



DR. KEARNEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER, 2011

PARENTS AND STUDENTS:

On behalf of the entire staff at Dr. Kearney I would like to welcome all new and returning students to our school. As you probably already know, after two years of transition, we are now officially a Middle School. As a staff, we are excited about this change and the improved opportunities that we can offer to each student. I would like to encourage all parents to become an interactive part of this new approach. Rather than reiterate the Principal's Message in this newsletter, I would like to invite you to PLEASE read it and all other information regarding our school programs in the new STUDENT AGENDA.

JOB ACTION

As you are aware, teachers have given notice of "job action". As a district we are monitoring negotiation progress. It is the goal of all parties to insure continued learning for all students. If you have questions or concerns please check the updates on the school and district websites.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Please check the school's website at: <http://kearney.prn.bc.ca>

We will post all future newsletters on this site as well as events and activities as they are scheduled.

PAC (Parent Advisory Council)

We have a very supportive parent group working with us at Dr. Kearney. I would like to thank them for their participation and invite all other parents interested to join with them. We will let parents know when the meetings are scheduled as soon as the dates are available.

STAFF CHANGES

We had a few changes over the summer, so we are very happy to welcome the following staff to Dr. Kearney!!

Ms. Jerelyn Orcutt – joins us from Ecole Central and is the new vice-principal

Mr. Al Wilson – joins us from Alwin Holland and will be teaching Grade 7

Mrs. Lorell MacPherson – is returning to our school and will be teaching Grade 7

Ms. Brittany Puttick – joins us from Ecole Central and will be teaching EN/SS 8 FNS and PE

CLOSED CAMPUS

The Grade 7 & 8 students are not permitted to leave school grounds at any point during the school day; this includes lunch and breaks. Students who live close to the school and wish to go home for lunch must have their parents complete a consent form. Grade 9 students are permitted to leave school grounds during lunch providing they return 10 minutes before the end of lunch to ensure they are prepared and on time for their next class. We do encourage all students to stay on campus for the duration of the school day.

CANTEEN

Mrs. Fitzgerald will have our regular canteen open on Wednesday, September 7th and the breakfast canteen on Monday, September 19th. We have a variety of different break and lunch items including sandwiches, soups, pizza, etc. If any students are interested in working in the canteen they can contact Mrs. Fitzgerald. We are looking for parent volunteers who can help out with preparing food for the

Breakfast, Healthy Snack and Lunch Programs – please contact Mrs. Fitzgerald if you able to help us out.

BC SCHOOL FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM

Our school will be participating again in this program. Students will be offered a fruit or vegetable approximately twice a month. A blue permission form is enclosed to ask for your consent and should be returned to your child's teacher.

ATTENDANCE

Parents are asked to please inform the office if a student is absent or is going to be late arriving. Parents of students who have not been verified by telephone call or signed note will receive a call from the school indicating their son/daughter has been recorded as absent from school for that day. If you wish homework to be assigned please contact the teacher directly by email. The school email system is set up with the first initial/last name @prn.bc.ca. For example: Dan Cimini's email address is dcimini@prn.bc.ca

CALENDAR MAGNET

We have ordered a calendar magnet for all parents. This calendar will list all the important dates for year.

MOUNTAIN WEST STUDIOS

Student individual photos will be taken on Monday, September 19th. If you choose a package, you need to have the payment with you to give to the photographer. All students will receive a free student i.d. card. Our retakes have been scheduled for Thursday, November 3rd.

STUDENT FEES

Students returning to the school this year will pay a total of \$30.00 which will cover their agenda, cultural and locker fees and a \$10.00 increase in the caution fee. Any students new to the school will be charged \$80.00 which includes a \$60.00 caution fee that is refunded if all textbooks are handed in. We will accept cash or cheques – we cannot accept Interac or Credit Cards.

All students will receive their student account form. When students have paid their account IN FULL, they will receive their agenda and locker. Students are asked to please drop off their payment and statement to the front window in the office and they will be called when it has been processed.

ADDITIONAL STUDENT FEES

If students choose to sign up for PE activities that require bussing and/or user charges (ie: Maximum Fitness Center, bowling, skating, etc.), they will be required to pay in advance.

STUDENT AGENDAS

We are excited to bring back school agendas again this year. They contain loads of important school information and can be extremely valuable as an organizational tool to help students get off to a successful start to the year.

ATHLETICS

We encourage all students to get involved with extra-curricular activities at Dr. Kearney. Students who are interested in joining our school volleyball, golf or cross country running teams should watch for upcoming practice times. These will be scheduled sometime during the first two weeks of school.

MUSICAL THEATRE

On Thursday, September 15th from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the Portable, Ms. Mika will be hosting an information session for parents of Musical Theatre students. It is for parents of students who are already

enrolled in the course and for parents of any students who want to do the musical as an extracurricular activity. The production this year is Annie and will be performed in January.

FIRST NATIONS

Our First Nations staff is sending home a support letter to their students for your information. Please sign and return to the school if you do not wish your child to participate.

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY

Our first non-instructional day this year will be on Friday, October 21st. Students will not attend school on that day.

CITY TRANSIT

Parents and students are advised to look at the website (www.busonline.ca/regions/fsj/?p=2.list) or pick up a Rider's Guide on the bus for the school schedule. Student monthly bus passes will be available in the office for \$26.00. If paying by cheque please make cheques payable to City of FSJ.

YEARBOOKS

We have a few 2011 yearbooks for sale in the office for \$50.00. If you wish to prepay for your 2012 yearbook they will be reserved for you at a price of \$50.00 until December 22nd.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/COMPUTER USAGE AGREEMENT

We are asking for the quick return of the pink and green consent form included in the package. Please note the freedom of information form is required if your child wishes to have his/her photo in our yearbook.

OPEN HOUSE

We will be hosting an open house for all parents on Wednesday, September 28th starting at 7:00 p.m.

EUROPE TRIP

The destination for the Europe Trip this year is Paris and Rome! It will take place during 10/12 days of Spring break. If you would like to sign up or need more information in regards to cost and pay dates, see Ms. MacDonald (room 109) or contact her by email at lmacdonald@prn.bc.ca. We look forward to hearing from you!

Wes McKnight-Principal

Dr. Kearney Bell Schedule 2011-2012

	DAY 1 & 2	
9:00	Warning Bell	
9:05 – 10:15	Block A	
10:15 – 10:23	Break	
10:27 – 11:37	Block B	
11:37	Gr 7 & 8 – Lunch	Gr 9 – Bell to proceed to TAG
11:41		Gr 9 – TAG
12:01		Gr 9 - Lunch
12:17	Gr 7 & 8 – Bell to proceed to TAG	
12:21	Gr 7 & 8 – TAG	
12:41	Warning Bell	
12:46 – 1:56	Block C	
2:01 – 3:11	Block D	

