

28 AUGUST, 2025

## FIRST DAY BACK SHORT DAY

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 8:30-10:04 AM  
GRADES 1-3 ONLY

Welcome  
BACK to  
SCHOOL

We are excited to welcome our students back for what promises to be an engaging and inspiring school year! Please have your child(ren) line up in front of their NEW grade-level classroom door, where they will be greeted by their new teacher. (Students who were in Kindergarten should now line up at the Grade 1 outside classroom door. Students in Grade 1 last year should line up at the Grade 2 outside classroom door. And students in Grade 2 last year line up at the Grade 3 outside door.)

New students joining Cypress Park in Grades 1-3 will be welcomed by Vice Principal McLeod in the covered area outside the double doors.

first day of  
kindergarten

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

During the first week (September 3, 4, 5) your child will attend in either of the following groups.

Group A (mornings) 9:00 - 11:00 am.

Group B (afternoons) 12:30 - 2:30 pm.

Group lists have been posted on the outside doors of the undercover area.

Students will need to **bring a snack** for this first week.

### KINDERGARTEN

### WEEK TWO

SEPTEMBER 8 - 12, 2025

Monday (8th)	Morning: Kindergarten half day (8:30am to 12:00pm) - all K students attend at the same time Afternoon will be for: In-take conferences
Tuesday (9th)	Morning: Kindergarten half day (8:30am to 12:00pm) - all K students attend at the same time Afternoon will be for: In-take conferences
Wednesday (10th)	Morning: Kindergarten half day (8:30am to 12:00pm) - all K students attend at the same time Afternoon will be for: In-take conferences
Thursday (11th)	Morning: Kindergarten half day (8:30am to 12:00pm) - all K students attend at the same time Afternoon will be for: In-take conferences
Friday (12th)	Morning: Kindergarten half day (8:30am to 12:00pm) - all K students attend at the same time Afternoon will be for: District K Teacher Pro-D



# PAC MORNING COFFEE

## FRIDAY



The PAC is excited to invite you to join us at the **Welcome Back Coffee on September 5th @ 8:30 AM** in the undercover area. This is a great opportunity to renew acquaintances & meet the PAC executive members.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON MEET & GREET

All classes will be gathering outside on **September 5th @ 2:15pm** with their teachers. This is an informal opportunity to get our school community together after the first week of school and for parents to say a quick hello to their child's new teacher if they wish. Kindergarten families are welcome to come back/stay for this meet & greet if they are able.

## RETURN TO SCHOOL

Please note that the first day of school for the 2025-2026 school year is Tuesday, September 2. To secure your child's placement at CYPRESS PARK, students **MUST** be in attendance by 2:30 PM on Thursday, September 4 to confirm their placement.

Our funding from the Ministry of Education and Child Care requires us to confirm enrollment, and attendance by this date is essential.

If there are extraordinary circumstances preventing your child from attending by this time, please contact Vice Principal McLeod as soon as possible at [rmcleod@wvschools.ca](mailto:rmcleod@wvschools.ca)



## CYPRESS PARK COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND RULES



### EXPECTED

- Moving your body around and helping your brain
- Having fun!
- Asking a friend to play with you
- Follow the group plan
- Be kind to others
- Using kind words
- Stay within the boundaries (they keep you safe)
- Share and take turns with the equipment
- Include others
- Hands to yourself
- Be safe on the playground + spider web
- Listen to the teachers
- Take care of our trees, plants and garden
- Pick up garbage

### UNEXPECTED

- Chasing a friend that does not want to play
- Choosing not to come in when the bell rings
- Bossing people around during a game
- Running with sticks
- Budge or push in line
- Exclude friends
- Throwing rocks
- Unkind touching of others
- Gunplay (sticks or other objects)

## POLICY AND PROCEDURES - ONLINE FORM

Online form [HERE](#) to be completed by 5 September so that teachers have all permissions in place before students move into 25-26 Homerooms.

### WHITE ENVELOPES PAPER FORM FOR EDITING

Student Verification Forms will come home on 4th September - this form needs to be edited and returned to the office by 19 September.

*Any changes involving address, parental responsibility, legal or medical alerts and citizenship will require new documents be uploaded [HERE](#).*

Please sign and date your form, and even if you have no changes, return to the office by the deadline above.

## IMPORTANT LINKS

[CYPRESS PARK CODE OF CONDUCT](#)

[25-26 YEAR AT A GLANCE CALENDAR](#)

[CYPRESS PARK BELL TIMES](#)

[EXPECTED AND UNEXPECTED PLAYGROUND RULES](#)

[ARCHIVED CYPRESS PARK NEWS](#)

[SCHOOL CASH ONLINE](#)

[MYEDUCATION BC](#)

## DROPPING OFF ITEMS

INCLUDING BOOTS, EXTRA CLOTHING,  
BACKPACKS OR LUNCHES,

Please make sure to label them and

**DROP OFF AT THE OFFICE**

Please do not interrupt your child's classroom during learning hours.

Thank you.

## Optional Accident Insurance for Families

West Vancouver Schools reminds families each year that personal injury or accident costs are not covered by the district or its insurance provider. To help protect against expenses from accidental injury, unexpected medical costs, or critical illness, families have the option to purchase voluntary accident insurance plans. A variety of providers offer different levels of coverage, so families are encouraged to review their options carefully and choose a plan that best meets their needs.



## MEDICAL ALERTS



### EPIPEN

If your child requires an EPIPEN to be administered during school hours because of a life threatening allergy please ensure that the school office is informed so that allergy alerts can be sent to classroom teachers as soon as possible and please supply the office with an up to date EPIPEN at the same time. [CLICK HERE](#) to download our Anaphylaxis-Emergency Plan form.

### INHALERS

If your child requires an inhaler, please supply the school office with an inhaler as soon as possible. [CLICK HERE](#) to download our Asthma Care Plan form.

### MEDICAL FORM

We require a completed medical form for all students requiring an EpiPen or Inhaler to be administered at school. Drop off the completed forms at the office.

## VOLUNTARY ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

Please understand that if you are choosing to take extended holidays when classes are in session, teachers cannot replicate the learning that happens within the classroom and are not able to provide online learning opportunities.

Our teachers do their very best to support students during required absences due to illness, however, when the absence is voluntary and a family's choice (such as extending a weekend, holiday, or vacation), it is a family's responsibility to maintain academic learning at home.

Please take time to read with your child, have them write in a "holiday" journal, do Math IXL online, or take advantage of other emergent opportunities to practise foundational skills (e.g. following instructions and using math while cooking).

Families may email their child's teacher(s) to see if there is other work their child can do, however, our teachers' energy and focus continues to be on the learning of students within the classroom

# IMPORTANT SCHOOL INFORMATION

## SAFE ARRIVAL AND PICK UP INFORMATION

At Cypress Park, student safety is our top priority. Please help us ensure a safe and smooth arrival and dismissal for all students by following the school's **drop-off and pick-up procedures**:

- **Slow down** and observe the **30 km/h speed limit** in school and playground zones.
- **Always yield to pedestrians**—safety first.  
Use **designated crosswalks only** when crossing the street.
- **Do not enter the staff parking lot**—this helps ensure student safety and prevents vehicle congestion.
- **Obey all posted parking signs**, especially in the drop-off areas directly in front of the school. Please be respectful of **accessible parking** and **reserved spots**.
- Students should **line up outside their classroom doors** at arrival time.

We ask that you **share this information with any family members or friends** who may be responsible for dropping off or picking up your child. Thank you for helping us keep Cypress Park a safe place for everyone!

## PUNCTUALITY AND ATTENDANCE

Please support your child in arriving at school **on time** each day. Cypress Park's morning bell rings at **8:30 AM**. Consistent routines are essential for your child's development and academic success, as important lessons and activities begin promptly at the start of the school day.

If your child will be **late or absent**, please notify the office by emailing [ethoma@wvschools.ca](mailto:ethoma@wvschools.ca) and informing your child's classroom teacher, or by calling **604-981-1330**.

Whenever possible, we ask that you **schedule appointments outside of school hours**, as late arrivals and early departures can be disruptive to the learning environment. For late arrivals or early pickups, please use the **ORANGE sign-in/sign-out sheets** located on the clipboard on the **pillar to the right of the office desk**. Thank you for your cooperation and continued support!

## EXTENDED ABSENCES

We kindly ask families to refer to our **school calendar** when planning vacations and to avoid scheduling family holidays during school time. Extended absences for holidays can negatively impact student learning and achievement. Please note that any missed work is the **responsibility of the family**. While teachers will do their best to support students upon their return, **materials will not be provided in advance** for time missed due to family holidays. Thank you for your understanding and support in prioritizing student learning.

## NUT AWARE SCHOOL

We are a **nut-aware school** and have students with **severe nut allergies**. To help keep everyone safe, please **do not send any food items containing nuts** to school. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

## TAKING PHOTOS OF YOUR CHILDREN DURING SCHOOL HOURS

To respect the privacy of all students, we kindly ask that parents **refrain from taking photos of children during school hours**. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

## LUNCH CUTLERY AND ZERO-WASTE

Cypress Park is part of the Metro Vancouver waste-free initiative and, as such. We encourage families to support this effort by helping students make healthy food choices and packing lunches in **reusable containers**.

Please note:

- All lunch packaging, including that from Hot Lunch orders, will be sent home for disposal.
- **Cutlery is not provided** at school for packed or hot lunches. Please send reusable utensils if needed.
- Avoid sending **juice boxes**; instead, please provide a **refillable water bottle**.

If your child has not yet purchased a **wet bag** for waste and recyclables, a limited number are available through the office for **\$20**. Thank you for helping us reduce waste and promote sustainability!

**HOT LUNCH** is organized and run by parent volunteers (through our PAC). It provides parents with the ability to order lunch for their child and is a fundraiser for the Cypress Park PAC. More information will be coming in the first few weeks regarding ordering and purchase of Hot Lunch items.



# Personal Digital Device Expectations

At West Vancouver Schools, we understand that personal digital devices offer students valuable opportunities to collaborate, create, and communicate, enhancing their learning experiences. We also recognize the importance of maintaining focused and safe learning environments for all students. Recently, provincial guidelines and legislation have further highlighted the need to minimize distractions, as digital devices can interrupt class time, interfere with student concentration, and disrupt the educational setting.

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.

Here's what this means for different school levels:

- **Elementary Schools:** Personal digital device expectations will apply throughout the entire school day. Mobile phones will not be used at all during school hours.

## How You Can Help:

To support these updated expectations, we ask parents and guardians to:

1. **Familiarize Yourself:** Please take time to read through the *Parent/Guardian Guide to Personal Digital Devices* [click here](#) to fully understand the new district-wide expectations. Additionally, review any specific guidelines or expectations provided by your child's teacher(s). Understanding both the general and specific expectations will help you support your child in following the new expectations effectively.
2. **Model Appropriate Use:** Demonstrate and discuss the importance of limiting device use at home, especially during family time or other important activities. Your behavior sets a powerful example for your child.
3. **Encourage Balance:** Help your child find a healthy balance between screen time and other activities, such as reading, outdoor play, or family interactions. This will reinforce the focus on learning during school hours.

By working together, we can create a safer, more focused learning environment for all students. These small steps at home can make a big difference in reinforcing the positive changes we're implementing at school. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

**Ryley McLeod**

Vice Principal, Cypress Park Primary School

**Office:** 604-981-1330 **Direct:** 778-838-9500



*I acknowledge and am thankful to live, learn, and work on the territory of the Coast Salish people, specifically the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nation, on whose territory West Vancouver Schools resides.*