

## Irwin Park Elementary Family Newsletter E-Bulletin Update

**Date: Thurs June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

### **PARENT REMINDERS:**

- **Be sure to plan your summer holiday to confirm a return to school by the Sept 4th deadline. More details about registration acceptance are below.**
- **Please see attached ROAD CLOSURE in the IRWIN PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD**

### **Important Announcements**

#### **Stay Connected with Us!**

Check out what's happening at our school on social media:

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

#### **Important Dates:**

- **Thu June 5<sup>th</sup>** – Read and Run – Welcome to Kindergarten Event #2
- **Thu June 5<sup>th</sup>** – District Track Meet at Simon Fraser University
- **Fri June 6<sup>th</sup>** - Gr 7 Max Fruit Popsicle Fundraiser
- **Fri June 6<sup>th</sup>** – IP Gr 6 & 7 Band Perform at WV Culture Fest – 6:30 pm
- **Sun June 8<sup>th</sup>** – Gr 7 Car Wash Fundraiser
- **Mon June 9<sup>th</sup>** – IP Spirit Week Begins!
- **Mon June 9<sup>th</sup>** – IPPG AGM – IN PERSON Meeting @ IP 6:30
- **Wed June 11<sup>th</sup>** – District Speaker on Snapchat Safety Gr 6/7
- **Fri June 13<sup>th</sup>** – School Spirit Day – 12:30 PM Early Dismissal!
- **Thurs June 19<sup>th</sup>** – Concert Under the Clouds – Gr 6 & 7 Band; Intermediate Choir
- **Fri June 20<sup>th</sup>** – Parent Volunteer Appreciation Tea 8:50 am

### **Principal's Message**

As we welcome June, Irwin Park is proud to recognize and celebrate both **Indigenous Peoples Month** and **Pride Month** within our school community. Rather than limiting recognition to a single day, our staff are thoughtfully integrating these important themes into classroom learning throughout the month. This approach allows students to engage with **meaningful, age-appropriate resources** and **conversations, supporting deeper understanding and connection**. These celebrations are rooted in our school's commitment to **diversity, inclusion, and belonging**, which lies at the core of our **PANTHER P.R.I.D.E.** values. We want every student and family at Irwin Park to feel **seen, valued, and celebrated**—not only this month, but every day. Across the school,

students will explore these themes in ways that reflect their developmental level and ongoing inquiry. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher and the principal directly.

We will start our celebration with an **Irwin Park Spirit Week**. We will kick things off with Hat Day on Monday. Please see below for the remainder of the week's themes as we work toward next Friday's Spirit Day.

Similar to last week, I have attached the **Parent's Guide to Snapchat tutorial**—still one of the most popular (and least understood) social-media platforms among pre-teens. The attached PDF outlines how Snaps disappear (or don't), how "Snap Map" shares a user's live location, and why features such as "My AI" and group chats can expose children to unwanted content or pressure. Please take a moment to read this section so you know exactly how the app works and can set clear expectations for safe, respectful use. We are welcoming District Digital Literacy Vice Principal Cari Wilson on Wed June 11<sup>th</sup> to speak to our entire Gr 6/7 cohort about how to stay safe on Snapchat and how poor decisions online can turn consequential quickly.

## E-Bulletin Highlights

- IPPG Annual General Meeting – June 10<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM
- Classroom Placement – Online Parent Input Opportunity – **Open Now!**
- Spirit Week – 5 Days of Fun!
- Summer Holiday Plans \_ Return to School Deadlines!!
- Car Wash and Max Fruit Freezie Fundraisers!
- Band Registration at IP – click [here](#)
- Community Connections 24/25 Bulletin – Click [here](#)

## Join Us for the IPPG Annual General Meeting – June 10 at 6:30 PM

Our Irwin Park Parent Group (IPPG) invites all parents and guardians to attend the **Annual General Meeting** on **Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM** in the school library. This is a great opportunity to learn how you can get involved and make a meaningful impact in our school community. Much of the magic that happens at Irwin Park—from special learning experiences to school enhancements—is made possible through the support, energy, and fundraising efforts of our dedicated parent community. We are currently looking to fill several roles on the **IPPG Executive** and encourage all parents to come have their say, share ideas, and help shape the year ahead.

Questions or interest in getting involved? Reach out to IPPG Chair [Mimi Lin](#). We hope to see you there!

## Classroom Placement Input — June 5<sup>th</sup> to June 12<sup>th</sup>

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-Based Team recommendations*
- *Ministry class size and composition requirements*
- *District enrollment pressures*

Families who wish to share student-specific information to add to the factors above for next year's class placements, will be able to provide their input electronically this year between **May 29<sup>th</sup> and June 7<sup>th</sup>** \*\*\*Pls Note - Our staff spend many hours balancing classes for social-emotional well-being, diverse learning needs, class size/composition rules, and fresh friendship opportunities. Input forms are one of several factors and cannot guarantee a particular placement. Out of respect to our staff and the professional code of ethics, any input submitted **containing staff names in the form of teacher 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. There will be several shifts in our staff this year as we undergo a transition. Regardless of these inevitable changes, we feel strongly that we will be able to provide a safe and sound educational environment for every child that is part of our community.

- Parent input is optional and not a requirement
- Input must focus on your child's needs (e.g., learning style, social-emotional factors, etc)

**Note on multi-grade classes:** Owing to district enrolment patterns, combined grades will continue at Irwin Park. Research shows these groupings provide strong academic and social benefits, and teachers differentiate instruction for every learner. Parents can learn more about the effectiveness of multi-aged classrooms at our District [webpage](#).

Click [here](#) if you wish to submit [Classroom Placement Input](#) online.

## **Spirit Week Is Here! June 10–14**

Our Leadership Club is wrapping up the year with a fun-filled **Spirit Week**! Help your child join in by dressing for each day's theme:

- **Monday** – Hat Day 🧢
- **Tuesday** – Multiples Day (match with friends!) 👯
- **Wednesday** – PJ Day 🛏
- **Thursday** – True Colours Day 🌈
- **Friday** – Spirit Day (team colours!) 🏠🏠🏠

Encourage your child to participate and show their **Panther Pride** each day. Let's finish the year with fun, creativity, and connection!

## Summer Holiday Plans? Please plan to return to school by Thurs Sept 4<sup>th</sup> 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 can return and be present in classrooms by the latest Thurs Sept 4<sup>th</sup>. Saving student spots can be very challenging, and we want to avoid family disappointment but to satisfy student enrollment needs district-wide, we require parents to communicate and confirm their plans clearly with schools. Questions? Contact your school office! **Pls note a separate email was delivered to all parents with the District Policy around September registration and arrival deadlines.**

## Max Fruit Popsicle Sale – Friday, June 6th

Kick-off the long weekend with a cool treat and support our grads at the same time!

- **What:** Max Fruit Freezies — \$3 (healthy alternative) Coins and cash only
- **When:** Friday, May 23 (after school)
- **Where:** Sales table beside the sports court
- **Why:** All proceeds go toward the Grade 7 Leaving-Ceremony Reception on June 25.

Two more Freezie sales are coming next month—don't miss this first chance to chill out for a good cause!

## Grade 6 & 7 Band Program – Registration Now Open! Click [here](#)

Current Grade 5 students and new Grade 6 students at Irwin Park can now register for the 2025–26 Band Program and learn a symphonic instrument—no prior experience needed! Band helps develop musical skills, focus, and teamwork. Families will select top 3 instrument preferences during registration, and placements will be based on need and availability. The \$390 annual fee can be paid online or via cheque, with payment plans available. Instrument demos will be shown in class, and rental options are recommended. For full details and to register, visit the school website or contact Ms. King.

[janine.king@wvschools.ca](mailto:janine.king@wvschools.ca)

## West Vancouver Early Childhood Education Centre Update – Opening Early 2026

West Vancouver Schools is pleased to share an update on our upcoming **Early Childhood Education Centre** announced in August 2024. Construction is underway, and the new facility is expected to open in early 2026. Once complete, it will offer high-quality childcare for children ages 0–5, operating at market value rates. We look forward to welcoming families into this purpose-built, modern space designed to support early learning and child care in our community. For more information and to join the waitlist [please click here](#)

## “Concert Under the Clouds” – Tuesday, June 17 at 1:30 p.m.

Bring a blanket, settle in beside the upper sports court, and enjoy an outdoor showcase featuring our **Intermediate Choir, Grade 6 Band, and Grade 7 Band**.

Admission is free, but we invite every family to bring a **non-perishable food item** for the local food bank.

This event is a big winner each school year and lovely way to celebrate our wonderful musicians and music program led by the amazing Ms. King. See you under the clouds!

Thank you for your support.

**Aron Campbell**

Principal

Irwin Park Elementary