

Neilson Grove News



Message From the Principal

It's been a good start to the new school year, with the fun events that have helped us reconnect and set the stage for a great year. Things like...

- Going to camp with the Grade 6 & 7 students in week two
- Our first PAC meeting of the year
- Open House
- Terry Fox run and the fundraising to support finding a cure for cancer.

It's things like these that build community, help us feel connected, and create a safe space for students to grow and learn.

This newsletter contains information about what's going on this term, school guidelines (norms), our school goal, and routines & school procedures that you might need to know about.



Important Dates

- Oct 4-** Hot Lunch
Ordering closes
- Oct. 9-** Thanksgiving
- Oct. 14-** PAC Bottle Drive & Pub Night
- Oct. 16-** Hot Lunch
- Oct. 18 & 19-** Early Dismissal & Parent-Teacher Interviews
- Oct. 20-** Pro-D Day
- Oct. 26-** Gr.6 Immunizations & PAC Meeting 6:30-8:00
- Oct. 27-** Hot Lunch
- Oct. 31-** Halloween Parade starting at 1:15
- Nov 2-** Photo Retakes
- Nov. 9-** Remembrance Day Assembly 10:45
- Nov. 10- District Closure Day**
- Nov. 13-** No School
- Nov. 17-** Hot Lunch
- Nov. 23-** PAC Meeting 6:30-8:00
- Nov. 27-** Professional Learning Day
- Dec. 1-** Hot Lunch
- Dec. 15-** Hot Lunch
- Dec. 19-** Evening Winter Concert
- Dec. 20-** Afternoon Winter Concert & Report Cards
- Dec 22-**Last Day

<p>Neilson Grove AS GRIFFINS WE SOAR</p> 	
SAFE	<p>We use the expected behaviour in all settings. We use school equipment appropriately. We use kind words. We move around the school carefully.</p>
OBSERVANT	<p>We are aware of our surroundings and others. We ask ourselves, "Is this helpful or hurtful?" We use visual cues to be ready to learn. We notice how others are feeling.</p>
ACCOUNTABLE	<p>We take care of our school environment and our own things. We take ownership for our learning. We are honest with ourselves and others. We take responsibility for our mistakes and our actions.</p>
RESPECTFUL	<p>We include others. We use our best manners. We look after our belongings and school property. We value other people's ideas.</p>
<p>At NG, we take care of ourselves, others, and this place.</p>	

SCHOOL GUIDELINES: S.O.A.R

We use the acronym S.O.A.R. to help guide our conversations with students and to help everyone understand what are their rights and their responsibilities to making the school a safe and peaceful place.

We have this poster displayed around the school and we use this language when we're working with students who may have had a conflict or disagreement with another student.

MAKING IT RIGHT

This series of statements is our way of helping students identify what part of our school guidelines they may have forgotten when they're involved in a conflict or have an issue with another student. Going through the practice of owning their choices helps students learn that in the heat

of a conflict or when they might have acted or said things impulsively, they own their words and actions. In thinking through why something was wrong, we're trying to help students solidify their understanding of their responsibilities and their rights. By having them think of a plan to do things differently next time, we're guiding students to recognise the supports & routines at school that they can use to solve problems peacefully.

We feel strongly that S.O.A.R. and the restorative practices of "Making it Right" helps students develop the language and thinking processes to make our school feel safe for all of our students.

MAKING IT RIGHT

- 1. Own your choices:**
I shouldn't have ...
- 2. Identify the Problem:**
It was wrong because ...
- 3. Make a plan:**
Next time I will ...

Bell Schedule, Late Arrivals & Illnesses

8:50	First Bell
8:55	Instruction Begins
10:35-10:50	Recess
12:05-1:00	Lunch
3:00	Dismissal

The first bell rings at 8:50 and class instruction begins at 8:55. If you're child arrives late, the front door is propped open until 9:45. Please have your child enter through the front door if they arrive after 8:55 so they can check in with the office and be entered into our attendance system.

Cold & flu season is upon us! If your child is ill- cold-like symptoms or flu, we need you to keep them home. Sending a child to school who is not yet good at wiping their own nose and may cough or sneeze without covering their mouth, can spread viruses which can make others sick, including your child's teacher. Also, if your child has a fever or vomits, please wait 24 hours before sending them to school, even if they seem to feel better.



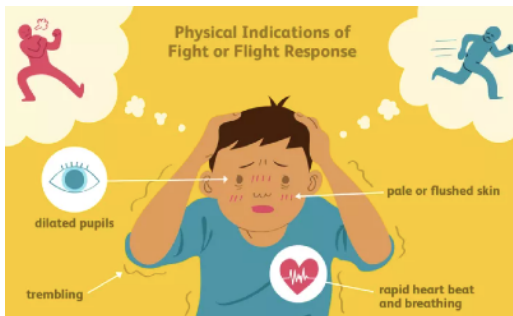
You can call the school 24 hours a day and leave a message, 604-940-4468.

We greatly appreciate your help with keeping our school and classrooms healthy!

School Goal

In 2022 the Staff at Neilson Grove spent the beginning of the school year trying to understand what the students' strengths and stretches were to help us decide on a school goal. We looked at some rich sources of data, like the 2021-22 MDI (Middle Years Development Instrument- a BC survey for grades 4 & 7 students) and the results of a school wide survey we developed to look at connectedness, feelings of safety, and friendships.

RESILIENCE is where we landed. We believe that there are four foundations to helping kids develop resilience: Feeling safe, feeling connected to at least two adults at school, feeling a sense of belonging, and feeling that they have at least one (ideally more) supportive friend(s).



Last year we started this work with finding ways to creating a sense of safety for our students. Out of this came the SOAR guidelines and using the "Making it Right" restorative practices. We also did some work (school-wide assemblies) on helping students understand what happens in their brains when they are anxious, stressed, angry, or upset- helping them recognise the difference between actual danger and what we called "Mind Worries" or stress and anxiety.

We'll be building on this focus, continuing to have conversations about safety and using strategies that we've seen have had positive impacts. Staff have begun the work of looking at where we might go from here: building connectedness, belonging, and positive supportive friendships.

All four of the foundations are important and are definitely things that we care about and promote in the school. It's exciting to be intentional about designing, creating, and putting into action plans that we believe will help the students become resilient, strong individuals.

Introducing Your pac

CHAIR: Kyla Williams

VICE CHAIR: Brigitte McRae

SECRETARY: Natasha Grey

EMERGENCY PREP: Alona Makarsky

CO-TREASURERS: Angela Brain & Greg Norton

CO-DPAC REPS: Diane Chubb & Ronnie Nugent

HOT LUNCH: Terra Mitchell & Ashley Terpsma

MILK PROGRAM: Nicki Kopac

FRUITS & VEG: Lorie Seppke

Check out Neilson Grove PAC's new website [here!](#)



Neilson Grove Elementary

Language Parent Connect Contact

Search the Site...

- OUR SCHOOL
- NEWS & EVENTS
- PROGRAMS
- STUDENT LIFE
- STAFF
- PARENT COMMUNITY
- LIBRARY & RESOURCES
- PHOTO GALLERIES

School Website

The school website is a great resource when you're looking for information about what's going on at school, including a staff directory with teachers' emails, school newsletters, and the calendar of events that will tell you what's happening at the school and in the district.

News & Events

- Events Calendar
- School Newsletters
- News
- School Year Calendars
- Quicklinks

Events for October 2023

Keyword Find Events

September November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Truth and Reconciliation Day - Statutory	3	4	5	6	7

Staff Directory

Administration

Title	Name	Email
Principal	Mrs. Jann Kwasnicki	jkwasnicki@deltaschools.ca
Administrative Assistant	Ms. Catherine Bourget	cbourget@deltaschools.ca

Teachers

Division	Teacher	Email
Division 1	Mr. Bourgeois	jbourgeois@deltaschools.ca

Here is [a link](#).

Coming Soon!

We're excited to share that we'll be starting a **Student Council** this year. Council will be for any student in grades 5 to 7. We'll be making the announcement this week and I will go into the classes to explain the process for "applying" for the position.



The **Media Club** is back again this year! This is for students in grades 4, 5, and 6. We can't wait to see what projects they come up with this year!

Volleyball season starts soon for students in Grades 6 & 7, with inter school games starting Oct 24. We'll be looking for parent drivers to help the students get to Away games, so your support is greatly appreciated!



Lastly, our former school-specific **code of conduct** was put on pause last year as we awaited the District's new code of conduct. We've been told that the District will be releasing their updated code of conduct soon which means we can begin the process of consultation and design of our school code of conduct. We'll be working with Staff, the PAC executive, our new student council, and will share and look for feedback from our parent community.