Day – No School	Professional Development Day – No School	First Day Back to School (Half Day – 11:45 Dismissal) 12:30 - Staff Meeting	1:00 – Fire Drill (No Bells)	10:30 - Primary Assembly 1:00 – Intermediate Assembly
September 9	September 10	September 11	September 12	September 13
Yard Clean Up – Ms. Gravel’s Class	9:30 – Fire Drill			

Upcoming dates to note:

- September 16 – Terry Fox Run
- September 19 – Earthquake Drill
- September 20 – School Photo Day
- September 25 – Lockdown Drill
- September 27 – Orange Shirt Day
- September 30 – National Truth and Reconciliation Day
- October 1 – Deadline for School Supplies Fees

First Day of School

The first day of school for students from grade 1 to grade 7 is Wednesday, September 4th from 8:35 am until 11:45 am. Incoming Kindergarten students will have a different schedule which was communicated separately.

Miracle Beach Parent Handbook

Our [Parent Handbook](#) is full of useful information and will help answer any questions you may have. I have included it as an attachment on this email, and it is also available on our website.

School Code of Conduct

Our [Miracle Beach Code of Conduct](#) sets clear expectations for behavior, fostering a safe and respectful environment. It promotes consistency, accountability, and helps prevent conflicts, ensuring that all students can focus on learning and personal growth. I have included it as an attachment on this email, and it is also available on our website.

Recess and Lunch

Students will be outside at recess and lunch unless the weather is really bad outside. Please ensure students have weather appropriate clothing with them at school. Also, Miracle Beach is in a beautiful rural area of the Comox Valley. As a result, we have the occasional visitor from nature. All classes will review best practice for bear and cougar safety. As part of our animal awareness students do not take food outside during recess and lunch. By not allowing garbage to be on the playground and field it will help reduce visits from bears and cougars.

Communication

Email will be the main source of communication between school and home. Please ensure your contact information is current and up to date. If you are reading this email and your child is coming to Miracle Beach Elementary in September, we're off to a good start! If you are reading this email and your child is not coming to Miracle Beach in September, kindly reply and we'll remove you from the distribution list. Student verification forms will be sent home in September to confirm all other contact information.

School Website

The [School Website](#) has a link to the weekly newsletter (under the "School News" section) along with other useful information, including absence reporting. Please check the school website as needed throughout the school year.

School Newsletter

A newsletter will be sent via email and posted to the website each week with important events and school information. New items will be highlighted each week.

Parking/ Drop-off

Please be aware our parking lot is not large. Families who drop off their student(s) should use our drop and go lane in the front of the school. Please note there is no parking for drop off as we are limited for space. Also, please be mindful to stay out of the bus lane. Our busses drop off/ pick up the large majority of our students and it is important for them to not be obstructed by other vehicles.

District Calendar

For those of you looking to plan for the upcoming school year, important dates can be found on the [District Calendar](#).

Emergency Response & Fire Drills

Regular fire drills and emergency response drills will be held throughout the year to practise student safety procedures. Please review all upcoming safety drill dates on the School Newsletter in the Week at a Glance section. Classroom teachers will walk through expectations and practice with students during the first week of school.

School Supplies

For the 2024-25 school year Miracle Beach will be providing basic school supplies to students in kindergarten to grade 7. Instead of parents purchasing individual sets of supplies, families provide money to the school and the school will purchase supplies for each student. This approach will ensure

equity and equality among all students and will save parents time (no shopping!) and money (ordering in bulk, our discount on school supplies is significant). The only items parents will have to provide are a backpack, a lunch bag, and appropriate shoes for gym.

Kindergarten to grade 7 the fee will be \$40

The office will accept cash, cheque, or e-transfer

Fees are due no later than October 1st - Thank you to those families who have already paid.

Those who are choosing the e-transfer option, you can send the transfer to miraclebeach@sd71.bc.ca.

Please make sure you include the following message: **School Supplies-Student(s) Name**

Class Placements

The most frequent question we receive is, “who is my teacher this year?”. We are still sorting through new registrations and figuring out who has moved. As a result, we are still making minor changes. On Monday September 2nd I will send out an email to families with class placement information. Please watch for this email (Please ensure school emails are not going to your junk folder).

School Bus

If you are new to the school bus and have not registered, please do so at

<https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/student-transportation/>

In continued partnership with our transportation provider, First Student, Comox Valley Schools, SD71, is offering First View/Parent View, a bus tracking and parent communications app for your smartphone or desktop.

- For more information and to download the app, please go to www.firstviewapp.com.
- For FirstView app troubleshooting questions, please reach out directly to via email: support@firstviewapp.com or toll-free phone number 888-889-8920.
- To create an account, you will need your student’s pupil ID, along with a special code:
- The code will be provided from the district once your student is a confirmed registered regular rider with the bus company.
- The district will be sending out codes once received from the bus company.

Rules for Riding the Bus

- Be at the bus stop 5 minutes ahead of the posted schedule. The bus will not wait for those who are late
- Stay on the shoulder or sidewalk, well away from the pavement, while waiting for the bus
- Do not run beside the bus while it is moving
- Boarding the bus will be in single file
- No saving spots in line or seats on the bus
- Take your seat right away
- The bus driver is always in charge
- Remain seated while the bus is in motion
- No eating on the school bus
- No fighting, bullying or horseplay on the bus
- Do not throw litter out the window of the bus
- Always keep head and arms in the bus
- Students are not able to ride a bus other than their assigned bus (e.g., for playdates etc.)

Volunteering with the School

All parent volunteers will be asked to complete a Criminal Record Check before they are able to drive, volunteer in the classroom or participate in field trips. If you are thinking about volunteering at the school, please take the time to complete the Criminal Record Check process early in the school year. Criminal Record Checks are valid for 3 years once complete and will remain on file at the school.

Miracle Beach Elementary School uses the Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP) online service:

Online Link: <https://justice.gov.bc.ca/criminalrecordcheck>

Access Code: XGAX6D8B53

Also, a new requirement this year is the NEW volunteer form. All volunteers can complete the volunteer form [HERE](#).



MIRACLE BEACH ELEMENTARY

Important Volunteer Information

Want to volunteer, or participate at school events or in the class room? Review this information.

It's important to complete these steps ASAP so you can be involved. Criminal record check could take up to 3 weeks to complete.

Criminal Record Check Required

Criminal Record Checks for volunteering at Miracle Beach Elementary can be found here:

- Online Link: <https://justice.gov.bc.ca/criminalrecordcheck>
- Access Code: XGAX6D8B53

Once the criminal record check is complete the Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP) will advise the school that you are cleared to volunteer.

DRIVING

Drivers will need to provide the office with the following

- Drivers Abstract icbc.com/driver-licensing
- Drivers License
- Insurance (third party liability coverage)
- Volunteer Driver Form
- Volunteer Code of Conduct <https://forms.office.com/r/P90Ztb7LeB>

COMPLETE THESE STEPS

ASAP so you can volunteer when the opportunity arises.

MORE INFORMATION
miraclebeach@sd71.bc.ca

Feel free to email me at zale.darnel@sd71.bc.ca if you have any questions or comments.

I look forward to seeing everyone on September 4th. Have a great rest of your summer!

Respectfully,

Zale Darnel

Principal, Miracle Beach Elementary