

OAKLANDS SCHOOL

2827 Belmont Avenue, Victoria BC V8R 4B2

Phone: (250) 595-2444 • Fax: (250) 595-4789

SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am pleased to introduce myself to you as the new principal of Oaklands Elementary School. It is an honour and a privilege to have been given the opportunity to lead this outstanding school and continue its deep tradition in excellence. Beginning my time at Oaklands during a global pandemic is not how I would have ever envisioned my start as a new principal.



Although my learning curve has been rapid and steep, I have had many opportunities to pause and feel deep gratitude for the committed and supportive professionals that make up the Oaklands team. This is truly a compassionate and caring staff.

Before transferring to Oaklands, I spent the past four years as the vice principal of École Intermédiaire Cedar Hill Middle School and before that, eight years leading the district Learning Initiatives program providing staff development support and professional development opportunities K-12. I am looking forward to bringing my experiences and skills as an educational leader and partnering with the amazing staff here at Oaklands to ensure the success of all our students.

Although COVID-19 is forcing us to operate as a school community through a new lens of health and safety, I am confident that students will continue to receive the outstanding education that has come to be expected here at Oaklands. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we opened up the year differently than ever before. Your kindness and support has carried us through the past few weeks and I look forward to working with you and getting to know you more over the year.

Kind regards,
Petra Eggert

IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, September 20

Terry Fox Virtual Run
(see details below)

Monday, September 28

Professional Development Day

No school for students

Tuesday, September 29

Individual Photo Day

PAC Meeting via ZOOM

Wednesday, September 30

Orange Shirt Day

Shirts can be purchased year round at:

<https://victoriaorangeshirtday.com/>

Professional Development Days (Pro D)

Non-Instructional Days

(students not in attendance)

Monday, September 28, 2020

Friday, October 23, 2020

Friday, November 20, 2020

Monday, January 25, 2021

Friday, February 12, 2021

Friday, May 21, 2021

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GARDEN PARTY

Many thanks to our garden carpenters, Josh Good, Ken Buchanon, Sean Allen, Mitch Firman, Carlene Meilleur, Martin Tierney, Dan Milbrath and Ruan Wetselaar.

Our Oaklands families built a beautiful, creative, unique potting table and two cedar garden beds. They also plan to make a bench around our lovely garry oak tree. Parent, student and grandparent gardeners also did a load of weeding, and carted new wood chips in with wheelbarrows and spread them all around the beds. It looks beautiful!

~ Ms. Mai, Vice Principal



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TERRY FOX

This is the 40th year of the Terry Fox Run. Unfortunately this year will not be an organized school or community run event. Check out the Terry Fox Virtual Run One Day. Your Way. **Sunday, September 20th** registration at <https://terryfox.org/>

Oaklands School will continue to fundraise here:

School Fundraising Link: <http://www.terryfox.ca/OaklandsElementary>

Username: 2020BC6583

Password: CUREBC4043



SHIELDS FOR SALE \$3.00 EACH

It is so nice to see all of our students back at Oaklands school excited and ready to learn. Many students are wearing masks and face coverings. Although the Ministry of Education website, under the updated Health and Safety Guidelines states that **Elementary** school students **are not** required to wear masks, we would like to support our families and their personal choices regarding personal protective equipment while students are inside Oaklands school.

Through our Oaklands Website, **School Cash Online Payments** <https://oaklands.sd61.bc.ca/> you will be able to purchase a child size shield with the Oaklands logo for **\$3.00 each**. The shields are comfortable and allows us to see our student's faces.

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MESSAGE FROM PAC



To all parents:

The Oaklands PAC Executive welcomes you to the new school year.

As a parent or caregiver of an Oaklands student, you are a member of the Oaklands PAC and are invited to attend the monthly meeting we hold on the third Monday of each month at 6PM.

The Oaklands PAC works in partnership with the principal, teachers and staff to enhance educational, recreational and cultural development for the children who are students of the school. The Oaklands PAC is led by an Executive committee elected annually at the PAC's Annual General Meeting. At Oaklands, the success of the PAC is due to the willing spirit of parents and caregivers who step up to coordinate projects and jump in to help throughout the year.

Traditionally the PAC has provided input to the school administration on various decisions, raised funds for enrichment opportunities within the school, sponsored parent education talks, and ran the monthly pizza day.

This year Covid-19 has changed some of our practices. Instead of gathering at the library, all PAC will take place via Zoom. The Executive is in dialogue with the school administration about continuing with pizza days, but the current safety protocols create challenges that will need to be addressed before we can confirm if a hot lunch program is feasible.

We also need to hold our AGM as all PAC activities were on hold last May. Though our regular meetings will be Mondays, this first meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 29 at 6PM. A Zoom link for the meeting will be shared in the coming weeks.

We encourage all parents to attend the meeting. The AGM will feature the election of this year's PAC executive. Many of last year's exec are interested in returning and we will have candidates for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Members at Large. We do need to recruit a candidate for Secretary and an additional Member at Large. Our new Principal, Petra Eggert, will also be in attendance and will be providing an overview on the upcoming school year.

In the coming weeks look for more communication from the PAC Executive about scheduled meetings and school fundraising. We look forward to seeing many of you virtually at future meetings.

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*In Loving Memory of Scott Kirkwood a beloved educator who worked at Oaklands
school from 1996-2017*