

## A Weekly Update of School Information for Parents and Guardians at Irwin Park Elementary

Thursday Dec 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

CHECK OUT WHAT'S GOING ON @ OUR SCHOOL ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Instagram: [@irwin\\_park\\_elementary](https://www.instagram.com/irwin_park_elementary)

Click [here](#) for past E Bulletin Issues

### Important Dates:

Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	Term One Learning Updates released online
Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	Santa's Workshop in the IP GYM
Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>	Gr 7 Student VS Staff Volleyball Game: Lunchtime!
Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Last Day of School Before Winter Break: 12:00 noon Dismissal!
Jan 8 <sup>th</sup>	Return to School

### Principal's Message

A huge thanks to our parent community for their support of our **Winter Concert: A Snowy Day** that was held on Wed evening this past week. With performances presented in 2 parts, by the **Gr 6 Beginner Band and the Gr 7 Concert Band**, followed by K-3 classroom performances built around showcasing our **Intermediate Choir**, our attendees left feeling a little more spirited after the show Wednesday evening. Our Gr 3 students did a fantastic job narrating the storyline to provide the continuity between songs.

We want to express our thanks to those who made cash donations to the **IP Music Program**. With over 900 dollars being raised, we will be applying those **funds to the**



**purchase of both a Music Stand Cart and new Orf instruments** to be utilized by our students as part of Ms. King's K-7 music program. In addition, parents gave generously to the request for **non-perishable food donations**. Harvest Food Project is not able to pick up until Tues of next week, we are still able to accept donations! We would be remiss to not express our appreciation to **Mrs. Verdicchio** who fielded a number of requests for tickets after the ticket purchases had been closed online. We hope we were able to make it possible for all parents to enjoy seeing their child on stage. While hosting an event of this scale at a school our size with gym capacity limits is far from perfect, we appreciated Mrs. Verdicchio's effort to field requests and also the flexibility of so many in attendance.

We also want to remind all families of the **IPPG Santa's Workshop** that will be hosted in our school gym on Friday Dec 15<sup>th</sup>. We are thankful to all the community members who have donated to the Santa's Workshop with gently used items that may end up beneath your own tree as a special gift from your own child this holiday season; let's just hope it's different item than what you already donated and tried to get ride of! We have a huge slate of parent volunteers that have been busy organizing this past week and will be on deck on Friday serving Irwin Park students as they tour the gym to make purchases for their own immediate families. Our primary students have been provided with **Plastic ZipLock baggies** with a blank shopping list to complete at home and return so that they can go about their shopping a bit more intentionally as time in the gym for each class will be limited. Thank you to the many parents who are involved in overseeing this event, most especially to **Claire Wang** and her crew of Santa's elves! There is even word that a potential visit from **The Grinch** may be in store... so protect those purchases as he is a mean one!

**Information in this E-Bulletin includes several updates for families:**

1. Santa's Workshop: Dec 15<sup>th</sup> – Pls prepare your child!
2. How to Access Your Child's Learning Update: TERM 1 DEC 15
3. Lunar New Year Planning! – Seeking interested volunteers!
4. Ministry Of Ed Child Care Survey – Deadline Extended
5. After School Extra Curricular Opportunities

**Santa's Workshop is Coming! Fri Dec 15<sup>th</sup> - New and 'Like New' Gifts Available for Purchase 1\$,2\$,5\$ etc.**

It's one of the most loved traditions at IP and the IPPG is thrilled to bring this back for the students. Santa's Workshop will be selling new or 'like new items' that will be offered for sale to students at a discounted price to give as gifts to their family.

**HOW DOES SANTA'S WORKSHOP WORK??**

Kids in each grade, most especially our primary classes, will be invited to the gym on Dec 15<sup>th</sup> to have the opportunity to make discounted purchases of gift items that are donated by our



community. It's not only a great environmental choice (REUSE/REDUCE/RECYCLE) but it will mean some special gifts under the tree. The event even provides wrapping services for our students' purchases!

## **Term 1 Learning Updates Go Home DEC 15<sup>th</sup> Via the MyED BC Family Portal!**

You will need to be able to get into MyED BC Family Portal to view and download your children's Term 1 Reports which will be delivered to your inbox on Dec 15<sup>th</sup>. You may need to check your junk folder for an email sent to you from Ms. Verdicchio last week. If you don't receive an email please contact Ms. Verdicchio at [Lverdicchio@wvschools.ca](mailto:Lverdicchio@wvschools.ca).

Please follow the instructions on that email carefully to initialize the account by replacing the temporary password – be sure to choose a password that you will be able to easily recall in March and June for those reports. This must be done on a **COMPUTER** and will **not** work on a phone or tablet.

Take some time to familiarize yourself with the Family Portal. The district has provided a great deal of useful information and answered frequently asked questions about the Family Portal at this link: <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/family-portal>

**Please note that families who already have set up their Family Portal (through a different district or have an older child at a secondary school) will not have received this email.**

Friday, December 15, Term 1 Communicating Student Learning Reports will be posted on this portal. **NO PAPER COPIES OF REPORTS WILL BE SENT HOME.** Be ready by setting up your MyEd BC Family Portal now.

## **LUNAR NEW YEAR Planning Starting Soon! Sign up Now!**

Our IPPG Exec members are starting to plan for the upcoming 2024 Lunar New Year and our celebrations at Irwin Park to recognize this special time. We know that many Asian cultures recognize this important time of year with different traditions, pastimes and legends passed from generation to generation. We are hoping that our students and families can learn from each other with such a diverse array of students at our amazing school.

We are especially grateful for the energy and efforts of Amy Jungmi Hwang for her lead on this event. We are asking those parents or family members who are interested in being part of the Lunar New Year planning process to complete the following online form so that we can start to gather momentum and collaborate around an inclusive community event this coming February at Irwin Park. Click [here](#) to learn more and stay tuned for a final invitation to our first Lunar New Year Planning Meeting



## Ministry of Education and Child Care Survey of Child Care Needs: Irwin Park family specific!

On behalf of the Ministry of Education and Child Care, we are sharing the survey information below to help inform the Province's ChildCareBC initiatives:

This is a friendly reminder to complete the 2023 School-Aged Child Care Demand Parent Survey by December 14 to help inform the Province's planning for future expansion of school age child care. Thank you to the parents who have already completed this survey. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

While we know school-aged child care is a vital service families rely on to ensure their children have a quality, affordable, and inclusive place to be during a parent's full work day, we do not yet have regional or provincial data to understand the demand.

By completing this survey, you can help the Province to better understand your community's needs for school-aged child care. The survey will take 10-15 minutes and the results will help inform future ChildCareBC initiatives.

To complete the survey, please follow this link:

<https://www.awinfosys.com/surveyfull3/minofed/main/SchoolAgeParents.asp?SchoolNumber=1168>

Please do not share the link with anyone else.

If you have any questions, please contact [ChildCareBC.Engagement@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ChildCareBC.Engagement@gov.bc.ca). If you encounter any technical difficulties, please contact the web survey provider (AWIS) at [support@awinfosys.com](mailto:support@awinfosys.com).

<b>Irwin Park Elementary After School Activity Opportunities</b>	
<b>ART MANIA</b>  <b>Lunchtime on FRIDAYS</b>  <b>@ IRWIN PARK</b>	<b><i>ARTMANIA IS COMING FOR</i></b>
	<b><i>LUNCHTIME CLASSES</i></b>
	<b><i>TO IRWIN PARK on Fridays (Gr 3-7)</i></b>
	<b>Fridays, 12:30 - 1:10 pm,</b>
	<b>January 19 -March 8</b>
	<b>( no class February 16 )</b>
	<b>Grade 3 – 7, cost \$ 154 + gst</b>



	<p><b>COMICS &amp; ILLUSTRATION</b></p> <p>Students will have fun learning comic sketching, scriptwriting, drawing and composition.</p> <p>Your Artmania teacher will help you explore comics and illustration using various drawing and colouring techniques to bring your characters to life.</p> <p>For our lunchtime classes, students are taught their lesson while they are eating their lunch, so they have lot's of time to create!</p> <p><i>Click <a href="#">here</a> to register</i></p>
<p><b>Private Coaching Co</b></p> <p><b>Multi Sport Program</b></p> <p><b>Gr 1-3 on MON</b></p> <p><b>Gr 4-7 on WED</b></p>	<p><b>Irwin Park Elementary Grade 1-3</b></p> <p><b>Multi-Sport After School Program</b></p> <p>Dates: Mondays, January 8th - March 11th (No Session January 29th or February 19th) (8 Sessions)</p> <p>Times: 3:00-4:30</p> <p>Grades: 1-3</p> <p>Cost: \$240 + GST</p> <p>This excitement-filled program focuses on FUN, physical literacy, and sport skill improvement through fun games and activities. Participants will move through a variety of sports such as basketball, soccer, tennis, football, hockey, volleyball, handball, and more. Participants will be fully submerged in the world of sports and are bound to leave the day with a smile on their face, eager for the next day!</p> <p>NOTE: This is a non-competitive program and is suitable for athletes of any experience or level</p> <p><b>Registration:</b> <a href="#">Sign Up Here</a></p> <hr/> <p><b>Irwin Park Elementary Grade 4-7</b></p> <p><b>Multi-Sport After School Program</b></p>



	<p>Dates: Wednesdays, January 10th - March 13th (10 Sessions)</p> <p>Times: 3:00-4:30</p> <p>Grades: 4-7</p> <p>Cost: \$300 + GST</p> <p>This excitement filled program focuses on FUN, physical literacy and sport skill improvement through fun games and activities. Participants will move through a variety of sports such as basketball, soccer, tennis, football, hockey, volleyball, handball, and more. Participants will be fully submerged in the world of sports and are bound to leave the day with a smile on their face, eager for the next day!</p> <p>NOTE: This is a non-competitive program and is suitable for athletes of any experience or level</p> <p><b>Registration:</b> <a href="#">Sign Up Here</a></p>
<p><b>Lights Up Musical Theatre</b></p> <p><b>KG – 7</b></p> <p><b>FRIDAYS</b></p> <p><b>2:50 – 5:00 PM</b></p>	<p><b>LIGHTS UP MUSICAL THEATRE AFTERSCHOOL AT IRWIN PARK ELEMENTARY</b></p> <p>Sing Dance Act Shine! At Lights Up Afterschool, your child can experience the joys and benefits of musical theatre by taking part in our afterschool programs led by our talented and experienced Lights Up Musical Theatre Schools staff. These classes are a unique introduction to our weekend musical theatre programs and provide students with an enriching, rewarding, and most of all, fun afterschool activity right at the bell!</p> <p><b>WINTER SHOW! TOY STORY</b></p> <p>This Winter, we will be putting on a musical version of "Toy Story," created for our afterschool students!</p> <p>Students are supervised from the bell. No need to pick up your child until 5pm! Performance for parents on the last day of classes!</p> <p><b>JAN. 12 - MAR. 15 (9 SESSIONS)</b></p> <p><b>2.50-5PM</b></p> <p><b>GRADES: K to 7</b>  <b>Fee: \$345* (*plus GST)</b></p> <p><a href="http://lightsuptheatre.ca/afterschool/irwin-park/">lightsuptheatre.ca/afterschool/irwin-park/</a></p>



<p><b>Ms. Cruz's</b></p> <p><b>Arts &amp; Crafts Club</b></p> <p><b>Tues / Wed / Thurs</b></p>	<p>Irwin Park, let's get messy! At Arts &amp; Crafts club, with Ms. Cruz, our very own Irwin Park Educational Ass't.</p> <p><b>For students in Grades 2-4</b></p> <p><b>Tuesdays -</b></p> <p><i><b>Arts and Crafts:</b></i> Winter term we will be focusing on Sewing! The kids will get a chance to make bean bags, hand warmers, and even their own stuffy toys, as well as learn the basics of embroidering. This is one of the most exciting terms for Arts and crafts, where kids learn a life skill that they will be using for the rest of their lives.</p> <p>Cost: \$225</p> <p><b>Wednesdays-</b></p> <p><i><b>Design Thinking!</b></i> Next term we will be focusing on making cardboard toys, the kids will be designing and building a variety of toys. We will continue to focus on problem-solving challenges in very exciting ways.</p> <p>Cost: \$200</p> <p><b>Thursdays-</b></p> <p><i><b>Art Studio:</b></i> Created by popular demand for kids who love free projects the Art STUDIO option is here to stay and has become a very popular class. The studio option is perfect for those students who love to work on their own projects, creating freely using a huge variety of materials.</p> <p>Cost: \$250</p> <p><b><u><i>For registration please send an email to Elisa Cruz at <a href="mailto:ecruz@wvschools.ca">ecruz@wvschools.ca</a>. All classes will run from Jan 16<sup>th</sup> to Mar 14<sup>th</sup>.</i></u></b></p> <p><b>For students in Grades 2-4</b></p> <p><b>Or reach out to <a href="mailto:ecruz@wvschools.ca">mailto:ecruz@wvschools.ca</a></b></p>
<p><b>ZEN MAKER LAB</b></p>	<p><b>Zen Maker Club Gr 2-3</b></p> <p><b>@The IP Library - Every Wednesday after school</b></p>



## Design & Tech

**Gr 2-3 WED**

**Gr 4-7 MON**

**Register & learn more about the programs at [zenmakerlab.com/irwin-park](https://zenmakerlab.com/irwin-park)**

### **Pixel Digital Parkour Challenge + Climate Change Board Game - 10 weeks [ January 15 to April 29th]**

*NOTE: No clubs on: Jan 29, Feb 19, Mar 18 and 25, and Apr 1.*

#### **PART 1: Pixel Digital Parkour Challenge**

Embark on an epic journey through "Pixel Parkour Challenge" – the ultimate Roblox Obby course! Conquer daring obstacles, leap across platforms, and navigate through a pixelated wonderland. Are you ready to test your agility and master the art of parkour?

#### **PART 2: Climate Change Board Game**

Embark on a thrilling adventure with "Earth Custodians: Climate Quest," where you will design your own board game to become custodians of our planet!

**Register & learn more about the programs at [zenmakerlab.com/irwin-park](https://zenmakerlab.com/irwin-park)**

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### **Zen Maker Club - Grades 4-7**

**@The Library - Every Monday after school**

### **Sound Wizardry + Innovate your own AI App - 11 weeks**

**[ January 17 to April 24th]**

*No clubs on: Jan 31, Feb 21, Mar 20 and 27, and Apr 3.*

#### **PART 1: Sound Wizardry - Hack Your Headphones with Micro:bit**

Explore the magic of sound manipulation "Sound Wizardry: Hack Your Headphones with Micro:bit." Dive into the fascinating world of music technology using the Micro:bit platform.

#### **REQUIREMENTS:**

- Chromebooks or laptops are required. Students can bring their own or they can rent one from us at \$45/full program. Please note that iPads won't work.
- Headphones of any type will be required.



## **PART 2: Innovate your own AI App**

Dive into the world of Artificial intelligence chat apps! Learn to craft a personalized AI experience using MIT App Inventor's simple drag-and-drop interface. No coding experience is needed—just creativity! Build, connect, and chat your way to app mastery in this hands-on course.

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

Chromebooks, laptops, or iPads are required. Students can bring their own or they can rent one from us at \$45/for the full program.

**Register & learn more about the programs at**  
[zenmakerlab.com/irwin-park](https://zenmakerlab.com/irwin-park)

**For any questions do not hesitate to contact Jonas Lopez at**  
[jonas.lopez@zenmakerlab.com](mailto:jonas.lopez@zenmakerlab.com) or call at +1 (855) ZEN-MAKE  
(936-6253).

## **COMMUNITY NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

### **West Vancouver Little League registration is open!**

- **Spring baseball for ages 5-16**
- **We have girls only programs this year!**
- <https://wvll.ca/registration/>

### **Hollyburn Family Services**

Hollyburn Family Services is offering **"The Incredible Years"** for parents of children aged **2-7**. **The program will focus on strengthening parenting competencies and fostering parent involvement with their children.**

**When:** Wednesday evenings, January 10 to April 17, 2024 (Note: the program will run during Spring Break, March 18, 2024 to April 1, 2024)

**Time:** 6:15-8:15pm

**Where:** Online through Zoom

**Cost:** Free

**Eligibility:** Residents of the North Shore with children aged 2-7 years old.

**Registration:** for more info or to be added to the waitlist, please contact Marlae

Vermeer (Family Counsellor, Hollyburn Family Services): [mvermeer@hollyburn.ca](mailto:mvermeer@hollyburn.ca)



## **Rec Centre Happenings:**

### **Winter Break camp registrations are now open:**

<https://westvancouver.ca/parks-recreation/recreation-programs-services/recreation-activities/camps>

### **Browse your recreation activities and programs here:**

<https://westvancouver.ca/parks-recreation/recreation-programs-services/recreation-activities>

### **Are you new in West Vancouver? Come, discover and join us:**

<https://westvancouver.ca/newcomers>

## **FEEDING FUTURES**

As part of the Ministry of Education and Childcare [Feeding Futures initiative](#), the West Vancouver School District has established a food security structure to confidentially assist students and families. The West Vancouver School District Food Security Plan will help students and families by providing confidential financial support for families facing food insecurity. Families are encouraged to reach out directly to their school principal if they need support with food-related costs. Please be assured that all requests will be addressed with sensitivity, respect, and confidentiality.

Aron Campbell

Principal  
Irwin Park Elementary