



August 30th, 2018

Dear Parents of Students of École Pauline Johnson,

We hope you are enjoying the last lazy days of summer. Perhaps you had a 'stay-cation' or maybe you will have tales to tell of far-off adventures. Whatever the case may be, we at PJ are certainly looking forward to welcoming you back!

Week one is a very exciting time for parents, but can be a stressful time for children as they adapt back into routines, face new challenges and experience different expectations. Helpful tips for 'back to school bliss' (ok, maybe that's a stretch!) include:

- Start ASAP with altering bedtimes and wake-up times so they fall closer in sync with school day start times;
- Begin to talk to your child about the joys of seeing old friends and teachers as well as the possibilities of new friendships and a new teacher;
- Get backpacks all set to go (Earthquake Comfort/Care Kits, as well!) and review as a family the places that homework will be done and backpacks will 'live' on school nights;
- Talk about time management and your expectations for morning routines (post a list on bathroom mirrors – ex. wake-up, use the bathroom, brush teeth, wash face, get dressed, eat breakfast, gather backpack and belongings, head out the door).
- Last, but not least, prepare YOURSELF for the separation and changes ahead this year. Trust in our PJ team and know that our arms and doors are open to support and listen from day one in September until the last day in June.

**Please review the Opening Week Procedures below with your student(s) in preparation for September 4<sup>th</sup>'s start (Kindergarten starts September 5th).**

We are very pleased to be welcoming back returning staff and are excited about the new staff members joining our PJ team this year! You will be introduced to many of them during the first week, and more formally at our Curriculum Night on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Information will also be shared in detail at our first PJPAC meeting.



**Please mark your calendars for:**

- September 12th from 7:00-8:30 pm (Our First PJPAC Meeting – all welcome!)

- September 20th 5:00-6:30 pm (Curriculum Night – Principal’s Address and Classroom Visits)
- October 24th &25th (Intake Conferences/Meet the Teacher – more information to come)

Please see PJ’s Website for our Annual Year at a Glance.

<http://westvancouver.schools.ca/ecole-pauline-johnson-elementary/>



Please join us on September 4th from 8:50-10:30 am when our **PJPAC** hosts a **‘Welcome Back’ coffee and treats** in our undercover area and our garden.



If you ordered School Supplies through the website, they will be distributed by Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> and delivered to your child’s classroom. We wish to extend a huge thank you to Lisa Black and Steph Lacompt (PJ Parents) for their endless hours organizing and distributing these materials. It is a huge job and they do it for us so seamlessly.



Research and information is accessible at the link provided to explain and support the benefits of a combined (split) class: <http://chriswejr.com/2012/09/09/will-my-child-be-ok-in-a-split-class/#.WUbb98NhhIN.gmail>

The school office reopens on Tuesday, August 28th at 8:30am. At this time, we will be available to address any of your inquiries.



On behalf of all of our staff at Pauline Johnson, may I be the first to welcome you all back to a new school year!

**Tara Zielinski/Mme Zielinski**  
Directrice/Principal

**Please review the Opening Week Procedures below with your student(s) in preparation for September 4<sup>th</sup>'s start (Kindergarten starts September 5th).**

**Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> – First Day of School for Grades 1-7 (8:50-10:20am)**

**No Kindergarten**

- All new students in Grades 1 – 7 are requested to report directly to the Library/Learning Commons for a reception and orientation.
- All new Grade 6 Late French Immersion students report to the Library/Learning Commons.
- All returning students are asked to line up in last year's morning line-up locations and wait for a teacher to escort them in.
- All parents are invited by our PAC to join together out back for welcome coffee and treats.

**Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> - First Full Day of Classes (Grades 1-7) 8:50am-2:50pm**

**Kindergarten Gradual Entry Begins – see separate letter sent home to Kindergarten Families last July (please email [schubb@wvschools.ca](mailto:schubb@wvschools.ca) if you cannot access it)**

- All new students in Grades 1 – 7 are requested to report directly to the Library/Learning Commons.
- All Grade 6 Late French Immersion students are asked report to Tuesday's classroom.
- All returning students are asked to line up in last year's morning line-up locations and wait for a teacher to escort them in.
- 9:00am: Morning Assembly to welcome everyone back to school. We apologize that, due to student enrolment and fire regulations, this assembly can only accommodate students and staff.

**Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup> - Full Day of Classes (Grades 1-7) 8:50am-2:50pm**

**Kindergarten Gradual Entry Continues**

- All students report to their new 2018-19 line-up locations and wait for a teacher to escort them in to their new classrooms and teachers.

**Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup> - Full Day of Classes (Grades 1-7) 8:50am-2:50pm**

**Kindergarten Gradual Entry Continues**

- All students report to their new 2018-19 line-up locations and wait for a teacher to escort them in to their new classrooms and teachers.