1st June, 2020

Welcome to West Bay

The International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (PYP) was adopted by the West Vancouver Board of Education to provide an opportunity for our students to develop internationally recognized skills which would assist them throughout their academic careers. It has proven highly successful, and as I am sure you are aware, enrollment spaces at West Bay Elementary are highly sought after.

The International Baccalaureate Programme (PYP) was developed by the West Vancouver School District outside of the funding that the Ministry of Education provides us to deliver Kindergarten to Grade 12 education programs. In order to provide the supplemental staff resources and training that the IB Programme requires, a financial contribution is assessed to all parents who choose to enroll their children.

The funding received through the fees ensures that West Bay achieves its goal of providing choice and enriched educational opportunities for your children. The students are taught through an inquiry methodology, the staff plan collaboratively, and second language instruction is taught from Kindergarten. Through the PYP children have the opportunity to be challenged academically and learn to develop higher-level questioning and critical thinking skills. As well, international-mindedness and internalizing the traits of the IB Learner Profile are integral to the Programme. The staff are continuously trained and a PYP coordinator takes a teacher leadership role.

The per student fee for the coming year is $475, which includes a modest increase of $25 over the rate established in 2016. In addition to an increase in the consumer price index over the years, which impacts the cost of services and supplies, the combination of new teaching staff and expansion of the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) IB Teacher qualification requirements have increased our professional development costs, especially when travel to the USA is required. Provincial negotiations since 2016 have resulted in teacher salary increases at the local level, which also impacts the incremental cost of providing instruction over and above what is required by the regular BC curriculum.

The annual fee of $475.00 per student is due for the 2020-21 school year and can be made payable to School District #45 West Vancouver. **Please submit your cheque to the School Office by Tuesday 30th June**.

Thank you for your support of an outstanding academic program.

Yours truly,

Kim Grimwood, Principal
West Bay Elementary