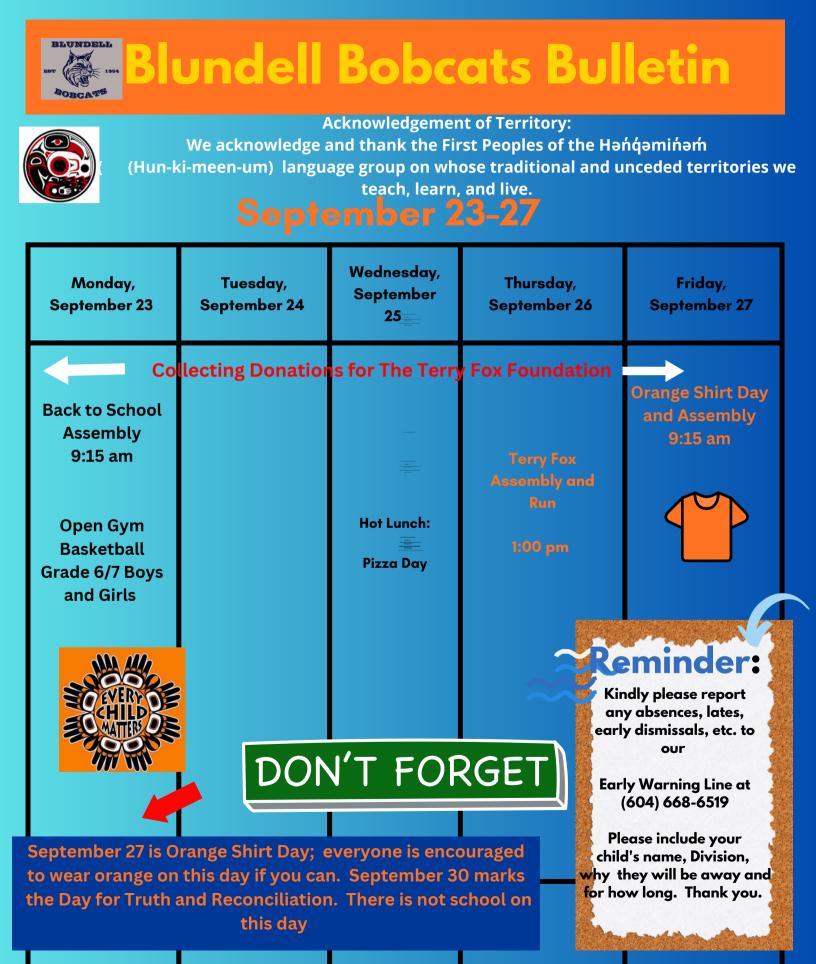
Blundell School's Update

September 23, 2024

"Home of the Blundell Bobcats!"



SEPTEMBER 27, 2024 ORANGE SHIRT DAY



As a school and district, we are dedicated to fostering an inclusive and compassionate environment for all our students, families, and staff. As we approach September 30, the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, we wanted to share with you a few important events that are taking place in our school and district.

In honour of the children lost and the generations impacted by residential schools, we will be displaying the orange "Every Child Matters" flag in our school. We are fortunate to have been gifted this flag through the fundraising efforts of the Student Social Justice Committee at Hugh Boyd Secondary. This student led committee worked hard to raise funds to provide each school in our district with an "Every Child Matters" flag as part of their action towards Truth and Reconciliation. The flag serves as a collective dedication to learning, understanding, healing and reconciliation.

Finally, a reminder that the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation occurs each year on September 30th, and therefore school will not be in session on this day.

Orange Shirt Day **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

In addition to displaying the Every Child Matters flag in a place of prominence in our school this week, classes will also be engaged in learning more about Indigenous history, the origins of Orange Shirt Day, about the 94 Calls of Action, residential schools and the path towards reconciliation within their own classes, using resources and materials that are appropriate for the various grade levels.

We encourage all of Blundell to wear orange on Friday, September 27. If your child does not have an orange shirt, or you cannot find one--not to worry as this week, all children will have the opportunity to create an Orange Shirt Day button to wear on this day. If you are still looking for an orange shirt for your child, however, please note that I have found them at London Drugs as well as at Winners in Lansdowne Mall. Another option is Michaels on Bridgeport Road--they have plain coloured shirts in several colours (I would suggest calling ahead to see if they have any orange shirts left in stock before traveling out there, however.)

On Orange Shirt Day, we will begin with an Orange Shirt Day assembly, followed by a circle of silence in the school field. Families are always welcome and encouraged to attend any of our assemblies.

Later in the day, our students will take some art that they have created with messages and illustrations and will affix them to the fence at the front of the school.



NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION SEPTEMBER 30TH



For Richmond residents 18 years and under

Richmond Sports Council Provides funding for children and youth to participate in active recreation programs and sports where financial barriers impact inclusion.

richmond.ca/subsidy



Sponsored by





BECOME HOMESTAY at the RICHMOND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Be a host for an international student for a month, semester or year. Richmond International Education (RIE) Homestay Program is looking for local families to offer a welcoming home.

Contact us to find out more about this enriching opportunity.

study@sd38.bc.ca

604-668-6217



RICHMOND INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

BLUNDELLS'S SHARING FRIDGE

LAST YEAR, AS YOU MAY ALREADY KNOW, EACH SCHOOL IN RICHMOND RECEIVED A SHARING FRIDGE. OURS WILL SOON BE LOCATED NEAR THE SCHOOL OFFICE. THIS FRIDGE WILL BE KNOWN AS BLUNDELLS' "SHARING FRIDGE". THIS FRIDGE WAS FUNDED THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION FEEDING FUTURES PROGRAM. STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO ACCESS FOOD IN THE FRIDGE, STARTING NEXT WEEK, WHEN THEY NEED A NUTRITIOUS SNACK TO HELP THEM GET THROUGH THE DAY. WE KNOW THAT HEALTHY MINDS AND BODIES BEGIN WITH FRESH QUALITY FOOD. THE FRIDGE WILL BE STOCKED WITH FOOD DELIVERED BY THE RICHMOND FOOD BANK AND FIRE FIGHTERS.

WE KINDLY REMIND YOU THAT THIS IS NOT TO REPLACE SENDING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL WITH A PACKED LUNCH. THE FRIDGE IS FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE STILL HUNGRY AFTER FINISHING THEIR PACKED LUNCH OR HAVE FORGOTTEN THEIR LUNCH AT HOME.





THIS WEEK, WE WILL HAVE AN ONLINE, SCHOOLWIDE ASSEMB TO DISCUSS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A WANT AND A NEED. BELOW IS A GRAPHIC TO HELP OUR STUDENTS MAKE THE CORRECT DECISION ABOUT WHETHR THEY NEED TO ACCESS THE SHARING FRIDGE. IT MAY BE HELPFUL TO HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT THE GRAPHIC ATTACHED. WE WILL NOT BE SAYING "NO" TO STUDENTS WHO NEED FOOD, AND WILL BE ENCOURAGING THEM TO MAKE RESPONSIBLE DECISIONS. THIS WILL HELP ENSURE THAT THERE IS ENOUGH FOODS FOR STUDENTS WHO TRULY REQUIRE IT.

THE CENTRAL QUESTION IS THIS: "IS THIS A NEED OR IS THIS A WANT"? SHOULD BE THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THIS DECISION.

WE WILL ALSO SHARE A PICTURE BOOK THAT BRINGS UP THE TOPIC OF FOOD SECURITY OR LACK THEREFOR CALLED LULU AND THE HUNGER MONSTER

BLUNDELL'S SHARING FRIDGE

Am I making the correct choice?

CORRECT REASONS TO USE THE SHARING FRIDGE

I DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO EAT
 BREAKFAST

I FORGOT MY RECESS SNACK

• I'M STILL HUNGRY AND A SNACK WILL HELP ME LEARN AND FEEL BETTER

THESE ARE CORRECT REASONS TO HELP YOURSELF TO SOMETHING FROM THE SHARING FRIDGE

INCORRECT REASONS TO USE THE SHARING FRIDGE

I'D RATHER HAVE THIS SNACK
THAN WHAT I BROUGHT FROM HOME

I AM TAKING MORE THAN I NEED

I DON'T NEED THE SNACK, I ONLY WANT IT

 I DON'T NEED TO BRING ANY FOOD OR SNACKS TO SCHOOL BECAUSE THERE IS FOOD AT SCHOOL

THESE ARE INCORRECT REASONS TO USE THE SHARING FRIDGE

STAFFING UPDATES

We are delighted to welcome the following additional staff to Blundell for this school year

• Ms. Chen as the ELL/Resource teacher for both Blundell and the Richmond School Program.

- Ms. Su as part of our ELL/Learning Resource Team
- We welcome Ms. Fang as part of our Education Assistant Team

• We are still awaiting staffing information for Division 6, so this teaching position will be taught by Teachers Teaching on Call and our Resource team. We hope to have permanent teachers placed in this classroom soon.



Please note that Blundell is a "gum and pop free" school as we encourage students to make healthy choices. We would appreciate your help with reinforcing this at home. Thank you!



THE TERRY FOX RUN FOR CANCER RESEARCH



BLUNDELL'S TERRY FOX RUN THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1:00 PM

We are collecting Twoonies for the Terry Foundation September 16-27. Please help us support this important cause by sending a Twoonie (or more) to support Terry's efforts to aid cancer research. Parents are welcome to come and run with the kids or cheer them on!

Nut Awareness

Nut products can cause severe and life-threatening allergic reactions. To help us maintain a safe environment, we kindly ask that you refrain from bringing any items containing nuts to school.



𝕫 ⊗ |sd38.bc.ca





UPDATES FROM THE PAC

HOT LUNCH ORDERING OPEN



Yes, you can still order hot lunch! You can order or make changes up to 5 days before the lunch. Use QR code or go to: https://munchalunch.com/schools/blundell/ Double check your child's information, including their division and teacher's name. Contact the PAC if you have any questions.

HOT LUNCH MENU - SEPT-OCT

Sept 18 & 25 - Pizza Sept 27 - Taco Luis Oct 2 - Pizza Oct 4 - NEW!! KFC Oct 9 - Pizza

Oct 11 - Taco Luis Oct 16 - Pizza Oct 18 - Sushi & Bentos Oct 23 & 30 - Pizza





Bring a plate or container EVERY WEDNESDAY to help us reduce our waste! Bring a fork or spoon for Friday lunches! SNACKSHOP

Snacks and juice boxes sold for \$1 on Fridays. Order online or kids can bring their money to shop





BLUNDELL SPIRIT WEAR

We have a limited supply of Blundell Spirit Wear still available! **Youth sizes:** navy or pink t-shirts, plus navy pullover hoodies **Adult sizes:** grey, navy, or pink t-shirts Email the PAC if you're interested!

NEXT PAC MEETING

NEXT PAC MEETING IS: Friday, Sept 27 at IPM in the library (following hot lunch)

VOLUNTEERS: Please let us know if you can support hot lunch on the days above. 12pm -1pm as listed. We love to see you!

blundell.elementary.pac@gmail.com

BLUNDELL CALENDAR FOR 2024-2025



Blundell School Calendar 2024-2025

School re-opens after Summer Vacation------ September 3, 2024

Pro-D – school closed for students	September 30, 2024 October 14, 2024 October 17, 2024 October 25, 2024 November 11, 2024 December 2, 2024 December 20, 2024
School re-opens after Winter Vacation Pro-D – school closed for students Early Dismissal (11:45 a.m.) Pro-D – school closed for students BC Family Day Last day before Spring Vacation Spring Break	January 6, 2025 January 27, 2025 February 13, 2025 February 14, 2025 February 17, 2025 March 14, 2025
School re-opens after Spring Vacation Good Friday Easter Monday	March 31, 2025 April 18, 2025 April 21, 2025
Pro-D – school closed for students Victoria Day Last day for students	May 19, 2025

Admin Day – school closed for students ------ June 27, 2025

Summer Vacation period ------ June 30-August 29, 2025

Blundell's Bell Schedule 8:45 Instructional Time Begins

10:10 Morning/Recess Break

10:25 Instructional Time Resumes

11:50 Outdoor Lunch Break (Play First)

12:20 Lunch Break (students return to classes to eat lunch)

12:42 Instructional Time Resumes

2:45 Dismissal



We continue to have some issues with cars parking in our drop off lane and also with double parking. Please be reminded of the parking guidelines listed below. Thanks in advance for being part of our solution!

We have a VERY busy parking lot - both in the morning and after school.

Tips to help keep students SAFE!

1) Please walk to school with your child if you live close by

2) The drop off lane is not for parking – please drop off your child and go, making room for others. We have several school buses arriving each day and this blocks their access to leave the parking lot.

4) If you are a kindergarten parent or need to drop your child off at their classroom door, please park in our visitor lot or near the school and walk

5. ALWAYS keep your vehicle speed at a very LOW speed in our entire parking loop.

6. DOUBLE PARKING IS DANGEROUS. Please do not stop beside a car that is already parked in the drop off lane or a car parked in the parking lot--this impacts other drivers being able to leave, including some staff who may have to leave right after dismissal.

Student Cell Phones and Electronic Devices



We acknowledge that many of our older students have personal cell phones. Please note, the district has a new policy in place for personal digital devices. Please see below.

Elementary Schools (K-7):

- Students should not have personal digital devices in their possession during the school day unless permission is granted by the supervising staff for educational purposes. This includes during recess and lunch or while outside on the playground or on school property.
- It is recommended that students do not bring personal digital devices to school.
- If students do have personal digital devices in their possession during the school day, it is expected that they will respect the learning environment within the school and classrooms and ensure that all phones are turned off from 8:40 am to 2:45 pm and they are placed securely in backpacks or in a secured cabinet in their classroom. If there is an emergency, or a student needs to call parents during the school day, the office staff will gladly assist them.
- With regards to all personal electronic devices, please note that if they are reported lost or stolen, the school cannot be held responsible. We thank you for your support in this area.

Family Affordability Fund

This fund was designed to assist families who require financial assistance with school- related costs such as school and course fees, workbooks, specialty supplies, field trips and other school-related charges and costs. The additional funding will also be used to support nutritional supports for students.

We are requesting that families reach out to Ms. Bahd if you need financial assistance with school supplies, fees or other school-related costs. As always, all requests will be treated with dignity and your privacy will be respected. We want to work with our families to ensure that our students, your children, have everything they need to be successful at school. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can help.



Blundell's Reminders/Dates

It Park

Upcoming Dates to Note/Looking Ahead:

• September 26: 1:00 PM: Terry Fox Assembly and schoolwide run

- September 27: PAC Meeting, 1:15 pm
- September 27: Orange Shirt Day
- September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- October 14: Thankgiving Day Holiday
- October 17: Early Dismissal at 11:50 am for Learning Updates/Conferences
- October 18: Individual Photo Day
- October 22: Cross Country Run at Ga
- October 25: Province Wide Professional Day
- October 31: Halloween
- November 11: Remembrance Day
- November 18: Photo Re-take Day, PM



DISTRICT CODE OF CONDUCT

HOW WE LEARN AND WORK TOGETHER

The Board of Education recognizes its obligation to provide all members of our school district community with a positive climate and a safe, healthy environment.

As we learn and work together, we will...

Show respect for the diversity of the members of our school and district community.

Behave in a safe, considerate and courteous manner.

Not threaten, harass, intimidate or assault, in any way, any person within our school district community, through physical violence, print or electronic media. Not be in possession of weapons, dangerous articles, alcohol or illegal drugs while in school or work.

Show respect and pride in our school district buildings and equipment through care and appropriate use of school district property. Respect the non smoking environment of our schools and school district facilities.

Our expectations for how we learn and work together shall apply to everyone in our schools and at school functions.

> The complete code of conduct is available online at: sd38.bc.ca/codeofconduct