



IRWIN PARK ELEMENTARY  E-BULLETIN

Update of School Information For Irwin Park Parents and Guardians

Thursday, Sept 12, 2024

Important Dates:

Sept 16 th	Full Day KG begins!
Sept 17 th	1 st District XC Running Meet @ Ambleside Gr 3-7
Sept 18 th	Terry Fox Run for the Cure School Wide Run
Sept 19 th	Student Picture Day – Dress Your Best!
Sept 20 th	Professional Development Day : School Not in Session
Sept 24 th	IPPG Meeting – 1 st Meeting of the New School Year
Sept 26 th	Inside Irwin Park – Orientation Evening and Fall Carnival
Sept 27 th	Orange Shirt Day

Sept 30 th	National Truth and Reconciliation Day (Stat Holiday)

Friday Sept 20th: WVSD Professional Development Day

Parents and guardians are reminded that students are not in session on Friday Sept 20th as all teachers will be involved in School Based Professional Development on that day at Irwin Park.

After School Extra Curricular Activities - Open for Registration - Scroll to the bottom!

Important Information & Class Placement Timeline :

A Message from the Principal...

Inside Irwin Park Event & IPPG Garden Carnival Fundraiser (Thurs Sept 26th)

What an exciting week as students joined their assigned classroom teacher(s) and classmates and began building solid foundations of expectations, culture and classroom norms. Included this week in several classroom schedules was a visit to our newly established Irwin Park School Community Garden. Students have been hard at work this week, spreading mulch and weeding, and they're looking forward to filling the planter boxes with soil next week. We're thrilled to have received a small grant from the West Vancouver Foundation - Neighbourhood Small Grants Fund to dedicate part of the garden to Indigenous plants. You can check out more soon to be posted on our Irwin Park Instagram account.

We're still seeking donations of buckets, shovels, and small hand tools. We will also be starting a Garden committee and looking for a handful of interested parents. Please email Vice Principal Alex Blem (ableim@wvschools.ca) if you wish to join. Garden workshops in classrooms with facilitators from [Victory Gardens](#) will kick off at the end of September.

As part of our kick off to the new school year, the IPPG in partnership with an anonymous donor will be hosting our **Fall Community Garden Carnival Fundraiser on Thurs Sept 26th** . Yes that's right! The fun and fond memories of our past IPPG Spring Carnival have inspired another Fall Carnival with **all funds raised going**

towards our Irwin Park Community Garden and other **school enhancements**. A goal of \$5000 has been set and we hope we can surpass it. Online donations are live and can be made [here](#) and tax receipts are available. Cash donations will be available the day of our event to those interested from outside our Irwin Park Community.

Carnival entry for all IP students will be by [donation](#) and we are appealing to all Irwin Park families to consider donating to assist in covering the costs of the **construction, planting, and maintenance** of our School Community Garden as well as the specialized **classroom instruction** that has been paired with it during the year.

This incredible learning enhancement has been carefully planned in partnership with [Victory Gardens](#) and our IP Garden Committee but we need your support to make it all a reality. Every student will be eligible to attend this September's Fall Fundraiser Carnival with admission wristbands being provided to each of our 425 students to enjoy the festivities. We will have **10 different inflatable attractions** including at least **3 inflatables that will be reserved for K-3 students only** and a **Professional DJ on site to entertain our Gr 4-7 cohort**. Food vendors including [Kettle Corn](#), [Mr. Tube Steak](#) and an [Ice Cream Truck](#) will also be in attendance. Food orders are now live and open on the [IP Munch A Lunch](#) website.

No expense has been spared in ensuring our community has the time of their life to kick off this exciting school year and the IPPG would like to invite our entire community to join us! In order to pull this off we won't be able to do it without **IP Volunteers**. We would ask parents to consider signing up for a supervision shift at one of our inflatables. No experience required! Click [here](#) to learn more!

Donations to our Fall Community Garden Fundraiser can be made at [School Cash Online](#) and again a tax receipt will be issued for each donation made online. We can't wait to see you there on Thurs Sept 26th...between 3:45 and 6 pm. Stay tuned to our social media feeds on Instagram and on Facebook to learn more!

Inside Irwin Park – School Orientation and Meet the Teacher event – 3:00 – 3:40 pm Thurs Sept 26th

Just prior to the start of our [Fall Community Garden Fundraiser](#), our staff team will host our Inside Irwin Park Meet the Teacher and School Orientation event. Teachers will open their classrooms for a casual meet & greet, where your child can introduce you to their teacher(s) and their learning community and space. Don't hesitate to tour the school and socialize as well. The 40 mins is meant to be an opportunity to connect with friends and families that were missed over the Summer Break but also to learn more about your child's classroom and teacher before our upcoming Parent/Teacher Interviews on Oct 9 & 10th. Following classroom walk throughs, at approximately 3:40 pm new Irwin Park Vice Principal, Ms. Bleim and Mr. Campbell hope to host Irwin Park parents in the gym for an informal introduction and *Setting Up Students for Success* presentation. Following this time together, we will be kicking off the start of our Fall Community Garden Carnival Fundraiser. More details to come.

Cross Country Team Practicing Now (Grade 3 to 7) – 1st Meet @ Ambleside Tues Sept 17th

School sports are ON this year and the first sports season, Cross Country Running, has started with over 70 athletes in Grades 3-7 attending out first practice. Our coaching team of **Mr. Hamelin, Mrs. MacDonald and Ms. Kozak and Ms. G** practiced on Thursday morning and will practice again on Monday at 8:15 am in preparation for the first meet. District Meets will occur at Ambleside Park on Tuesday after school with practices during the school week. It's not too late to join and all Grade 3 to 7 students are welcome to join in. Coaches are keen to include all athletes regardless of experience.

Please ensure that if your child is participating that you complete and return the IP permission form and pay the District Athletics fee charged at [School Cash Online](#). The \$10 fee is School Board approved and cover the costs of marshalling, referees, teacher release for tournaments and meets. **All families of students in Grades 3-7 will receive a School Cash Online message saying the payment link for Cross Country fees and need only be paid if your child is participating in Cross Country at Irwin Park.** Thank you.

TERRY FOX RUN – Bring Toonies for Terry! This Wednesday Sept 18th!

The annual Irwin Park Terry Fox Run will be held this coming Wednesday. Classes will be discussing the history and purpose of the run and then will go out to run in Terry's honour. All students are asked to **WEAR RED** or **Irwin Park Panther P.R.I.D.E. Spirit Wear** and bring a donation of at least \$2 to the [Terry Fox Foundation](#). There is also a [special website](#) set up for Irwin Park families that prefer donating directly to the foundation. Regardless as to how you give...we are grateful. Thank you for your generosity and for supporting the memory of this Great Canadian Icon!

***We are looking for IP Parents to help us marshall our course on Wednesday to ensure safety and spirit. Those interested should email your name, child's name and division to lverdicchio@wvschools.ca should you be able to join us from 1:45 pm to 2:45 to assist in marshalling on our run around Irwin Park School. We will be requiring 6-8 volunteers to help us around the perimeter of our school property block. Thank you.

Student Photo Day: Thurs Sept 19th

A photographer from Edge School Photos will be here on Thursday to capture our student photos for the 24-25 school year. Be sure to mark your calendars and start

picking out your outfit and considering styling options to look your best on this special day. Photo re-takes are available at a later time if your stylist or accessories don't work out! ????

HOT LUNCH – OPEN AND TAKING ORDERS – Deadline for Next Week's Lunches – Sunday Sept 15th

The IPPG is pleased to announce that the [MunchALunch website](#) is OPEN for hot lunch orders for the 2024 Fall Term.

Lunch orders are delivered to students at the school on **Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.**

We are offering added **flexibility** to the hot lunch program in two main ways. First, the website will remain open so parents can place orders up to 5 days prior to lunch day (e.g. Friday lunch orders close Sunday evening. Secondly, orders can also be customized for each delivery day (for example: cheese pizza on Oct 4 and pepperoni on Oct 12).

Orders are made directly through the [MunchALunch website](#). Be sure to order individually for each day you would like your child(ren) to receive a delivered lunch. New users must first register for an account with the Register Here button. Please email ippac@wvschools.ca with any questions.

IMPORTANT NOTE: PLEASE SEND CUTLERY AND CHOPSTICKS TO SCHOOL WITH YOUR CHILD AS NEEDED.

After-School Activities – Online Sign Ups Coming Soon

Starting next week we will be releasing the various registration options for our Fall Term of After School Extra Curriculars.

With activities like Private Coaching Clinic Athletics, Animation and Cartooning Club, Lights Up Theatre and After School Yoga and Zen Maker Lab ...there is sure to be something to interest all. Activities are offered after school to students usually between 3pm and 4:30. Again more info coming next week.

24/25 Irwin Park School Fees are NOW DUE!!

All families should have received an email from Ms. Verdicchio explaining school fees and how to pay them. We would ask that if your account is still outstanding to pay immediately via the [SchoolCashOnline](#) application. These fees cover the cost of your child(ren)'s agenda and school supplies for the year.

Here are the instructions on how to create an account if you do not already have one.

Step 1: Click on this link: <https://westvancouver.schoolcashonline.com>

Step 2: Register by selecting the "Get Started Now" and following the steps

Step 3: After you receive the confirmation email, select the "**click here**" option, login in and add each of your children to your household account.

To do this, you will need your student's **PIN number, last name, and date of birth.**

If you do not know your child's PIN please contact Ms. Verdicchio at LVerdicchio@wvschools.ca Thank you once again for your support and patience at this time of year.

Library Corner – w/ Ms. Gratton

Our teacher librarian, Ms Gratton, brought in silkworm caterpillars from Vancouver City Farmer to show students these unique little critters that depend on the mulberry tree for their survival. Students enjoyed a hands on look of the caterpillars, moths, eggs and cocoons, alongside a video showing the various stages of metamorphoses in their life cycle. Vancouver City Farmer, located in Kitsilano has been teaching people about the benefits of urban farming, gardening and composting for 40 years. If you want to learn more about this community garden, ask Ms Gratton or check out their website: <https://www.cityfarmer.eco/>

Personal Digital Device aka Cell Phone Expectations – NEW!

All students in Gr 4-7 participated in Mr. Campbell's BYOD and Digital Citizenship Assembly on Wed Sept 11th. At this assembly students learned about our revised PDD (Personal Digital Device aka Cell Phones and Smart Watches) expectations. In short, no cell phone use is permitted on school grounds between 8:20 and 8:50. This includes use of cell phones for social media, internet searches or image sharing. **During the school day between 8:50 and 2:50, PDD's are to be in backpacks or lockers, turned off or on silent.** Students are not permitted to use cell phones to contact home via text or calls. All contact is to be completed through the office at the elementary level. Upon dismissal, we also ask that all students keep PDD's in backpacks or pockets until they leave school property. **Please avoid calling or texting your child during school time unless it's an emergency. Remind your child that school time is for learning, and that messages can wait until after school. If urgent communication is needed, please contact the school office.**

Irwin Park Elementary After School Activity Opportunities

**Private
Coaching Co**

**Multi Sport
Program**

Gr 1-4

MONDAYS

Dates: Mondays Sept 16th - December 9th (10 Prorated Sessions)

Times: 3:00 - 4:30

Grades: 1-4

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, pickle ball, 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!

See for yourself! [Multi-Sport Trailer](#)

Register Here: [Irwin Park Multi-Sport](#)

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

**Yoga With
Menka**

On Mondays

Yoga w/ Menka Returns!!

This popular afterschool program returns for a 2nd year at IP!

What to expect:

- Learn to meditate, say affirmations and practice stillness
- Learn a brief history of yoga and why it came to be.
- 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 and yoga philosophy.

	<p>-Some simple arts and crafts sessions with the yoga to reinforce the understand of anatomy in yoga.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Time and Location:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mondays 2:50-3:50 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Irwin Park Elementary Music Room</p> <p>9 Sessions: Sept 23 , Oct 7, 21, 28, Nov 4, 18, 25, Dec 2, 9 (No class on Sept 30, Oct 14, Nov 11)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Payment: \$135 +GST= \$141.75 (\$15 + tax/ class)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please transfer the amount to menkapurswaney@gmail.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please download and fill the waiver from this link https://www.worldofyogaschool.com/services-4-1 by clicking on the blue tab KIDS WAIVER.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Kindly send it to menkapurswaney@gmail.com with the fees. If the link for the waiver doesnt work you may also try: https://www.worldofyogaschool.com/files/ugd/e8e8a3_208bd0427ee64bce959c303242c002cf.pdfand send it back online.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please note there is a maximum capacity of 12 students per session on a first come first serve basis and a no refund policy.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Lights Up Musical Theatre</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KG – 7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FRIDAYS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LIGHTS UP MUSICAL THEATRE AFTERSCHOOL AT IRWIN PARK ELEMENTARY</p> <p>Sing Dance Act Shine! At Lights Up After School. 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 School staff. These classes are a unique</p>

	<p>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 style="text-align: center;"><u>FALL SHOW! SCOOPY DOO!</u></p> <p>Scooby Doo, Where are You?! This Fall, we will be putting on a musical specially written for our afterschool students based on the "Scooby Doo" cartoons and series. Join the Mystery Inc. Gang and solve the mystery of the spooky theme park with us!</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 style="text-align: center;">OCT 4 – DEC 6 (9 SESSIONS)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2.50-5PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GRADES: K to 7 Fee: \$365* (*plus GST)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">lightsuptheatre.ca/after-schools/irwin-park/</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Artmania's Fall</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FRIDAY LunchTime</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Art Class</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Build it With Architecture</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Artmania's</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Build it With Architecture</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FRIDAYS @ lunch in the library-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">September 27 - Dec 13th (no class Oct 25th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:30 - 1:10pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11 Classes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$242 + gst</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Grades 2 - 7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CLICK HERE TO REGISTER</p>

	<p>Inspired by majestic temples or the awe of skyscrapers? Learn all about designing and building buildings old and new with simple techniques of perspective and technical skills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Students will discover new tools, drawing and building techniques. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The importance of line, form, perspective and colour. •How to complete a watercolour painting, start to finish. <p>Bring your lunch and join us each Friday in the library!</p>
<p>Arts & Crafts Club</p> <p>Tues and Design Studio on Thurs</p>	<p>Irwin Park, let's get messy! At Arts & Crafts club, with Ms. Cruz, our very own Irwin Park Educational Ass't. Irwin Park, let's get messy!</p> <p>At the Arts & Crafts club, kids will experience a large variety of painting techniques, sculpture, toy making, paper mache, origami, and much more. The classes will offer a selection of projects and opportunities for kids to experiment and develop their ideas within the arts and crafts world.</p> <p>Tuesdays: Guided classes, with easy-to-follow step-by-step projects.</p> <p>Cost: \$250</p> <p>Gr.2-5</p> <p>Thursdays: 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>Gr.2-7</p> <p>Click here for more info!</p> <p>Send the form to the email below</p> <p>Or reach out to mailto:ecruz@wvschools.ca</p>

Stay tuned for more After School Program Options	Coming next week: Coach Luc's Chess Club Starting in October Tues Oct 16 – Day 1
---	---

Community Events and Announcements

West Van Memorial Library - Summer Reading Medals

Did your child participate in the Summer Reading program? Sign up for the medal ceremony this Friday September 13th! <https://westvanlibrary.ca/event/summer-reading-club-medal-ceremony-option-1/>

Indigenous Arts & Culture Workshop this fall.

Small Group Music Classes: Ukulele, Acoustic Guitar and Singing Classes are starting in September.

Language Program for Various Ages:

[Give yourself a gift of language skills in French, Spanish, Mandarin, Farsi, Korean, American Sign Language \(ASL\), Ukrainian and English as a Second/Third Language.](#)

Click here for PD Day Camps

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