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Thomas Thompson, Principal Ramy Gerber, Vice Principal

**Welcome back everyone!**

We hope you all had a terrific summer and are looking forward to the start of the 2024-2025 school year. The teachers, educational assistants, office team, facilities crew, custodial team, parent advisory council and administrators have been eagerly preparing for the new year.

Congratulations to Peter Ellison on his retirement! We wish him all the best.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new staff:

- Shawna Wood, grade 2
- Axel Robinson, grades 4/5
- Madeleine McCririck, Counselor
- Thomas Thompson, Principal

... We still have a few other vacancies that will be covered temporarily, as we hope to welcome more staff members soon!

Presently, we are beginning the school year with 12 divisions from Kindergarten to Grade 5. Each year student placements require final touches after we welcome new students and identify students that are not returning to our school. *Thank you for your understanding and patience as we make final adjustments to our class lists.* Our goal is to have students placed in their permanent classrooms by Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, pending District approval.

***When you arrive the first day of school at 9:00 am the children will return to their classroom from the previous year. Please return to last year’s door and line up there. At 9:00 a teacher will then take your child to their temporary classroom. The first day back has early dismissal at 11:30.***

**\*\*NEW STUDENTS\*\***

Please line up at under the “New Student” sign outside the front entrance to the school. Pick up for new students will be at the same place at the front entrance *for the first day only.*

September First Week Start Up				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Labour Day - No School Day	3 School Starts 9-11:30 for Grades 1-5 and Morning Scheduled Kindergarten Welcome Conversations (As per student letter)	4 Regular School Hours Grades 1-5 8:45 - 2:37 Scheduled Kindergarten Welcome Conversations (As per student letter)	5 Regular School Hours Grades 1-5 8:45 - 2:37 Morning Scheduled Kindergarten Welcome Conversations (As per student letter)	6 Regular School Hours Grades 1-5 8:45 - 2:37 Scheduled Kindergarten Group Sessions (As per student letter)

**Reminder to Parents of Kindergarten Students:** Group A and Group B staggered start schedules that were emailed out to parents at the end of the school year in June.

### **Health and Safety Related Information**

- All staff and students at Frank Hobbs are encouraged to do daily health checks in order to protect our community. Staff and students please stay home when you are sick or have symptoms.

### **General Information**

#### **Parking**

- Parking in the Frank Hobbs parking lot is **reserved for staff only**. Drop off in the morning can be very busy. Please consider parking at Maynard Park and walking along the school trail.

#### **Pick up and Drop off routines**

- Please arrive no earlier than 8:40 am. There is no school supervision before this time. Children are to go directly to their designated door and wait in a line up for the start of the day.
- Parents/Caregivers of children in Kindergarten and Grade 1 are encouraged to walk the students to the entrance door and wait with them while they line up.
- Teachers will meet the children outside and then escort them into the building. Parents will be encouraged to say their “goodbyes” outside.
- Late students should be accompanied by Parents/Caregivers through the front door to visit the table in front of the office where there is a sign in sheet.
- At the end of the day the students will exit the school via the same door that they entered through in the morning.
- Children in Kindergarten and Grade 1 will not be released to go home until parents or caregivers arrive.
- We do not have playground supervision at day’s end. Thank you for heading home promptly.

#### **Materials at School: What to Bring and What Not to Bring**


- Grades 1-5, please bring minimal schools supplies on the first day, (the optional PAC purchased school supplies will be delivered to the school for you). Your teacher will advise what supplies should be labeled once you have moved into your permanent classroom.
- Please bring indoor shoes and a water bottle to leave in the classroom. Water bottles will be sent home on weekends for washing, please remember to bring them back.
- Please bring all supplies necessary for eating lunch, including forks and spoons. *Food will not be microwaved for students, and the office does not supply single use utensils.*
- Please leave all personal items at home. Recess equipment will be available for student use.
- Dress for the weather. We go outside rain or shine.

#### **Home/School Communication**

- If your child(ren) will be absent for any reason, please be sure to notify us. The preferred method is email [fattendance@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:fattendance@sd61.bc.ca) but you may call the school office at 250 477-1804 (before 8:30 am if possible)

- Each month our Frank Hobbs Newsletter will be emailed to you. **(Please ensure your contact information is up to date so that we can stay connected and you add the school as a contact)**
- In addition, our school website is a great place to keep up to date on school activities. [www.frankhobbs.sd61.bc.ca](http://www.frankhobbs.sd61.bc.ca) Our website is updated throughout the year.
- We encourage communication between staff & parents. Please initiate contact with staff through email. The staff directory is available on our website <https://frankhobbs.sd61.bc.ca/staff-info/staff-directory/>

### Bell Schedule

Frank Hobbs Elementary Updated Bell Schedule 2024-2025	
	Start time: 8:45 am
	Recess: 10:15-10:30 am
	Lunch Time/eating 11:50-12:10 pm
	Lunch Time/recess: 12:10 -12:35 pm
	Dismissal: 2:37 pm

### Important Online Forms

- Please visit the Parent Connect site when school begins to complete the following important forms:
  - Permission for School Field Trips
  - Permission for Neighbourhood Walkabouts
  - Personal Information - Broadcast Media Consent
  - Personal Information - School/District Media Consent
  - Personal Information - School Yearbook and In-School Photo/Video Consent
  - Volunteer Driver Information and Authorization (Adult – mandatory to be apart of your child’s fieldtrip as a driver)
  - Student Acceptable Use of Technology
- When you visit <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/parent-student-resources/parent-connect/> you will find more information and video support to help guide you through the process of creating your Parent Connect Account. We ask that you do this **as soon as possible**.
- Later in the year, individual classroom teachers may ask you to revisit this site and approve student use of some online/digital tools that are frequently used in the classroom. (Google Classroom and RazKids are some examples.)
- This is an access point for families of students who will have a digital portfolio as their reporting tool, and where you will access report cards at the end of each term.

### A Few Important Dates for Early Term 1

- Wednesday Sept 18      Open House/Meet the Teacher 3:30-4:30pm
- Monday Sept. 23      Professional Development Day (no school for students)
- Wednesday, Sept. 25      PAC Meeting 6:30pm
- Monday Sept. 30      National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (no school in session)
- Friday Oct. 4      Deadline for returning Student Verification Forms and completing forms on Parent Connect
- Tuesday Oct 8      Individual Picture Day
- Monday Oct 14      Thanksgiving Day
- Tuesday Oct. 16      **Early Dismissal** (11:50am): Parent Teacher Conferences
- Wednesday Oct. 17      Parent Teacher Conferences – no early dismissal
- Friday Oct. 25      Professional Development Day (no school for students)

### Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

As your child is registered at Frank Hobbs, you are *automatically* a member of our Parent Advisory Council (**PAC**). We look forward to your involvement on our PAC and encourage you to bring ideas and interests you have to those meetings. PAC is a great way get connected! The first PAC meeting will be held towards the end of September. Stay tuned for that announcement from the PAC.

*On behalf of all the staff at Frank Hobbs, thank you for your continued support and we look forward to working with you.*

*Thomas Thompson, Principal*

*and*

*Ramy Gerber, Vice Principal*