



IRWIN PARK
ELEMENTARY

IRWIN PARK ELEMENTARY E-BULLETIN

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

Thurs, March 7th, 2024

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

Our most recent FESL - [Framework for Enhancing Student Learning: YEAR 2](#) is now available.

Important Dates:

March 8 th	NOWRUZ Celebration IP Gym – Come Join
March 12 th	IPPG March Meeting – Virtual 6:30 pm – 8 pm – JOIN US!
March 15 th	Due Date for Are You Returning to IP? Online Survey
March 15 th	Parent Performance: Dance in Schools Event 1:20 pm & 2:15 pm
March 15 th	Last Day of Term 2 – Learning Updates Released Online

Principal's Message

As this E-bulletin is being written, a dedicated group of Irwin Park Parents are setting up our gym for a highly anticipated Nowruz Celebration recognizing the upcoming "New Day" or Spring Festival celebrated in predominantly in Iran, but other neighbouring nations in Western and Central Asia. We are so grateful for the organizing efforts and leadership of our Persian community who will be sharing the history, traditions, and celebrations that surround this time of year. Classes will be scheduled to rotate through the gym on Fri March 8th to have an opportunity to soak in the sights, sounds, and hands-on experiences including activity stations dedicated to : Face Painting, Persian Dance, learning about the Haft Seen table and its significance, as well as the tradition of Haharshanbe Suri (Jumping over the artificial flames); plus many more. We have several VIPs slated to take in the event as well arriving at some point during the day including members of City Council and our District Leadership Team. Thank you once again to all of those community members who took part in putting this event together.

Next week starting on Monday, due to the generous support of our IPPG and their fundraising efforts last year, we can bring a **Dance In School** experience with our very own Irwin Park, Gr 4/5 Teacher, Ms. Alex Bleim instructing. Ms. Bleim's former experience as a professional dance instructor will allow her to provide school-wide instruction to all of our Irwin Park students next week. Starting Monday, March 11th, students will meet Ms. Bleim in the gym to begin work on a choreographed performance that we can't wait to share with you come Friday. Due to gym space and the scale of this event. We will be hosting two shows for parents. One starts at 1:20 – 1:50 and the second at 2:15 – 2:45 pm. Details are below and will be shared as the week progresses.

Learning Updates for Term 2 will be sent home via our MyEd Family Portal next Friday March 15th. Parents are asked to reach out to Ms. Verdicchio in our office should they have trouble accessing the MyED Family Portal. Families who have accessed a learning update previously via MyEd can use their former log in information, while those families who are new to the portal will have to use information provided by Ms. Verdicchio. Pls look for an email from the school pertaining to this topic for more information.

Finally, on behalf of the IPPG, we are inviting all community members to join us on Tuesday evening for a virtual online meeting at 6:30. The meeting will be held on MS Teams and a review of past events, anticipated IPPG events, as well as a check in on IPPG PAC finances, will be shared. A Principal's Report is also being planned to share many of the amazing new learning ops and community-building events that have taken place over the past term. We encourage all of our parents to make time to tune in as we will also be discussing Executive Positions on the IPPG for the coming school year. Your involvement is essential to our success. The meeting will be available at the following [MS TEAMS link set for Tues March 12th at 6:30 pm](#)

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

1. **Returning to IP in Sept 2024??** – Click [here](#) to complete [Online Survey](#) by March 15th
2. **Opt In** to *Just In Time* Text Messages from IP
3. **Dance in Schools – Parent Performance Friday March 15**
4. **Term 3 Extra Curricular Activities – Registration now open – Arts & Crafts and Zen Maker Lab now open!**
5. Gaga Ball Before & After School
6. Panther **P.R.I.D.E.** Values Shared & How Parents Can Help
7. Community News and Ops

Returning to Irwin Park in Sept 2024?

We will be asking all families to complete an [online survey](#) to help us collect student information that will allow us to have a smooth transition into the new school year in Sept 2024. Once again due to heavy demand for student spaces at Irwin Park our school will be arranging many of our classes in combined grades configurations. This school year we have had 9 of our 17 classes in combined grade arrangements and students continue to flourish. Teachers have actually seen significant benefits in both learning and community building within the classroom. Regardless, we are proud of the learning taking place here at Irwin Park.

We are now asking families to state their intention of whether to return or if they will be moving schools. We want to ensure that all current Irwin Park students have their space saved here at our school for the coming school year. Your attention to this survey is appreciated. Please complete the survey by clicking [here](#).

Opt In to SMS/Text Messages from Irwin Park Office

We are exploring alternative quick communication methods to remind and inform parents of important events, last-minute early pick-ups, emergencies, etc. This is an OPT in only means to be contacted; meaning you will have to indicate that you want to receive these text messages. Messages will be brief and simple and not sent regularly.

We are hoping that parents will consider choosing this as an additional method of communication received from the school. This message option will not be in an open chat group or allow for replies. However, you must opt in from your selected communication device (cell phone). See the instructions below.

Text Messaging – For parents/guardians who would like to be notified of a school emergency such as power outages, severe weather or safety alerts via SMS

Please text a “Y” or “Yes” to 978338 to ensure you are on the list. You can anticipate our first message going out just before Spring Break.

Dance in School Experience – March 11 – 15th

Exciting News about Dance Week!

- We are thrilled to announce that Dance Week is quickly approaching, taking place from March 11th to March 15th.
- During this special week, all classes will have the opportunity to participate in dance classes led by Ms. Bleim.
- The highlight of Dance Week will be two spectacular performances on Friday, March 15th, showcasing the hard work and creativity of our students. The performance schedule is as follows:

Show #1

1. **1:20 - 1:50pm**
 1. Div 16/17 - Kindis
 2. Div 9/10/11 - Grade 2/3s
 3. Div 6/7 - Grade 4/5s
 4. Div 1 - Grade 6/7s

Show #2

1. **2:15 - 2:45pm**
 1. Div 14/15 - Grade 1s
 2. Div 12/13 - Grade 2s
 3. Div 5/8 - Grade 4/5s
 4. Div 3/4 - Grade 6/7s

*****Please note Div 2 will be away in the afternoon. Families of Div 2 students are welcome to join us for a special dress rehearsal from 11:00 to 11:30.**

We are looking forward to celebrating the art of dance and the hard work of our students with all of you. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement in all our school events.

Term 3 Extra Curricular Opportunities at Irwin Park

Term 3 is shaping up to be an exciting one with several of our providers returning to service students. Please see the bottom portion of this e-bulletin for your chance to sign your child up for several different options. This coming term will include Multi-Sport, Comic Design as well a new after-school YOGA for Kids program, among many more.

Term Two Learning Update Reports – How to Access Online!

You may wish to access the Family Portal in advance to make sure you will be able to see the reports when they are published on Fri March 15th.

You will not be able to see the reports until the afternoon of March 15th.

MyEd BC Family Portal Website: <https://www.myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/>

Note:

- Don't copy and paste the user name and password. You need to type it in
- Enable popups
- When you log in it might say "Your password has expired. Please create a new one". Hit OK and follow the instructions on how to create a new password.
- If you cannot remember your password click the "I forgot my password" function for self-help to reset your password – a reset link will be sent to your email as with other secure sites
- If you follow the instructions carefully and use the proper device you should be able to access the portal and view the report card. It will be found on the right hand side of the home page under PUBLISHED REPORS. It will be a PDF called Term 1 report- Student Name.
- DOWNLOAD AND SAVE A COPY OF ALL REPORTS AS THEY ARE ONLY AAVAILABLE UNTIL July 11, 2024. AFTER THAT YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACCESS THE REPORTS

Need Support?

- Please email - lverdicchio@wvschools.ca (Note: Ms. Verdicchio will not be monitoring emails after March 15th as the office is closed for Spring Break)
- Please include your child's full name in the email.

Support Resources

<https://westvancouver.schools.ca/family-portal>

Irwin Park Elementary After School & Lunch Time Activity Opportunities

Yoga for the Body (Spine) and Mind

Classes are fun using art, anatomy,
stories, games and songs to reinforce yoga

Equip your children for life's hullabaloo.

Gift them with yoga: gratitude, stillness, self regulation, and physical resilience.

Prevent injuries, understand our anatomy and embrace mobility.

Breathe, chant affirmations, meditate, and thrive.

To register, sign up on the link:

<https://forms.gle/zotCufFmxwVph3Hm9>

or contact menkapurswaney@gmail.com 604 861 3309

www.worldofyogaschool.com insta-kidsyogadancemenka

What to expect:

- *-Learn to meditate, say affirmations and practice stillness*
- *-Learn a brief history of yoga*
- *-Learn yoga poses and their names (some in sanskrit too)*
- *-Learn how the yoga poses affect our systems and anatomy*
- *-Hear yoga stories and songs while we do poses that reinforce mindfulness*
- *-Some arts and crafts sessions with the yoga to reinforce the understanding of anatomy in yoga.*

Time and Location: Mondays 2:45-3:45 pm at Irwin Park Elementary Library

8 Sessions: April 8, 15, 29, (No class on April 24) May 6, 13, 27, June 3, 10

Payment: \$120 +GST (\$15 + tax/ class) Please transfer the amount to menkapurswaney@gmail.com

Please download and fill the waiver from this link <https://www.worldofyogaschool.com/services-4-1> by clicking on the blue tab KIDS WAIVER. Kindly send it to menkapurswaney@gmail.com

Please note there is a maximum capacity of 12 students per session on a first come first serve basis.

ARTMANIA IS RETURNING FOR

LUNCHTIME CLASSES

TO IRWIN PARK on Fridays (Gr 3-7)

Fridays, 12:30 - 1:10 pm,

Comics and Game Design

We have a booming game development industry here in Greater Vancouver, some say the digital media capital of Canada! There are a lot of roles involved in making a game but before the programming even starts, there's an original story to be written and an entire world to visually capture.

We'll learn from the work of famous concept artists, illustrators, and designers about techniques for creating memorable characters and stories. Before we ever had video games, board games reigned supreme for immersing us in fantasy worlds. Create your own board game complete with resin game pieces!

The sky is really the limit when it comes to games, so it's the perfect outlet for creative kids!

Fridays, April 19th - June 21st, 12:30 - 1:10pm, 1 - 7.

COST \$154 NO CLASS MAY 17 & JUNE 7, 14.

<https://www.artmaniabc.ca/class/irwin-park-comics-and-game-design-lunch-time-class/>

Irwin Park Elementary Grade 1-3

Multi-Sport After School Program

Dates: Mondays, April 8th - June 17th (No session May 20th)

Times: 3:00 - 4:30pm

Grades: 1-3

Cost: \$300 + GST

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!

Registration: [Sign up here](#)

NOTE: This is a non-competitive program and is suitable for athletes of any experience or level!

Irwin Park Elementary Grade 4-7

Multi-Sport After School Program

Irwin Park Grade 4-7 Multi-Sport After School Program

Dates: Wednesdays, April 3th - June 19th (No session May 1st)

Times: 3:00 - 4:30pm

Grades: 4-7

Cost: \$330 + GST

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 faces, eager for the next day!

NOTE: This is a non-competitive program and is suitable for athletes of any experience or level!

Registration: [Sign up here](#)

LIGHTS UP MUSICAL THEATRE AFTERSCHOOL AT IRWIN PARK ELEMENTARY

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!

SPRING SHOW! THE LORAX

This Spring, we will be putting on a musical version of "The Lorax," inspired by the popular movie (and of course, book) created for our afterschool students!

Students are supervised from the bell. No need to pick up your child until 5pm! Performance for parents on the last day of classes!

After School Fridays

APR. 5 - JUNE 7 (9 SESSIONS)

2.50-5PM

GRADES: K to 7

Fee: \$345* (*plus GST)

lightsuptheatre.ca/afterschool/irwin-park/

Zen Maker Club Gr 2-3

@The IP Library - Every **Wednesday after school**

| Simple machines, building a playground and planting a garden – 5 weeks

[May 15th to June 19th]

Price: \$275

Pls NOTE: No clubs on: May 22nd

This program is all about simple machines, building a playground and planting a garden. It consists of 5 weekly sessions, each focusing on a different topic and activity. The program aims to teach students about

the concepts, types, and applications of simple machines, as well as the benefits, steps, and factors of gardening

No requirements

Register & learn more about the programs at zenmakerlab.com/irwin-park

Zen Maker Club - Grades 4-7

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

Build Solar Power Projects – 6 weeks

[May 6th to June 17th]

Price: \$330

No clubs on: May 20th

Do you want to inspire your kids to learn about green technology and solar power? Then this program is for you! In this 6-week program, your kids will build a new kind of solar-powered project every week and come up with solar solutions for various challenges. They will learn the basics of green technology, such as how solar energy works, how it can be used to purify, heat, light, and power different things, and how it can create art and music.

No requirements

Register & learn more about the programs at zenmakerlab.com/irwin-park

QUESTIONS?

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

Register & learn more about the programs at zenmakerlab.com/irwin-park

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

Arts & Crafts Club,

with Ms. Cruz, our very own Irwin Park Educational Ass't.

Irwin Park, let's get messy!

For students in Grades 2-4

Tuesdays -

Arts and Crafts: For this term, we will be focusing on Paper constructions. Kids will learn origami, 3d sculpting, and paper mâché techniques.

Cost: \$225

For students in Grades 3-5

Wednesdays-

Design Thinking! During this class, kids will work with a variety of open-ended challenges, allowing kids to express themselves creatively and take full ownership of their solutions. Challenges are designed to teach the creative process—a system of learning where there is no right or wrong, and failure is a crucial part of the process.

Cost: \$200

For students in Grades 2-5

Thursdays-

Art Studio: 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.

Cost: \$250

For registration please send an email to Elisa Cruz at ecruz@wvschools.ca. All classes will run from April 9th to Jun 20th.

COMMUNITY NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Irwin Park Treehouse Spring Break Camp

Children from K - Gr 6

- Open 7:30am - 6:00pm - Field Trips, Science, Slime and more...
- *Week #1* March 18-22 (5 days), *Week #2* March 25-28 (4 days)
- Registration packages for new families can be found online at www.irwinparktreehouse.com - please email Spring Break in the subject line. Or contact Diana @ 604-926-4080

Families are advised to check immunization records before spring break travel

With measles outbreaks being reported internationally and spring break on the horizon, the provincial health officer, BC Centre for Disease Control and public health officials are reminding people in British Columbia to check their vaccination records before travelling to ensure they are protected.

More information can be found [here](#) with the local West Vancouver immunization clinic [here](#)

WVYB NOWRUZ CELEBRATION CONCERT

- Invite your friends, family and acquaintances!
- Please join us **on Mar 13th at 7:30pm** for an evening filled with beautiful music as we celebrate NOWRUZ - featuring the premiering of an arrangement by Reza Kalantar of "Bahar-e Delneshin" (Sweet Spring) composed by Rouhollah Khaleghi with guest Classical Guitarist Golnar Riahi and the Symphonic strings. And performances by the WVYB Symphonic Band.
- **NOWRUZ CELEBRATION CONCERT:** tickets are available through the Centennial Theatre box office.
- Adult/Senior \$25.00 & 12 yrs and under \$10.00.
- <https://tickets.centennialtheatre.com/TheatreManager/1/online?performance=3087>

SPORTS and ATHLETIC OPPORTUNITIES

The 2024-2025 WVSD Premier Sports Academies

- Premier Academies are open for registration! Please visit <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/programs/> for further information.
- **Premier Academies:** Badminton, Baseball, Basketball, Fencing, Field Hockey, Rugby, Soccer, Tennis, Volleyball

North Shore Basketball Academy

- **Spring Break Camps**
Spring Break Camps are filling up fast! We are offering 2 weeks of camps running March 18-22 and March 25-28. We will offer camps for grade K-12. We will run skill camps for grades K-7 along with performance camps for grades 6-12.

[Visit our camps page for more info and to register.](#)

Spring/Summer Club Teams

Try-outs for Spring/Summer Club Teams for boys U9-U18 (Gr. 3-12) and girls U12-U15 (Gr. 6-9) are coming up. Try-outs will be held between March 4-11. Teams will compete in local tournaments with our U13-U18 teams also traveling to Victoria and Seattle for tournaments. [Visit our teams page for more info and to register.](#)

Thank you and hope to see you on the court soon!

North Shore Basketball Academy
www.northshorebasketballacademy.com
778-322-3529

ACTIVITIES AT YOUR WEST VANCOUVER COMMUNITY CENTRE / GLENEAGLES COMMUNITY CENTRE

Spring Break Break camps – Music, Spanish or Korean Immersion, LEGO, Arts, Science/STEAM, Sports, Gymnastics, etc:

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

Spring Break Intensive Group Classes Also Available for All Ages: Beginner French Intensive & Music Theory Intensive

https://anc.ca.apm.activecommunities.com/westvanrec/activity/search?activity_select_param=2&activity_keyw ord=intensive%20spring%20break&viewMode=list

Important Dates: Spring Program Registrations (April – June)

General registration for Spring opens on Wednesday, March 6

Skating, Gymnastics, and Swimming registrations open on Wednesday, March 13

Spring Learning Programs

Interested in indigenous beading or cedar weaving, learning Languages, STEAM, Chess, Lego?

Adult Beginner French classes available: After-School Kids' Farsi, Korean, Mandarin classes are also available.

Explore the Learning Program: www.westvancouver.ca/learning

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>

Aron Campbell

Principal

Irwin Park Elementary