



IRWIN PARK ELEMENTARY E-BULLETIN

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

Thursday, May 30th, 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

Important Dates:

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| June 1 st | Irwin Park Gr 6 & 7 Band Concert @ WVCC Culturefest at Ambleside |
| June 5 th | Gr 6 & 7 Band & Int Choir Spring Concert – 1:30 pm |
| June 6 th | WV District Elementary Track Meet @ SFU – all day |
| June 7 th | Final Submission Date for Parent Placement Input |
| June 13 th | Irwin Park IPPG Spring Carnival 3:00 – 6:30 pm |
| June 14 th | Spirit Day @ Irwin Park – 12:30 pm Dismissal |
| June 21 st | Primary Classes Orff Music Concert |

Important Announcements

Our Panthers were showing their best this week as weeks of practice and preparation came to fruition with athletes in Gr 4/5/6/7 headed to Westcot Elementary on Wednesday and Thursday afternoon to compete in Running Long Jump and Shot Put. We had several top-ten placings as our athletes competed strongly in these events. Stay tuned to our Instagram to see highlights of both meets.

Another opportunity to support our Panthers arrives this weekend as part of the West Vancouver Community Cultural Festival. Ms. King will be leading our Gr 6 and Gr 7 Bands on stage at the West Vancouver Schools Pavillion tent found on the west side of the Ambleside Field. Our bands will take the stage at 2:00 pm Saturday afternoon with the Gr 6 band on first. Get out and enjoy the weekend and support our school programs. Please see the attached documents for further details.

[WVCCF 2024 Bus Shelter Ad digital RGB v1.jpg](#) [wccfest 2024 - map V1.pdf](#) [WVCCFest 2024 - WV Schools poster \(2\).pdf](#)

And finally, as part of our planning for the coming school year, we wanted to share our **Irwin Park school calendar** for the 24/25 school year. Parents are asked to plan accordingly and ensure that students prioritize their attendance at school, with parents planning vacations and holiday weekends per the attached calendar. Thank you for being so supportive. [Irwin Park School Calendar 24 25.pdf](#)

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

1. **Irwin Park Carnival – Save the Date – Thurs June 13th**
2. **IPPG AGM Meeting Date Set:** Tues June 18th In Person Meeting – Executive Members Wanted!
3. **Parent Input Opportunity for Classroom Placement for 24/25 – Deadline June 7th**
4. **Travelling this Summer? Your child must be back in school by Thurs Sept 5th**
5. **Community News and Ops**

Irwin Park Spring Carnival is Coming! Thurs June 13th - Save the Date!

The Irwin Park Spring Carnival to celebrate our school year together will take place on Thurs June 13th with fun rides, amusement activities, food and families. Details were sent home in a recent email to all parents and can be found on our [Instagram](#).

The Spring Carnival will involve a number of amusement activities to choose from, including a **Climbing Wall**, **Dunk Tank**, **Soccer Shoot Out**, **Bouncy Castle** and everyone's favourite **Jousting**! Other activities, including face painting, cake walk and more will be available to students. All of these activities can be accessed by purchasing a RIDE WRISTBAND online through the [MunchALunch](#) website. Food pre-ordering online via [Munch-A-Lunch](#) will be available as **Mr. Tube Steak** will be on site once again to provide delicious hot dogs as well some other delicious treats. Save the date so you and your family can join us to celebrate our school community and Panther P.R.I.D.E. and support our Irwin Park Parent Group's effort to fundraise for our school's future!

Parent Volunteers are needed in a number of areas. Please consider donating a bit of time or a baked good for our Cake Walk event. Parents and Guardians can access a [volunteer spreadsheet here](#) to sign up. Thank you for your continued support

IPPG Annual General Meeting – Tues June 18th 6:30 @ Irwin Park Library

Please join us in our next IPPG meeting to **finalize IPPG Executive Roles for 2024/2025**. The meeting will take place virtually on **Tuesday, June 18th at 6:30 pm**.

The **IPPG Exec** is made up of **parent volunteers who lead**. We need new leaders to keep the IPPG going and continue to provide extra support to the school. In order to do that, we need your help! None of this would happen without passionate IPPG Exec volunteers leading the charge. If you'd like to put your hand up for an open role, get in touch with our volunteer coordinator Mimi Lin (mimslin@gmail.com).

Spring Outdoor Concert Announced – Irwin Park Gr 6 & 7 Bands and Intermediate Choir

We are excited to invite our community members to Irwin Park's Spring Music Celebration on **Wednesday, June 5th at 1:30 PM**.

This event will feature the Intermediate Choir along with the Grade 6 and 7 Bands. The students have been working very hard this year and we can't wait to show you what they have accomplished! Weather permitting, the celebration will be held outdoors by the sports court at Irwin Park. This is not a ticketed event and all guests are invited to come and go as they please.

Entrance will be by donation to the local food bank. Please bring a non perishable food donation for the Harvest Food Project.

Choir students are asked to arrive at school that day in their concert dress - black bottoms and a white top. As it might be warm that day, students can wear shorts, t-shirts or a black skirt/dress. We look forward to seeing you there to celebrate the hard work of our young musicians and the exceptional leadership of Ms. King our Music instructor!

IP Classroom Placement Input Opportunity: Available May 27 – June 7

As announced in last week's E Bulletin, starting on **Tuesday, May 27 until Monday, June 7, an IP Placement Input Form** will be made available to families in the Irwin Park office should they wish to provide additional information that is specific to their child.

This form is in hard copy and is not shared out electronically. It must also be handed in to the office in hard copy format so that it can be collated appropriately by the administration team. Please collect your form from Ms Teale or Ms Verdicchio at our school office starting **Monday, May 27th**.

PLEASE NOTE: Please refrain from emailing administration with input around classroom placement. Information sheets received after June 7 at 2:50 pm will not be considered for student placement for the 2024-25 school year.

THIS PROCESS IS OPTIONAL. Please note that it is not necessary to complete this form and is only provided to parents should they feel compelled to inform our team of any outside circumstances or student needs that we may be unaware of. Regardless of a submitted input form or not, the IP staff invest many hours and great care in the placement of every child in order to honour their individual learning style and create the best learning environment for all children regardless of parent input.

As stated in previous bulletins, each school year our Irwin Park staff of educators, specialist teachers, and administrators, work collaboratively to create classes that are balanced and will provide an inclusive culture for learners to thrive in. Please know that teachers begin this tentative process in the late Spring and invest a great deal of thought and effort into making the best educational decisions for organizing and placing students into classes. While our placements are not finalized until September, we take into consideration a wide range of criteria including:

- *Student social-emotional well-being and coping*
- *Diversity of learning needs and balancing classes*
- *Workable instructional groups*
- *Positive social groupings*
- *Possibilities for new and fresh friendships and leadership opportunities*
- *School Base Team recommendations*
- *Ministry class size and composition requirements*
- *District enrollment pressures*

If you are compelled to submit a form, we ask that you consider the placement criteria referenced above when describing your child's needs. If you are requesting placements that involve other students (one or two at most) please think carefully before making your request; make it respectful and provide an explanation for that request. Please focus on the needs of your child.

Out of respect to our staff and the professional code of ethics, we strive to uphold, any submitted forms **containing staff names in the form of requests will not be used in the class configuration process. We also remind parents that teacher assignments are tentative and subject to change – please do not request a specific teacher. Any such requests made on input forms will render the input ineligible.**

Submitting a Placement Input Form does **not** mean that your request will be granted as it is not possible to honour all requests as classes are determined. Any information that you provide on your IP Placement Input Form will be just one of many factors considered by our team in the placement of your child.

Thank you for your understanding, flexibility, and trust. **Based on our team's collective experience and the professional context we possess; we stand by our decisions come September.**

A final note on multi-grade classrooms. **Multi-grade learning configurations are now a reality at Irwin Park and are largely due to District wide enrollment pressures. This is a topic that has been written about and shared in our E Bulletins for the past several weeks.** To help parents understand the rationale of these arrangements the WVSD has devoted a [webpage](#) to help parents who may be unfamiliar with this arrangement. Combined classes have proven to be effective learning arrangements with a host of advantages to both the classroom learning community as well as the academic achievement. What is important for parents to remember is that in today's classroom, all teachers strive to meet each child where they are with their learning regardless of their grade level and provide them with learning opportunities accordingly.

Summer Holiday Plans? Please plan to return to school by Thurs Sept 5th at the latest!

With the ever-increasing enrollment pressures that our school continues to face, space in classrooms continues to be tight. We ask that all families who are travelling over the summer to ensure that their children are able to return and be present in classrooms by the latest Thurs Sept 5th. Saving student spots can be very challenging and we want to avoid family disappointment but in order to satisfy student enrollment needs district wide we require parents to communicate and confirm their plans clearly with schools. Questions? Contact your school office!

Irwin Park Seed Library - New Community Initiative

Click here for information and how to get involved. [Seed Library.pdf](#)

Community News and Information

Lions Gate Hospital Survey

Lions Gate Hospital would like your feedback on evolving health care needs in our community.

Please consider filling out the survey - [Health Vision Lions Gate Hospital – Survey](#)

National Forums on Physical, Spiritual and Mental Health

PDF and links attached

[Walk with your Doc](#)

[Active Youth](#)

West Vancouver Basketball Club Summer Camps

May is here which means the WVBC summer camps are right around the corner. This year, the WVBC will be offering 4 weeks of camps beginning July 8 for players in Grades 2-10. All camps will be held at West Van Secondary School and will be led by former Canadian Men's National Team player and WVS Teacher/Basketball Academy Head Coach Greg Meldrum. Many camps sold out last summer so don't wait too long to sign up. To view the full schedule of camps and to register, please go to <http://www.wvbc.ca>

Feeding Futures – Help is available now! Financial support for those suffering hardship to provide access to healthy food!

As part of the Ministry of Education and Childcare [Feeding Futures initiative](#), the West Vancouver School District has established a food security structure to assist students and families confidentially. 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.

ACTIVITIES AT YOUR WEST VANCOUVER COMMUNITY CENTRE / GLENEAGLES COMMUNITY CENTRE

Important Dates:

Summer Camp Registrations Open on Wednesday, May 1st.

www.westvancouver.ca/camps

Other Summer program Registrations open on Wednesday, June 19th.

Browse all 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:

www.westvancouver.ca/newcomers

Aron Campbell

Principal

Irwin Park Elementary