

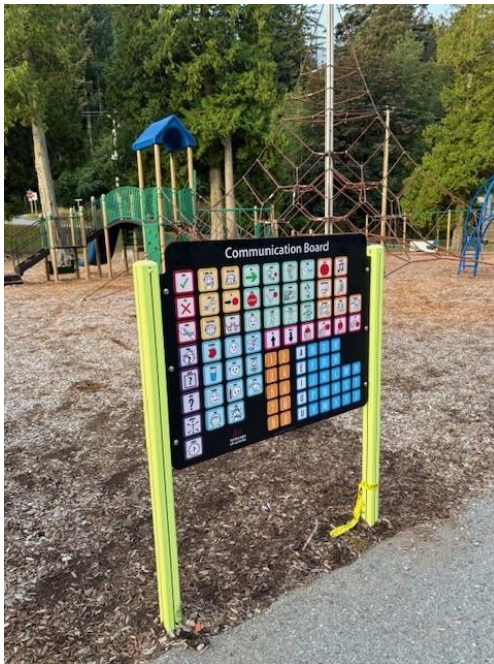


## BOWEN ISLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL E-BULLETIN

**BICS This Week for Families, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Summer weather continues to shine on us this week! We are particularly grateful for yesterday's amazing Open House and PAC Block Party weather and for BICS families joining the fun. Students enjoyed showcasing their new classroom, routines, and teachers! We greatly appreciated our PAC for hosting an after-school full of games, face painting, and treats – a wonderful community-building event.

The nice weather also brought about the installation of our playground's new Communication Board. Thank you to the Community Schools Association and the Bowen Island Community Foundation for their support in making this possible. The communication board will allow friends who may not yet have the words to share their thoughts and feelings to interact with others.



Summer weather is beginning to turn to shorter days and cooler temperatures. Signs of fall are evident in our garden with a robust crop of apples! As per tradition, our Kindergarten friends picked an apple to

take home and enjoy. Students in Division 1 and 2 harvested the remaining apples to share with the school and processed them into applesauce and dried apples. Next stop – kale chips!

Reminders: Please do not park in the bus loading areas from 8-9 am or 2-3 pm. This will help facilitate a safe arrival and departure for our students.

### **Monday (September 23<sup>rd</sup>)**

- Assembly: Orange Shirt Day information and Pod activity
  - Wear your pod colours today!
    - Northwind - Red
    - Eastwood – Blue
    - Southview – Yellow
    - Westshore - Green
- 12:10pm Cross Country Practice

### **Tuesday**

- Grade 7s to Camp Elphinstone
- 3:30-4:45pm Second Cross Country Meet at Ambleside

### **Wednesday**

- 12:10pm Cross Country Practice
- 12:35pm Grade 6/7 Band

### **Thursday**

- 12:35pm Grade 6/7 Band
- Grade 7s return from Camp Elphinstone
- 5pm BICS PAC Meeting

### **Friday**

- Hot lunch begins
- 12:30 Cross Country Practice
- **Orange Shirt Day** recognized at BICS

### **Upcoming dates:**

- September 30<sup>th</sup>: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – school not in session
- October 2<sup>nd</sup>: Individual Photo Day
- October 4<sup>th</sup>: Terry Fox Run at BICS (Toonie for Terry – stay tuned)
- October 9<sup>th</sup>: Early dismissal at 12:10pm for Parent teacher Conferences (time slots will be made available multiple days throughout the week)

## BICS PAC

Thank you to everyone who joined our Community Block Party yesterday! It was a joy to see families connecting and running around sweating buckets in the late summer heat!

This is a friendly reminder that you don't have to "join the PAC" to be involved in co-creating our amazing parent community. If you'd like to hear from the PAC directly about possible ways you can volunteer, raise your hand by filling out this [super short form](#) (WAY shorter than the forms you're behind on getting into the office! *Or is that just us?*)

## Hot Lunch 2024 – 2025

The next session for hot lunch is live. The next hot lunch session runs from September 27 - December 13. The next session needs to be ordered before Oct 14th. Lunches will no longer be available to order week to week. Please put your [order in \(click here!\)](#) now so you don't miss the deadline.

This year we are trying to diversify our menu a bit by adding in soups and chili. We have been able to find another supplier who can provide us with healthier and more homemade-like options. This allows us to introduce more vegan and gluten-friendly\* options. We are hoping we can add some healthier desserts by adding muffins, pastries, and cookies. This means we have an extra baking shift on Thursdays. The baking is very easy as all will be made with frozen batters. This will not be able to run without volunteers though.

We have added a PAC Sponsored Lunch (complimentary lunch) for anyone who needs it, twice during the term. Once on Pizza day and once on Chicken Tender day. Both are the kids' favourite so we want to make sure every child has an opportunity to enjoy!

Our true Hot Lunch Hero, Jana Honing, has agreed to be our Hot Lunch Lead for most of the year this year. We are very grateful that she is willing to take on this job for one more year. This will be her last year so we are hoping we can get a team of Hot Lunch Leads trained up so next year we can split the Hot Lunch Lead job up between many awesome volunteers. If you would like to be trained as a Hot Lunch Lead please sign up for the **11:00am spot** but **come in at 10:00am**. Jana will show you the ropes!

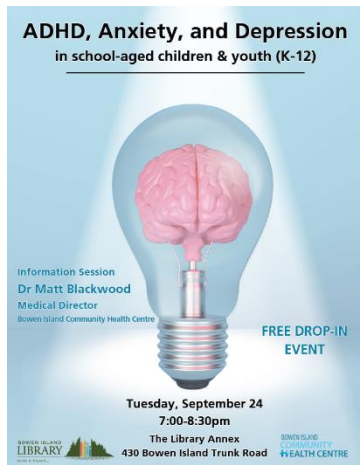
Hot Lunch Parent Volunteers may choose to receive a free hot lunch for one or two children on the day they are volunteering. If you would like to take advantage of this perk you can now **select "Single Portion of Complementary Lunch for Child of Parent Volunteer" or "Double Portion Of Complementary Lunch for Child of Parent Volunteer"**. This applies to the Hot Lunch that you are volunteering for.

A huge thank you to all of our amazing parent volunteers who keep hot lunch running. There are lots of spaces to fill during hot lunch. It's a great way to get to know parents and to be involved at the school! Sign up for hot lunch volunteering [here!](#)

\*Hot Lunch items are made in a kitchen that has gluten. Cross-contamination may occur.

## **Parent Education:**

The Bowen Island Community Health Centre, in partnership with the Bowen Island Public Library, will be providing a free community information night on the topic of *ADHD, Anxiety, and Depression in School-Aged Children and Youth* with our medical director Dr. Matt Blackwood on Tuesday September 24 at 7pm. Dr. Blackwood will start by offering a presentation on this topic and then being available to answer any questions. The event is open to anyone but may be of particular interest to parents and families at BICS.



## **BICS Facility Use**

BICS continues to be a central hub for Bowen Island, with West Vancouver Schools committed to ensuring the building remains accessible and that programs and opportunities continue to connect students, families, and the broader Bowen Island community.

As before, all BICS building facilities will remain available to the community. The gym, kitchen, community use room, multi-purpose room, and other spaces will be booked through the West Vancouver School facilities rentals department. For more information regarding rentals, please refer to the West Vancouver Schools Rental Website page: <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/about-wvs/facilities/>

Field bookings will continue to be booked through the Bowen Island Community Recreation department.

## **West Vancouver Schools Rental Information:**

**Website:** <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/about-wvs/facilities/>

**Email:** [rentals@wvschools.ca](mailto:rentals@wvschools.ca)

**Phone Number:** 604-981-1399

**West Vancouver Recreation Offerings:**

**Indigenous Arts & Culture Workshop [this fall](#).**

**Small Group Music Classes: [Ukulele, Acoustic Guitar and Singing Classes are starting in September](#).**

**Language Program for Various Ages:**

[Give yourself a gift of language skills in French, Spanish, Mandarin, Farsi, Korean, American Sign Language \(ASL\), Ukrainian and English as a Second/Third Language.](#)

**Click here in for [PD Day Camps](#) in West Vancouver**