

Dear Skwo:wech families,

Welcome everyone back to the 2023/2023 school year. We are delighted to share with you that our students have moved to their new classrooms for the year and are settling into their new routines and meeting new friends in their classrooms. We continue to aim to provide you with up to date, current information on a regular basis. Every second week we will be sharing our Skwo:wech Newsletter filled with highlights of learning activities from around the school; these will be distributed on Friday afternoons. When necessary, we will send home a Bulletin with important, timely information which will provide a brief update of pertinent items.

A few notes about our school year ahead: we are returning to a single recess time for all students but will continue to have reverse lunch time in order to provide all students with lots of space to play when they are outside for a longer break time. The older students will go outside first and then reverse midway through lunch. Also, a note, that similar to many neighboring schools, we will be holding our Terry Fox Run in April. We will be sending out further calendar information next week in our Newsletter.

Thank-you for all of your support in launching a wonderful school year!

With gratitude,

Mrs. Chad



Look who has joined kindergarten at Skwo:wech!

Our Superintendent Karim Hachlaf spent time with our kindergarten students this morning while the children were drawing and thinking about how they want to feel at school!



All of our students from grade 1 to five participated this week in brainstorming the start of our new School Wide Charter. At the start of each year in our classrooms and across the school we pause and take time together to think about the question "How we want to feel at school?" This work guides our school wide charter which is one of the many tools that we use for our RULER program.



Bulletin Updates

Website Update

- Please visit skwowechool.ca for updates and information throughout the school year! This is where you can find newsletters, notices, our school calendar, and other information!

Office Email

- Please update the office email address you have on file to skwowech@sd40.bc.ca

Fuel Up! School Lunch Program

- Resumes Monday, September 19
- September Menu is available online
- Orders must be placed by noon two days before delivery. For example, for Monday's lunch you must order by noon on Saturday.
- If your child is away from school due to illness, you can cancel their hot lunch by emailing FuelUp@SimplyFoods.ca or calling Fuel Up! 604-620-5474 before 8:00am
- If your child will be away from school and you did not cancel their lunch in time, please advise the office if you would like to arrange to pick up the lunch or if the school may donate the lunch to another child who might have forgotten their lunch.

Creative Pack School Supplies

- If your child's Creative Pack has any missing or damaged items, please visit this website for more information: <https://creativepacks.ca/pages/missing-damaged-products-creative-packs-canada>

School Cash Online

- 2022/2023 Permissions & Emergency Release Forms are available on [School Cash Online](#)
- Please complete the forms by September 23, 2022.

Reporting Student Absences, Late Arrivals, & Early Pick Ups:

If your child is going to be absent from school, arriving late, or being picked up early, please email or call us!

Email both your child's *classroom teacher*
AND skwowech@sd40.bc.ca before 8:30am

OR, call 604-517-6090. Outside of office hours you will be able to leave us a voicemail.

Please provide:

- Your child's full name
- The teacher's name and division number
- The date(s) your child will be absent
- The reason for the absence (ex. illness, vacation, medical appointment, etc)

Once students have entered the building at the start of the school day the back doors will be locked. If you arrive after this, please have your child enter at the front doors where they will check in at the office.



Valuables & Toys at School

Parents and students are reminded that personal belongings such as iPods, game systems, other toys, etc should be kept at home. The school cannot be responsible for any personal items that are lost or go missing. Also, if students ride bikes, they should use bike locks to keep them secure in the bike shed.

Medical Changes, Custody/Legal Updates, & Changes to Family Arrangements

We know changes for medical conditions or family arrangements may come up at anytime throughout the year. When changes do arise, please contact the office to update information so our school is best able to support your child and family.

Medical Forms must be updated annually as well as whenever there are changes to serious medical conditions or medications being administered at school. Please bring medical forms and medication to the office as soon as possible for the 2021/2022 school year. Please be advised that we have staff members with First Aid Training, but we do not have full time medical professionals on site.

If custody of your child(ren) is limited by a court order, please contact the office and provide a copy of any legal documents pertaining to your situation. Information about other family arrangements are also helpful.

For more information, please contact Ms. Noda at 604-517-6090 or snoda@sd40.bc.ca



SAFETY ZONE

LEAVING THE SCHOOL

Students are not permitted to leave the school during school hours without consent from a parent or guardian. With parent consent and arrangements, students are able to go home for lunch. Please contact the office if you wish to make this arrangement.

We would appreciate it if you would arrange medical appointments outside of school hours. However, if your child must leave during regular school hours, please advise the office ahead of time, and sign your child out at the office.

If a student needs to go home due to sudden illness, we will contact a parent/guardian or an emergency contact.

Finally, if you have arranged for a friend or relative to pick up your child, or have given your child permission to walk home alone, please send a note to the classroom teacher or call the office.

WALKING TO SCHOOL

-  Know the route your child takes to and from school and how long it takes.
-  Encourage your child to walk with a friend or in a group. Know the telephone numbers and addresses of these friends.
-  Arrange for your child to arrive at school as close to the welcome bell time as possible. Set a time for your child to report home after school.
-  Encourage your child to wear light coloured clothing so that they are easily seen on rainy, dark days.
-  Review street safety rules with your child.

DISMISSAL NOTE

We ask that parents waiting to pick up their children wait outside for their children to come out. Please ensure that you have left space on the front walkway to allow our classes to walk unobstructed to their dismissal locations.

NUT SAFETY

We have a number of students in our school who have serious, life-threatening peanut/nut allergies. This means that any contact with peanuts/nuts or nut products in the classroom, in even trace amounts, may endanger the child's life. We are requesting the assistance of all our families in keeping our school a peanut and nut aware environment.

Morning Arrival

Before the start of the school day, children are under the supervision of their parent or caregiver. Unfortunately, we do not have supervision before the start of the school day. Please ensure your child is supervised.

Please do not send snacks and lunch items that contain nuts or nut oils. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.



Hello from the Skwo:wech PAC



THE PURPOSE OF THE PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

- Builds community at our school
- Advocates for our students and families
- Works with school staff to see where we can support
- Organizes fun events
- Runs fundraisers to raise money to do all of the above!



WHO CAN JOIN?

Every parent or legal guardian of a Skwo:wech student is a member of the PAC. You're welcome to attend our meetings and get involved in any way you like!



HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

- Join us at our monthly meetings
- Attend our Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- Volunteer as a member of our Exec
- Volunteer for events or fundraisers
- Support our fundraisers
- Follow us on Facebook or Instagram

CONNECT WITH US



SKWOWEHPAC



SKWOWEHPAC



SKWOWEHPAC@GMAIL.COM



WHY FUNDRAISE?

Fundraising helps to ensure there are adequate funds to support school goals and provide equal opportunity for our students. This includes helping to offset the costs of extra classroom supplies, extracurricular activities, and much more.



WHERE DOES THE \$ GO?

