



WEST VANCOUVER SCHOOLS

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION
PLEASE HAVE THIS TRANSLATED**

RENSEIGNEMENTS IMPORTANTS
Prière de les faire traduire.

重要資料
請找人為你翻譯

これはたいせつなお知らせです。
どなたかに日本語に訳してもらってください。

알려드립니다

이것을 번역해 주십시오

CHỈ DẪN QUAN TRỌNG

Xin nhờ người dịch hộ

ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ

ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਕੋਲੋਂ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਉਲੱਥਾ ਕਰਵਾਓ।

INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE
Busque alguien que le traduzca.

اطلاعات مهم و سودمند
لطفاً از یک نفر بخواهید که برای شما ترجمه کند

ITO AY MAHALAGANG IMPORMASYON
Isalin sa wikang tagalog kung hindi maintindihan

**يرجى ترجمة هذا
معلومات هامة**

ВАЖНАЯ ИНФОРМАЦИЯ
Переведите это, пожалуйста.

WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!



Mr. Blackburn and Mr. Parslow

Welcome to a brand new school year at Caulfeild iDEC! I'm excited to welcome your children back for a year filled with curiosity, connection, and growth. This year, our focus is on nurturing both the academic success and social-emotional development of every

student. We know that students thrive in supportive, caring environments, and we're dedicated to helping them build confidence, compassion, and a true passion for learning. Let's work together to foster a community where every child feels valued and inspired to do their best. Be the Bear!

Please take a moment to read through the following information with your family to prepare for the week ahead.

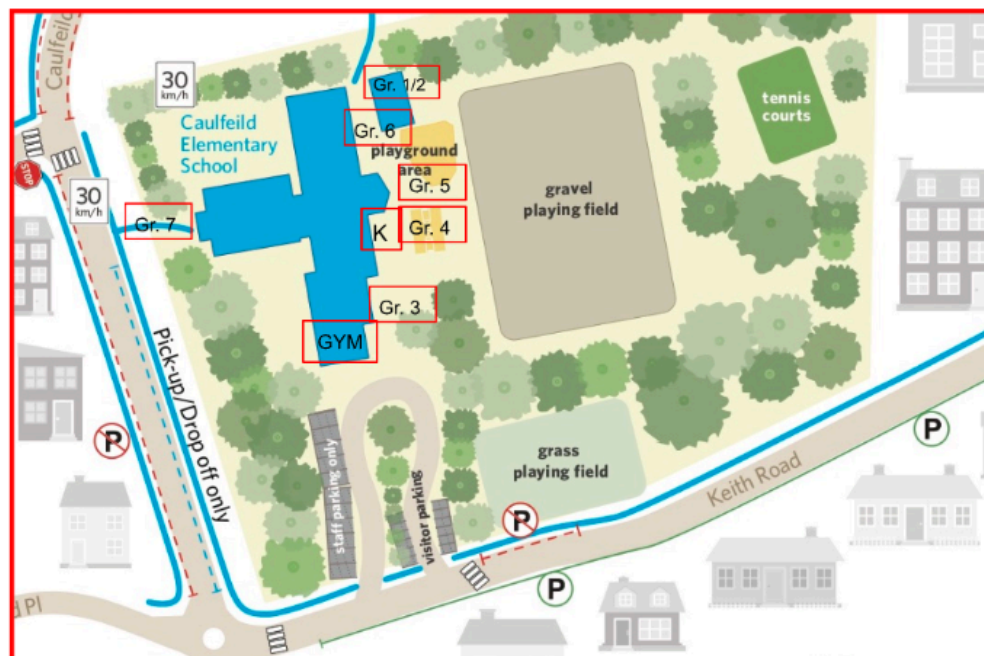
Tuesday, September 2nd

Grade 1-7 Students, 8:30 - 9:45

Students will be in the same classrooms as last year for Tues-Thursday. Students are asked to arrive at their designated time and follow the drop-off and pick-up procedures, as explained further and on the map below. **These are the same lines that they ended with in June.** Students will be met by their teachers from last year, or a new staff member, and guided into their previous year's classroom from there. For example, if a student was in Grade 3 last year and going into Grade 4 this year, they would line up in their Grade 3 line from last year and meet their previous Grade 3 teacher. (A sign will be posted that reads "Grade 4")

New students to Caulfeild will join a staff member in the gymnasium. There will be a sign guiding them there.

It is the expectation that all Caulfeild IDEC students are here on Tuesday.



CPAC will host a *Welcome Back Tea* in the undercover area at the north end of the school from 8:30 - 9:45. Visit our CPAC reps for some treats and get information from the year ahead. Parents of families in K-7 are all welcome.

At **9:45** students will be released from class. Primary students will be walked to their lineup by their teacher and connect with a parent before being dismissed. Primary students cannot be dismissed without a guardian present. Please ensure all guardians are registered with the office. Intermediate students will be dismissed at the teacher's discretion. New students can be picked up from the gymnasium at 9:45 am (day one only).

For orderly and quick dismissal, please park using the street parking and walk to the designated pick-up space near the top of the roundabout, beside the big rock. With all students dismissed together, the roundabout should only be used by families who need to remain in the car, with priority for primary students, as we expect lineups to be busy and long. If your child is not ready (outside and waiting), we must move you along and out of the line. Driving to the roundabout should not be the default method for pickup.

Students should only need a water bottle for this shortened day while teachers and students reconnect after the summer and begin to review guidelines for Bear Week and the year ahead.

Students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 Line Up each morning. Signs will be posted on the first week of school. Teachers will collect students at the bell.

Wednesday, September 3rd

Grade 1-7 Students, 8:30 - 2:00

Students should come to school with a water bottle, lunch, and snack for the week. Please note our usual *Wednesday* dismissal time of 2:00 p.m. will begin on September 3rd.

Students will line up with the last year's teacher in the same spot all week. New students will be added to classrooms for the week. These are not their permanent classrooms. Teachers will be on hand to support new students and families.

Kindergarten Gradual Entry Begins Today. The Schedule can be found [HERE](#). All Kindergarten families have been assigned a Morning or Afternoon group. This information was shared in June of 2025. Check your email or please reach out to caulfeild@wvschools.ca in advance if you are uncertain about your time.

Thursday, September 4th and Friday, September 5th.

Grade 1-7 Students, 8:30 - 2:30

Students will be in the same lines as yesterday—regular school hours for Thursday and Friday. Students will meet their new teachers and classmates on Friday.

Monday, September 8th

Students will have new spaces to line up.

Bear Week (Our First Week of School)

Bear Week is a unique and special school start-up structure that has returned for September 2025. Bear Week focuses on whole-school community-building activities for students and staff to foster connections across all grades and the whole school.

By focusing on our Bear Traits (our values), our students and staff can successfully transition into the new year by building community, connections, and positive relationships. Students will remain in their classrooms from previous years, and new students will join them in those spaces. Throughout the week, teachers will rotate through these spaces to introduce iDEC students to the many important ways we #bethebear. Our new grade 1s (former Ks) will spend the week with many familiar teachers in our Learning Commons, music room, gym, and other learning spaces as Ms. Ross.

Our goal is for all Caulfeild students to move into their classrooms for the 2025-2026 school year on Friday, September 5th. However, enrollment changes could push this date back to Monday, September 8th. If this is the case, parents will be informed of the change via the Ebulletin on Thursday.

Teachers have given much thought and effort into making the best educational decisions for organizing and placing students in their classes. Parents and students had the opportunity to provide input into placement in the spring of 2025, and we have done our best to honour this input when we could. Given the care and consideration taken in creating classes and the cascading effects that can occur when changes are made, no changes can or will be made to the classes once assigned. Thank you for your understanding.

Caulfeild, like most schools in British Columbia, may have a variety of multi-age classrooms in many grade levels this year. For more information on multi-age classrooms, information can be found [HERE](#). For children disappointed with their placement, remember to focus the conversation at home on the positives they can look forward to in their new learning space, including new friendships and learning opportunities.

Kindergarten Gradual Entry (KGE)

- Schedule details for the gradual entry process for our newest Bears have been sent directly to Kindergarten parents/guardians.
- KGE begins September 3rd in the morning or afternoon as assigned.
- Full-day Kindergarten begins on September 15th.

Caulfeild iDec School Schedule for 2025/2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30	School Starts				
10:15 - 10:35	Recess				
12:20 - 12:40	Lunch Play				
12:40 - 1:00	Lunch Eat				
2:30	K-7 2:30 Dismissal		2:00 Wednesday Dismissal	K-7 2:30 Dismissal	

Personal Digital Device Expectations - Review as a family

To support focused and safe learning environments, West Vancouver Schools is refining our approach to digital device use and will be uniformly applying personal digital device expectations across all schools. Starting this school year, personal digital devices will only be allowed with the explicit permission of a teacher or administrator, who will provide clear guidelines to ensure their use is intentional and directly supports student learning. Additionally, considerations will be made to accommodate students' medical and health needs, accessibility, and accommodation requirements.

- Elementary Schools: Personal digital device expectations will apply throughout the entire school day, including before school, after school, and during break times. Cell phones will not be used at all during school hours.

Mindful Communication: Please avoid calling or texting your child during school time. This includes smartwatches, iMessage, etc. These forms of communication are not permitted for students and may lead to loss of device privileges according to our Technology Use Agreement. If urgent communication is needed, please contact the school office.

By working together, we can create a safer, more focused learning environment for all students.

Reporting Absences

Please help us ensure your child's safe arrival. If your child is not attending for the day, please contact the Caulfeild office by emailing us at caulfeild@wvschools.ca or by calling 604 981 1205. If you can, please provide this information to us before the start of each school day.

New Staff Introductions

Some members of the Caulfeild iDEC team have moved on. While there will be more new members of our Support Staff to introduce to you in the weeks ahead, I want to welcome our new teachers. Look to this week's eBulletin to learn about our new team members.

School Communication - Keeping You Up to Date

Regular home communication is important to us so that you may be aware of what is happening at the school. Electronic communication is our preferred method of contact from the office and classroom teachers. The **iDEC eBulletin** will be emailed home every **Thursday**. You will find important information for families, upcoming events, and iDEC learning community news in our weekly publication. The Caulfeild iDEC [Website](#) as well as our Twitter and Instagram (@caulfeildschool)

iDEC School Calendar 2025/2026

The [2025-2026 iDEC School Calendar](#) will be posted to our [Website](#) and updated throughout the school year. Please make it part of your weekly routine to check the website. We will also share upcoming calendar updates every Thursday afternoon in our eBulletin.

Health and Safety Protocols:

Parents and caregivers must assess their children for symptoms of illness before sending them to school. Do not send your child to attend school if they are ill, and only return if your child is fully recovered.

Visitors and Appointments at Caulfeild:

Parents are to pre-arrange meetings via phone or email.

If you would like to meet with your child's teachers, we ask that you set up an appointment via email. When meeting in person within the building, we will ask you to:

- Use our main entrance only
- Sign in at our guest registry in the office

We would also encourage you to schedule your child's medical and other appointments outside of school hours to limit the disruption of students coming in and out of the classroom.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Guidelines

Drop Off

- **School will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. Mon /Tues /Thurs / Fri**
- **Wednesdays: 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**
- Students are expected to arrive at school at their designated time, not earlier or later.
- **Driving:** Parents/caregivers are asked to remain in their vehicles and approach the school from the turnaround on Keith Road only. Please have your child sit on the vehicle's passenger side and have their school bags within reach for a quick goodbye and exit. An IDEC staff member will be there to greet you and your child.
- Parents/caregivers who are doing a **walking drop-off** are asked to release their children at the yellow posts or enter and exit at the lower grass field. Parents are asked to make a prompt goodbye at the edge of our school grounds to minimize congestion.

Pick Up:

All students in K-7 will be dismissed at 2:30 pm, and 2:00 on Wednesday. For orderly and quick dismissal, please park using the street parking and walk to the designated pick-up space near the top of the roundabout. With all students dismissed together, the roundabout should only be used by families who need to remain in the car, with priority for primary students, as we expect lineups to be busy and long. If your child is not ready (outside and waiting), we must move you along and out of the line. Driving to the roundabout should **not** be the default method for pickup.

- **Parent walking pick up:** For walking pick up, teachers will walk the children out of the school each day and have them ready at the designated pick-up time by the yellow posts at the top of the roundabout. Students will be released to parents by the classroom teacher in an orderly fashion. A parent or guardian must meet students in K-3 for pick up. Please be on time, as there is no teacher supervision for students following the dismissal bell.
- **Car (Gr. 7):** Please use parking spaces along Caulfeild Drive so your child can safely enter your vehicle. Do not stop on Caulfeild Drive unless there is a parking space

available. Reserve at least two parking spaces near the front for students with accessibility needs.

- **Students Walking Independently:** Students making their way home in grades 4-7 independently (walking or biking) will be asked to leave the school grounds upon dismissal to return home, as there is no supervision after school.

What to Bring to School

1. **Appropriate clothing:** Teachers will continue to move our learning outdoors and utilize our beautiful and expansive grounds when appropriate. This will be done rain or shine. It is very important that each child has waterproof clothing for these opportunities as well as for recess times. An extra pair of shoes for the gym is also recommended.
2. **Lunch, snacks and a water bottle every day.** Students must bring their own food and drink at the start of the school day; this includes snacks, lunch, and water bottles. There will be no sharing of food or drink, and there will be no mid-day drop-offs and deliveries of food items (or any other items). Water-bottle filling stations remain operational.
*Hot Lunch ordering will be promoted by our CPAC in an upcoming eBulletin. We are a **Nut Aware** school. Please do not send nut-based foods in students' snacks or lunches.
3. **Laptops - Grades 4-7:** It is essential for our learning that all 4-7 students come prepared with their laptops and chargers every day. Their device is to be charged nightly to ensure they have full power for their day. Full details about device expectations will be found on the IDEC Technology Agreement that will be sent home next week.

Mandatory Policies and Procedures Forms for 2025 - 2026

Next week, each student will be sent home with information and important forms that must be filled out and returned to the school. Over the past three years, we have been one of the fastest schools in the district to complete these required forms. It is necessary that our office has the most up-to-date information which is used to contact families in case of emergency as well as to communicate important information from the school. There is also an online component that must be completed separately which is outlined below.

You can even get a head start on these this week! The online Policies and Procedures form for the new school year is now live and the link is accessible through our school website or with this [direct link](#). A parent login is required to access the form. Parents new to the District will be able to create an account easily.

It is very important that each student has these forms filled out in order to participate in all school-based opportunities (i.e. Terry Fox Run, community walks, accessing digital resources and using school wifi).

PAC at Caulfeild

The Caulfeild Parent Advisory Council is busy planning a year full of events and activities. We are working hard to offer you our signature 5-days-a-week Hot Lunch program as well as after-school programs starting late September/early October. Reach out to CPAC at capac@wvschools.ca.

We would like to remind you that all parents and guardians of students attending Caulfeild iDEC are members of CPAC and are welcome and encouraged to get involved. You can learn more about us by visiting our [website section](#), joining our Whatsapp group, or following our school E-Bulletin announcements. Also, please feel free to stop by our info table located at the lower field during drop-offs and pick-ups during the second week of school.

Parent Volunteers

We need you! There are many opportunities to support your school, and we need your help to make sure our children have the best school experience possible. Please don't hesitate to reach out to CPAC or Mr. Blackburn to learn more about volunteering at iDEC.

Thank You

Thank you for taking the time to read, watch and plan with your child for next week's start-up at Caulfeild iDEC. We know it can be a lot of work keeping up to date with our busy school, especially during September. Your participation, however, is valued and appreciated by our staff, and your support is vital for your child's success.

Our return to school next week can be very exciting and busy, and we hope this introductory communication helps you feel informed and able to support your child's new year at iDEC effectively.

Best,
Nathan Blackburn
Principal, Caulfeild iDEC
nblackburn@wvschools.ca



Mr Blackburn and family learning something new on Salt Spring Island this summer