

First Week Update of School Information For IP Parents and Guardians

Friday , September 11th, 2027

2026-27 Bell and Recess Schedule @ Irwin Park Elementary

Arrival	8:50 AM
Morning Recess K-7	10:50 AM-11:10 AM
Lunch Eating Time	12:30 PM-12:50 PM
Lunch Recess K-7	12:50 PM-1:10 PM
Dismissal	2:50 PM

Important Dates In September:

Sept 14-18 th	Half Day for KG
Mon Sept 14 th	1 st Cross Country Running Practice 8:15 am! Gr 3-7
Tues Sept 15 th	1 st District XC Running Meet @ Ambleside Gr 3-7

Tues 15 th & Wed 16 th	Victory Gardens – In Service w/ Students
Mon Sept 21st	Student Photo Day – Individual
Wed Sept 23rd	Inside Irwin Park – Meet the Teacher & IPPG Welcome Event – 3:00 pm
Thursday Sept 24 th	Terry Fox Run for the Cure School Wide Run
Fri Sept 25th	Professional Development Day : School Not in Session
Tues Sept 29th	Orange Shirt Day
Wed Sept 30 th	National Truth and Reconciliation Day (Stat Holiday) -No School

Important Links for Parents :

- [Irwin Park School Calendar 26-27](#)
- [Online Policy & Procedures Permission Form – 26-27](#) – MUST BE COMPLETED ASAP
- [Munchalunch](#) – Registration will open soon! Stay tuned!

A Message from the Principal...

It has been a pleasure to welcome back our Irwin Park students and families as we open the 2026-2027 school year. Over 40 new students have joined our school community, in addition to more than 30 Kindergarten students starting their Irwin Park journey this September.

During this first week, teachers have worked with students in mixed-grade cohort groups to observe dynamics and

support a smooth transition into routines. **Thank you to our entire Irwin Park parent and guardian community for your flexibility and patience** as our staff has taken the necessary time to reflect and finalize classroom placements. Regardless of your child's final placement, **please know that our teachers deeply value your trust and support as students adjust to their new learning environments.**

Thank you again for your patience, trust, and support as we work to meet the needs of every child—academically, socially, and emotionally—regardless of their grade level or class placement. I look forward to another terrific school year building a culture of care, community and character; the foundations of **Panther P.R.I.D.E.**

A Note to Parents on Classroom Placements at Irwin Park Elementary

Final classroom placements for Grades 1–7 are now complete and final. Today, students had their first opportunity to meet their homeroom teacher and reconnect with classmates. Kindergarten placements will follow at the end of Week 2. Over the coming weeks, your child's teacher will be in touch to introduce themselves and share their vision for the year ahead.

The placement process is thoughtful and comprehensive. Our team considers *enrollment numbers, gender balance, diversity of learning needs, student resiliency and adaptability, relationship dynamics, parent input from the spring, and Ministry of Education class size and composition requirements*. **An enormous amount of care and reflection goes into every decision — and while we are not always able to satisfy every family, we ask that you trust the process.**

We know that classroom placement season brings mixed emotions for some families, and we understand that not every child will feel immediately excited about their assigned class. With so many variables and hundreds of families to consider, **meeting every request simply isn't possible**. We ask that you use this as **an early opportunity to model resilience and perspective for your child** — because how we respond to disappointment matters, and our children are always watching.

If your child feels disappointed by a separation from friends, an unfamiliar teacher, or an unexpected arrangement — encourage them to work through it. Our role as parents is not to shield our children from disappointment, but to make sure they don't face it alone. We depend on families to model the resilience and

perspective that help children grow. Our goal isn't to protect them from the disappointments in life—it's to prepare them for it. These moments — however small they may seem — are some of the most valuable teaching opportunities we have.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we head into a wonderful new school year together.

- Mr Campbell

Policies and Procedures form for 2026-27 – REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS

The mandatory **Policies and Procedures form for 2026-27** is now live, and the link is accessible by clicking [here](#) or through our Irwin Park school [website](#) under **Parents** tab -> [Forms](#) . Please make sure you complete one for each child registered at Irwin Park as soon as possible. The completion of this online form for each of your children in attendance will allow your child to take part in many activities. Complete it now to avoid them missing out.

NOTE: ***International fee-paying students are not required to complete the P+P form, as the items included are covered by the legal agreement signed when they are accepted by the International Programs Office.

Cross Country Running Team Starts Monday!

We're excited to kick off another year of school sports, starting with Cross Country Running for all Grade 3–7 students.

- **Practices begin:** Monday and Thursday @ 8:15 am starting this Mon Sept 15th
- **Meets:** Tuesdays at Ambleside Park for 3 consecutive weeks, starting Sept. 16th, Sept 23rd, Sept 30th.
- **Permission forms:** Have been handed out.

Cross Country is open to all abilities in Gr 3-7 —the focus is on fun, fitness, and making friends!

WVECA Athletic Fees: For XC Athletes

- \$10 per student per sport (School Board approved)
- Covers costs like referees, marshalling, and teacher release for meets
- Payment via School Cash Online – see email in your inbox!

HOT LUNCH – Stay tuned for more information.

The IPPG is pleased to announce that once again the [MunchALunch website](#) will be opening in the coming weeks. Pls stay tuned to the weekly E Bulletin for more information on this fabulous fundraising opportunity for our school but also the provision of delicious and nutritious lunch menu items for students.

Similar to last year, lunch orders will be expected to be delivered to students at the school on **Monday thru Friday**. More details will be forthcoming next week and all orders are made directly through the [MunchALunch website](#).

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 hopefully an ADST ...there is sure to be something to interest all. Activities are offered after school to students, usually between 3 pm and 4:30. Again more info coming next week.

Emergency SMS Text Messaging – Opt In Necessary

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.**

WVPD E-Mobility Laws Released

The **West Vancouver Police Department** (WVPD) has issued clear **legal requirements for E-Scooters and E-Bikes**. [Click here to view](#). Please take time to review these expectations with your child, **particularly regarding age requirements**, helmet rules, and permitted areas on the streets, sidewalks, and bike paths in our community. We advise students and families to abide by the laws

Personal Digital Device Expectations –

As we start a new school year, we want to remind everyone of the Personal Digital Device (PDD) expectations.

- **Elementary Schools:** Personal digital device expectations apply throughout the entire school day, including before school, after school, and during break times. Cell phones will not be used at all during school hours.

These guidelines are key to creating focused and engaging learning environments.

Our goal is to minimize distractions and maximize learning opportunities. Digital devices, when used appropriately, are powerful tools for **collaboration, creativity, and communication**. **However, they should not interrupt instructional time or disrupt the learning environment.**

What Can Families Can Continue to Do

Here are some ways families can help reinforce these expectations at home:

- **Encourage Balanced Screen Time:** Promote activities like reading, outdoor play, and family time.
- **Model Consistency:** Show your support by modeling mindful and appropriate device use.
- **Support School Communication:** Avoid contacting your child during instructional time. Non-urgent messages can wait until after school. If urgent communication is needed, please contact the school office.
- **Stay Engaged:** Revisit the Parent/Guardian Guide to Personal Digital Devices to refresh your understanding of the expectations and discuss them with your child.

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Feeding Futures Initiative

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 or to feedingfutures@wvschools.ca 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