

# PORT GUICHON Elementary School

4381 46A Street, Delta, BC Phone: 604 946-0321 Fax: 946-0322

<http://pg.deltasd.bc.ca/>

## NEWSLETTER

No. 1 - September 2013

Dear Parents and Guardians

Welcome to the 2013-2014 school year. On behalf of the entire staff, we extend a warm welcome back to our returning families. For those of you who are new to Port Guichon, we wish you a special welcome. We hope that you will soon feel that you are an important part of the Port Guichon community.

September always brings new energy and excitement amongst our students and staff. Our goal as always is to make Port Guichon the best place it can be. In order to achieve this goal we will need the help of the whole community. Teachers, staff, students, parents and families will have to work together in order to create the best experiences for our students.

We are looking forward to a great start and a wonderful year.

Bob Thompson, Principal – Port Guichon

Mark Douangchanh, Vice Principal – Port Guichon

*Welcome Back to the 2013 – 2014 School Year.*

*Port Guichon Elementary School 2013-2014 Staff*

Principal (at NG & PG)		Mr. B. Thompson
Vice Principal		Mr. M. Douangchanh
Grade 6/7	Division 1	Mr. A. Sowden
Grade 5/6	Division 2	Mr. W. Jang
Grades 4/5	Division 3	Ms. K. Ehrenholz / Ms. H. Gonzalez
Grades 3/4	Division 4	Ms. M. Mitchell / Ms. N. Wolanski
Grades 2/3	Division 5	Mrs. S. Mitchell
Grades 1/2	Division 6	Ms. I. Tan
Grade 1	Division 7	Mrs. S. Bennett
Kindergarten	Division 8	Mrs. K. Hoskins
Library		Mrs. A. Grannary
Learning Assistance		Mrs. C. D'Aoust
Music		Mr. M. Douangchanh
Education Assistants		Mrs. I. Beeksma, Mrs. S. Kurevov, Ms. H. MacDonald, Mrs. N. Mio, Mrs. J. Rosychuk, Mrs. K. Tilsley, Ms. J. Yorke
Administrative Assistant		Ms. S. Richman
Counsellor		Ms. E. Switzer / Ms. P. Davidson
Psychologist		
Speech/Lang. Pathologist		Ms. L. Martin
Mainstream Support		Mrs. J. van Rhyn
Public Health Nurse		
Police Liaison Officer		Constable S. Doolan
Custodian		Mr. R. Umali
Noon Hour Supervisors		Mrs. D. Van Ryk, Mrs. C. Neufeld, Mrs. N. Wilde

### NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters are published monthly and are posted on the school website <http://pg.deltasd.bc.ca/>. An email will be sent to the school community indicating that the newsletter has been posted. To be a part of the global movement in *supporting a sustainable environment* (Going Green), **we will only send a paper copy of the newsletter home if you request it on the attached form.**

Please be sure that the school has your correct email address by checking/correcting it on the emergency card that will be coming home and calling the office with any changes that occur during the school year.

## CALENDAR

A calendar of important dates and activities at Port Guichon Elementary for the 2013-2014 school year is attached to this newsletter. Please keep this for reference throughout the school year.

## STUDENT PLANNERS

All students in Grades 1-7 will be bringing home a Port Guichon Student Planner. These have been purchased to encourage consistency throughout the school and to help students achieve the organizational goals of the Personal Planning curriculum.

**We ask that you send \$8.00 to school as soon as possible to cover the cost of the planner.** We also believe that this will be an excellent tool for helping you to keep track of your child's assignments and progress.

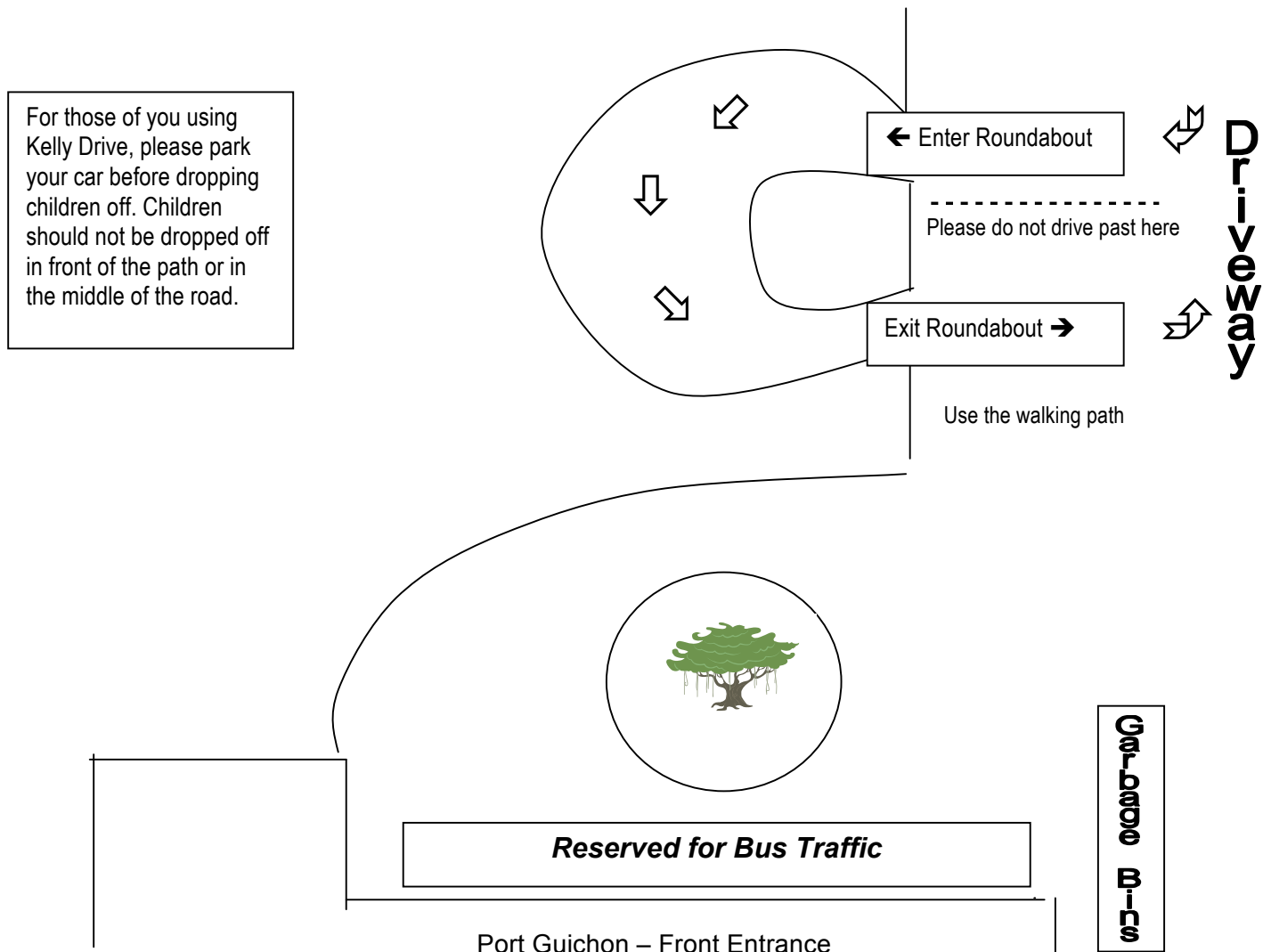
## TRAFFIC AND PARKING

The first roundabout is intended to serve as a "drop and go" and "quick pick-up" area. Under no circumstances should cars park in the roundabout. There is room for 8 cars at a time to pull off to the RIGHT hand side of the structure and have children (dis)embark through the right hand side of their vehicles. Drivers can then pull out into the left-hand lane to carry on and exit (see diagram for more information). Please be particularly aware of driveway traffic and pedestrians walking down the sidewalk along our parking lot when entering and exiting this new traffic structure. Some of our senior students will be trained and acting as crossing guards at these key points during the morning and after school in order to ensure the safety of our students. Please be aware of our crossing guards and follow the directions they will be providing. **Please also remember that the roundabout nearest to the school is intended for use by our school buses and other authorized vehicles. Please do not use it for student drop off, pick-up, or parking.**



Please remind your children not to run across the new roundabout, grass circle or driveway areas. Buses and trucks are often backing up and may not see little ones dashing into the roadway.

**Morning arrival** – We ask **all students to line-up at the designated areas (outside their classrooms/pods)**. Please ask your child to **go around the outside of the school to their designated areas**. Your cooperation will reinforce the expectations held at school and at the same time reassure all students that fair practice is being honored.



Please be very careful if you park along the south side of the parking lot, as this makes it difficult for cars to get in and out of the designated parking stalls. Thank you.

## SAFETY

Providing a safe community is a high priority for both the staff and parents of Port Guichon. Thank you for doing your part to keep our children safe. **The following items will be sent home over the next two weeks.** Please review them, correct and/or complete them where necessary, and return them to the school as soon as possible.

### **STUDENT REGISTRATION & INFORMATION FORM**

**New this year** – the Delta School District is requiring annual review of the information that is on file for each student. Your child's Registration and Information Form will be printed for you to review and correct as necessary. Please read the information carefully, make any corrections, sign and return the form to the school office by **Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**.

**LUNCH-TIME PLAN** - Every student will be bringing home a letter/permission form for your signature that enables you to give permission for your child to leave the school grounds and go home for lunch. Please review and complete this form for each of your children **and return it to their classroom teacher by Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**.

### **WALKING FIELD TRIP PERMISSION FORM**

**New this year** – The Delta School District is requiring annual approval for Walking Field Trips. Previously, once you'd signed off, the permission was good for the duration of your child's attendance at Port Guichon. Please complete the permission form and **return the entire form to the school by Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**.

**EMERGENCY CARDS** - Emergency cards will be sent home with your YOUNGEST CHILD. Please make any necessary revisions and/or additions to **both sides** of the card and **return the card to the school by Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**.

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION CONSENT FORM**

**New this year** – the Delta School District is requiring annual consent for the use of photos, images and/or names of Delta students in various types of media. Please note there are two consent issues – Delta School District use of information and Outside Media in Schools. Please read the information carefully and complete and return the forms to the school office.

## **SAFE ENTRY INTO PORT GUICHON**

We would like to remind our parents that Port Guichon Elementary places great emphasis of the safety of your children.

**Morning arrival** – We ask **all students to line-up at the designated areas (outside their classrooms/pods)**. If students are dropped off at the new round-about, please ask your child to **go around the outside of the school to their designated areas**. Your cooperation will reinforce the expectations held at school and at the same time reassure all students that fair practice is being honored.

**On rainy/snowy/stormy days** – We ask all students to **line-up in the undercover area until the first bell**.

**Parents/Visitors** – We ask all parents and visitors to sign in at the office and pick up a Visitor Badge. In this way we can help ensure that our school remains a safe place. Thank you for your cooperation.

## **STUDENT THREATS TO SAFETY –FAIR NOTICE**

The safety of our students is a top priority for all of us in the Delta School District. When a threat or violent incident occurs it is taken very seriously and a student threat assessment is started.

As partners in educating our youth, everyone in the community has a duty to report all threat-related behaviours. These threats include expressing an intent of harm to themselves, another person or property, or acting out violently against them. Whether the threat is spoken, drawn, made with gestures or on social media, they must all be taken seriously. We will investigate and respond to all harmful threats to our students.

## **SAFE ARRIVAL**

The Absentee Phoning Program, operated by volunteer parents, ensures that each child is accounted for each morning. We ask for your support by:

1. Calling the school at 604-946-0321 before 8:45 AM if your child is going to be late or absent. **Our answering machine is available 24 hours a day, so you can call the night before if you know your child will be away.**
2. Keeping your child's emergency card information up-to-date.

In the event that your child is absent from school **without prior notification**, a phoning volunteer will make a reasonable attempt to determine the reason for absence. For this program to be effective, we need volunteers. If you could donate approximately 20 minutes in the morning to help out, please call the office.

## **HEALTH AND MEDICATION**

When a child complains of being sick, the office will make a concerted effort to contact a parent or the emergency contact person. With minor bumps and scrapes, we will administer first aid mixed with tender loving care. With any more serious injury, we will attempt to contact the home.



Should a child require medication at school, the School Board requires you and your doctor to complete a *Request for Administration of Medication Form* allowing us to administer the medication. Forms are available at the office.

If your child has a significant medical condition which the school should be aware of, please contact the office for a *Medical Alert Form*.

## WHEN TO KEEP YOUR SICK CHILD HOME

For the protection of your child, as well as other children, keep your child home if he/she:



- Has a fever
- Is too sick to take part in all normal school activities
- Has a suspected or known communicable disease (i.e. strep throat, pink eye, chicken pox, or any other undiagnosed rash).

**Keep them home until they are no longer infectious.**

Please let the school know your child's symptoms.



*Messages from your  
Public Health Nurse*  
**Grab, Go and**

### Grow: Healthy School Snacks

That time has rolled around again ... snacks need making and lunches need packing. With all the chores of the day, who has time to organize nutritious snacks? Today's parents are time-stressed and in many cases forced to be multi-taskers, but savvy parents also know that putting together healthy snacks is not rocket science. In fact, healthy snacks can be quick and easy!

#### **Tips for Being a Super Healthy Snack Shopper**

- buy an assortment of fruits and vegetables, cut them up and stow them away
- choose unsweetened applesauce or fruit cups packed in unsweetened fruit juice
- look for whole grain crackers or bagels to combine with nut butter or cheese
- select low fat cheese sticks or yogurt to accompany fruit
- choose pre-washed baby carrots or snap peas, add a yogurt dip
- accompany whole wheat pita with ready to serve hummus
- choose granola bars with dried fruits and nuts
- buy cereals low in sugar to snack on
- pick up some dried fruit, mini pretzels, nuts, seeds to add to unsweetened cereal to make your own trail mix
- stock up on yogurt & granola to add to fruit for a yummy parfait



## A Reminder to Parents of Allergic Children

- A single use auto-injector (EpiPen) is the recommended product for safe and effective administration of adrenalin (epinephrine) in the school setting.
- Public health nurses are available to provide EpiPen auto-Injector teaching to school staff.
- If an alternate auto-injector (Twinject) is being considered please check with the school administrator to see whether it may be administered in the school setting. If approved, school staff training must be provided by parents.
- Please ensure that the school receives an up-to-date medical plan for your child and that any medication(s) have not expired.
- Some providers of epinephrine offer an e-mail expiry date reminder service free of charge [www.epipen.ca](http://www.epipen.ca).
- Talk to your school staff or your public health nurse about having an extra auto-injector at the school, in case it is needed for any severely allergic student.
- For more information on allergies and anaphylaxis in schools, please see the School Health Resource link on the Fraser Health Web site <http://www.fraserhealth.ca/HealthInfo/PublicHealth/SchoolHealth> or contact your Public Health Nurse.

## Medicalert's NO CHILD WITHOUT Program

The **No Child Without** program offers a free MedicAlert membership to students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 up to their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis then you should consider a MedicAlert membership through this program.

Your child's voice in an emergency, MedicAlert membership;

- Gives emergency first responders immediate access to your child's medical information on their MedicAlert bracelet or necklet
- Enables first responders to quickly obtain up to date medical information by means of the child's Electronic Health Record through the **24 Hour Emergency Hotline**.
- Communicates with the parent or emergency contact upon activation of the **Hotline**
- Allows free updates of the child's medical record as needed

MedicAlert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about your child's medical condition should an emergency occur. For further information come to the office for a brochure or visit [www.nochildwithout.ca](http://www.nochildwithout.ca). To register your child you will need a **No Child Without** brochure from the office. If your child is already part of the **No Child Without** program and there have been changes to their medical condition, medications or emergency contact information, call MedicAlert at 1-866-679-3220 Ext 1 to update your child's file.

## HOW TO BE A GOOD FRIEND

To have good friends, you must be a good friend. Here are some of the ways good friends treat each other.

- ☺ Good friends listen to each other.
- ☺ Good friends don't put each other down or hurt each other's feelings.
- ☺ Good friends try to understand each other's feelings and moods.
- ☺ Good friends help each other solve problems.
- ☺ Good friends give each other compliments.
- ☺ Good friends can disagree without hurting each other.
- ☺ Good friends are dependable.
- ☺ Good friends respect each other.
- ☺ Good friends are trustworthy.
- ☺ Good friends give each other room to change.
- ☺ Good friends care about each other.



Remember: Dismissal is at 1:45 p.m. every

UPCOMING EVENTS	
<b>Terry Fox Run</b> Wednesday, September 18	11:30 AM All students will walk or run in our annual Terry Fox Run. Parents are invited to participate or volunteer to assist in this event. Please call the school if you can help. We will once again be collecting "Twoonies for Terry" so start your fundraising efforts now!
<b>Open House</b> Thursday, September 19	6:15 PM All parents and guardians are invited to visit the school, together with their children, for a brief Open House to see this year's classroom and meet their child's teacher.
<b>Pro-D Day</b> Friday, September 20	<b>STUDENTS DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL.</b>
<b>Band Instrument Rental Evening for Grade 7 Students</b> Tuesday, September 24	7:00 PM in the Library
<b>Individual School Photos</b> Wednesday, September 25	<i><b>Don't wear green!</b></i> Once again this year, parents have the opportunity to select special backgrounds for their child's pictures. The photographer will be using "green screen" technology, so don't wear green! Ordering procedures will be sent home about 2 weeks after photo day.
<b>Canned Food Drive For Delta Food Bank</b> October 1 – 11	Once again this year, we will celebrate the spirit of Thanksgiving by sharing with those in need. Canned goods will be collected in classrooms and donated to the Delta Food Bank. Thank you for your support.
<b>Turkey Trot</b> Wednesday, October 9	11:30 AM All students will walk or run in our annual Turkey Trot. Parents are invited to participate or volunteer to assist in this event. Please call the school if you can help.
<b>Thanksgiving Day</b> Monday, October 14	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING</b>

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**PORT GUICHON** Elementary School

<http://pg.deltasd.bc.ca/>

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE**

Name of Port Guichon Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**Monthly Port Guichon Newsletter:**

- Yes, Please continue to send a paper copy of the Port Guichon Newsletter home with my youngest child attending Port Guichon**
- No, I don't need a paper copy of the Newsletter sent home. I will check the website.**