

# Beaconsfield Banter

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Principal: Ms. Deena Kotak

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Director of Instruction: Mr. Rob Schindel

Liaison Trustee: Mr. Allan Wong

<http://beaconsfield.vsb.bc.ca>

**NEWSLETTER NO. 1**

**SEPTEMBER 8, 2015**

## Principal's Message

Welcome back to our families at Beaconsfield Elementary School. We hope everyone had a lovely summer and are looking forward to the 2015 – 2016 school year. We would like to extend a special welcome to all the new students and families that are joining our community.

I would also like to take this opportunity to introduce some new members of the Beaconsfield staff:

- Pat Forrest is our new Aboriginal Education Enhancement Worker. She has been working with the Vancouver School Board since 1996 and is excited to be transferred to Beaconsfield. She is born on the Six Nations Reserve in Ontario and has lived on the West Coast for the last 40 years.
- Mona Francis is our new District Literacy Teacher and is excited to help us achieve our literacy goals
- Kim Whaley, Christine Hannan and Hilary Pearce are our new School and Student Support Workers. They will primarily be working in our Kindergarten classrooms to support student learning
- Matthew Saplamaeff will be job sharing with Ms. Amenta and will be in the classroom every Monday and Tuesday. He has a keen interest in science and is enthusiastic to be back in an elementary school
- Marlis Macaulay is our new band teacher and has a wealth of experience in this field. She has visited the school and looks forward to continuing the band program at Beaconsfield
- Indy Heran has joined us as our new school nurse and will be working with the teachers to provide educational programming for our students in the area of health
- Deanna Barreria will be joining the Alderwood team on Monday and Tuesday as a classroom teacher. She has vast training and experience in Special Education and will be an asset to the team
- Elizabeth Cotter is a School and Student Support Worker that will also be joining the Alderwood team and looks forward to bringing her skill set to that multi-agency group
- Angela Ward will be returning to us for the beginning of this year. She will be working in the library from Tuesday – Friday and job-sharing with Ms. Billingsley on Mondays. We are so happy to have her back and she is so happy to be returning.

A warm Beaconsfield hello to everyone – it is going to be a dynamic school year!

*Deena Kotak  
Principal*

## Opening Week

The following schedule will be in effect until students are moved into their 2015 – 2016 classes:

- Returning students will report to their last year's classroom
- New Kindergarten students will report to the library and follow the gradual entry schedule that was mailed to them in the summer
- New registrants will report to the office and be taken to their temporary classroom (Room 206)

**PLEASE NOTE:** Any of last year's students who have not reported by **10am on Thursday** and have not previously advised the office (in writing) of a late return will be deleted from our lists.

## Class Organization

Students will be move to their 2015 – 2016 classes as soon as possible. It is important to ensure an accurate count before changing classes, therefore during the week we will be making phone calls and confirming attendance. As soon as we have an accurate count we will be moving students into their new classes. Student packages will be sent home once we are in our 2015 – 2016 classes.

## New Curriculum

As students gear up for the return to school, there has been a spotlight on the new curriculum in the media. The staff at Beaconsfield have been delving deeper into aspects of this new curriculum over the past year and have dedicated some professional development days during the 2015 – 2016 school year to learn more about it as well. Please see attached letter from BC Education Minister, Mike Bernier for more information.