



# KELSET Elementary School

1800 Forest Park Drive North Saanich, BC V8L 4B8

Phone: 250.655.4648 SAFE ARRIVAL: 250.655.1194 Fax: 250.655.4384

Email: [KELSET\\_Elem@sd63.bc.ca](mailto:KELSET_Elem@sd63.bc.ca) Website: <http://KELSET.sd63.bc.ca/>

**Mission:** At KELSET School, our overall goal is "Success for Each Student". We want everyone in our school community to feel cared for, connected, capable and appropriately challenged.

**Beliefs:** We take care of ourselves. We take care of each other. We take care of our community & our world.

## CALENDAR

### September

- 24 ..... Terry Fox Run – info to follow
- 27 ..... **Non-Instructional Day**; students do not attend
- 30 ..... National Truth & Reconciliation Day; students do not attend

### October

- 4 ..... Kindergarten Bus Safety
- 7 ..... Meet the Staff Event
- 11 ..... **Thanksgiving** Stat. Holiday
- 13 ..... Photo Day
- 21 ..... Great Shake Out Earthquake Drill
- 22 ..... **Non-Instructional Day**; students do not attend

### November

- 11 ..... **Remembrance Day** Stat Holiday
- 12 ..... **Non-Instructional Day**; students do not attend
- 17 ..... **Early Dismissal**; 1:48pm
- 18 ..... **Early Dismissal**; 1:48pm
- 18 ..... Photo Retakes

## SEPTEMBER 2021

## NEWSLETTER

**Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year!** We hope that everyone had a great Summer and that you're all excited to be back learning at KELSET! All of our 370 students are beginning to settle into their classrooms with their new friends and teachers. I would like to send out a special welcome to all the new families and staff that are joining the KELSET learning community – Welcome!

### Our Staff

- Principal .....Tassie Harris
- Vice Principal.....Philip Jungen
- Kindergarten.....Monika Rose
- Kindergarten.....Melissa Cole
- Kindergarten.....Jen Skrivanos/Rebecca Simmonds
- Kindergarten/Grade 1 .....Lexus Thouli
- Grade 1 .....Robin Dupree
- Grade 1 .....Vanessa Clark
- Grade 1/2 .....Gillian Coyne
- Grade 2 .....Jodi Steele
- Grade 2 .....Ginny Underwood
- Grade 2/3 .....Stephanie Hodgson
- Grade 3 .....Anne MacKinnon
- Grade 3 .....Karen Sheridan
- Grade 3/4 .....Chris Swift-Fry/Sandra McCallum
- Grade 4/5 .....Amanda Rice
- Grade 4/5 .....Matt Lurie
- Grade 4/5 .....Krista Hale
- Grade 4/5 .....Philip Jungen/Sue Robinson
- Grade 4/5 .....Anne Stewart
- Learning Assist./Inclusion Support: Shauna Doehring and Ken Sly
- Reading Recovery: Chris Swift-Fry
- Indigenous Literacy Teacher: Holly Vivier
- Teacher-Librarian: Terri-Lynn Jensen
- French as a Second Language Teachers: Katie Liebault and Colin Stepney
- Music: Sue Robinson
- Speech and Language: Alyson Morrill
- English Language Support: Melissa Rickson
- Psychologist: Patricia Gabriel
- School Counsellor: Shannon Toronitz
- Secretary: Leanne Lawson
- Library & Student Support: Kathy Monette
- Student Support: Charlotte Alcock, Helen Baebeff, Drew Bishop, Julie Ethier, Birttany Fagan, Ron Kiefert, Katryna Mealey, Samantha Miller, Kathy Monette, Brittany Parkes, Cassandra Zavaczki
- Youth & Family Counsellor: Andrea Smith
- Indigenous Family and Student Support: Jessica Underwood
- Custodians: Hilpa Sacapano, John Zhou and Carol Anne Pierik



### SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM

please email

[kelsat\\_attendance@saanichschools.ca](mailto:kelsat_attendance@saanichschools.ca)

or call 250-655-1194

if your child will be absent or late.

## FORMS

A package of forms is attached. Please ensure they are completed and returned as they provide important information to help us take care of your children in the event of an emergency.

## MEDICAL CONCERNS

Please be sure to speak with your child's new teacher as soon as possible if your child has a medical condition that we should be aware of.

## SCHOOL HOURS

8:40-11:14	Instruction
11:14-12:14	Lunch Play and Eating Period
12:14-2:48	Instruction



Teachers will take their class out for a recess break in the afternoon.

\*Teachers will be at their classroom doors at 8:40 to greet their students.

## NEWSLETTERS/BULLETINS

We would like you to be informed about school events and activities and to receive school newsletters electronically from our school website. In order for this to be possible, **you need to subscribe** on the main page of our school website so you will automatically receive this information.

Please go to our web page and click on the Forum Subscriptions link on the main page and follow the instructions there.

## SAFE ARRIVAL

As per District Policy, parents/guardians are asked to email ([kelset\\_attendance@saanichschools.ca](mailto:kelset_attendance@saanichschools.ca)) or call the school's SAFE ARRIVAL line (250 655-1194) if their child is going to be absent or late. You may note the expected duration of an absence (i.e. when you know the child is going to be away for more than one day, you can just call on the first day, sharing when we should be expecting the child back at school.) You may leave a message 24/7 using this number or email address. Staff members use this information to make sure that all children are accounted for at the start of the school day. Thank you for your cooperation.

## PLEASE BE PUNCTUAL!

We realize that sometimes there are unavoidable circumstances that cause students to be late. However, it is important to have your child arrive on time as it helps to ensure that he/she doesn't miss important morning messages, encourages a calm start to the day and prevents disruptions to others in the class. Thank you for doing what you can to support timely arrivals!

## SIGN IN/OUT

Just a reminder if you are arriving after the bell. Please have your child go to their exterior classroom door then call the office at 250-655-4648 to let Ms. Lawson know they have arrived. If you are picking up early, please call the office and your child will meet you outside the front doors.

## WELCOME BACK - MEET THE TEACHER EVENING

We are planning this evening for Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. Stayed tuned for information about what this event will look like. We are excited to meet all our families in a safe way!

## EARLY DISMISSALS AND HOME/SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Early Dismissals (1:48) will occur on November 17, 18 and Feb.24, 25 to facilitate opportunities for home-school communication. Classroom teachers will offer these opportunities in a variety of formats and will provide the details specific to their class. Teachers look forward to learning more about your child, to sharing their observations and important details about classroom organization and routines.

## INSIDE SHOES

We strongly encourage your child to have a pair of "inside shoes" at school. Muddy, wet "outside shoes" can then be exchanged for dry, clean shoes, helping to protect our floors and our students' feet. It is important that these shoes be suitable for use in the gym, as again, safety is a concern.

## WEATHER AND SUITABLE CLOTHING

Please ensure that your child comes to school "dressed for the weather" i.e.: jackets, appropriate footwear, etc. for days when there may be light rain and some mud. We usually will send the children outside at play times, unless the weather is very poor, as this gives them the opportunity to get fresh air, run off some of their energy and connect with their friends from other classes.

## EXTRA CLOTHING AT SCHOOL

We strongly encourage an extra set of pants, a shirt, socks and even underwear be available at school (they can be kept in your child's cubby/locker); then, parents can be assured of dry, clean clothing throughout the day. Sometimes, the children slip on parts of the field during the damp season and again, the extra clothing is very beneficial!



## CLOTHING DONATIONS WELCOME!

We welcome pants that your children have outgrown, to add to our supply of "spare clothing." While we encourage all children to have a spare set of clothing at school, "extras" come in handy from time to time! *If your child has occasion to use this extra clothing, we appreciate it being laundered and returned promptly!*

## ACCIDENTS DO HAPPEN

The school district does not insure expenses for student injuries that happen on school grounds or during school activities. You are responsible for these expenses as a parent or guardian. However, the school district assists families to voluntarily purchase private accident insurance through the Reliable Life Insurance Company. Brochures are no longer distributed to students in September however the information can be viewed on-line at <http://www.insuremykids.com/en/Default.aspx>

## SAFETY DRILLS

Again this year, KÉLSET students and staff will be practicing various safety drills including Fire, Earthquake and School Lock Down procedures. Discussions with students will precede our drills to increase the awareness of safety procedures and decrease possible anxiety.

## THANK YOU - Custodians, Facilities and Grounds Personnel

Huge thank you to our Custodians Hilpa Sacapano & John Zhou for all their hard work over the summer cleaning our school and making it look amazing.

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

**Saanich Peninsula Amateur Basketball Association** - night league registration now available for boys and girls ages 8 - 17. For more information and registration please visit

<https://www.saanichpeninsulabasketball.com/>



### -VESELKA UKRAINIAN DANCE ASSOCIATION-

Are you new to dance, but feel the music in your soul? Were you a competitive Ukrainian dancer in Argentina? Do you just want to get fit and meet some great people?


Veselka has a class for everyone and would love to get to know you!


Veselka Ukrainian Dance Association offers classes in Ukrainian, Ballet, Stretch, and aerobic fitness for anyone 4 and older, as well as a performing company for those older and more experienced dancers.

#### Get in touch with us!

info@veselkadancers.com

(250) 475-1174

 Veselka Dancers

 @veselkadancers

## TRAFFIC/PARKING

The first weeks of school have seen things going quite well in our parking lot! Our main challenge occurs when drivers leave their vehicles in the DROP OFF LANE, during peak drop off and pick up times. This results in the buses being delayed, as they can't pass the parked vehicle, disrupts the bus schedules, and causes the other traffic to back up also, preventing anyone from leaving the lot. If everyone uses the drop off lane as it is intended, our parking lot will run smoothly!

There are three KÉLSET Crossing Guards – one on Forest Park Drive, one at Bazan Bay Road, and one at the entrance to the KÉLSET parking lot. Crossing Guards are on duty from 8:10-8:40 and from 2:46 until 3:16 at Bazan Bay and Forest Park Roads and from 8:20-8:40 and from 2:46 until 3:06 at the KÉLSET parking lot.

Traffic in the parking lot and on Forest Park Drive will, of course, be congested at peak pick up and drop off times.

The following suggestions serve as important reminders for those returning to KÉLSET this year and are especially important to families new to our school. We ask that parents be patient and cautious and show consideration for others, especially our students. Please:

- drive SLOWLY, obeying posted speed limits;
- obey all signs, including anti-idling signs;
- use the drop off/pick up areas as intended, not for parking;
- do not make u-turns on Forest Park Drive;
- be respectful of our school neighbours (avoid turning in their driveways, etc.);
- allow yourself extra time, so that you are not rushed;
- consider the school bus, car pooling, walking, cycling and other “green” options.

**Please note that there is RESIDENTIAL ONLY parking on Haro Park Terrace. Please do not park on Haro.**

There are a few drop off spots on the south side of Forest Park Drive. We encourage you to come up Forest Park Drive to see if there are any spots on the north side of the road, using them if possible. If necessary, please loop through the parking lot, which will enable you to turn left and park in available spots on the south side of Forest Park Drive. Please use the sidewalk and go to the crosswalk, to ensure safety in crossing Forest Park Drive.

Parents may park in the south side of the Panorama lot, near the tennis courts and the Panorama administrators welcome KÉLSET parking there. The lot is close to the chip trail so children and parents can enjoy some fresh air and a brief walk on the trail, coming out right at the crosswalk.

**Please do not park in the North end of the Panorama lot.  
Thank you very much for your cooperation!**



*Back to School*