



GRAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

10855 - 80 Ave, Delta, BC V4C 1W4

P: 604) 594-2474

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We would like to welcome everyone to the 2023-24 school year! We hope that all of our families had a wonderful summer and are adjusting back to their routines and schedules. We would also like to extend a special welcome to any families new to the Gray community! It has been incredible meeting the students and families that make up the Gray community. Mrs. Sohal and I have really appreciated students and all community members going out of their way to introduce themselves and make us feel very welcome. We look forward to meeting many more of you in the days to come.

As you know, this past week, students have been grouped in same grade classes. This has been a positive experience for students, giving students an opportunity to connect with all students in their grade, and acquaint themselves with all the teachers who could potentially be their teacher. Having said that, we have been working hard to finalize this year's classes.

We will be moving our students into their new classes Tuesday morning. Once students have been placed into their new classes, they are encouraged to bring their full complement of school supplies the following day. Their new teachers will give them any further direction around this as needed.

Kindergarten Parents, please note that students will be placed into their new classes on Monday morning. ALL Kindergarten students should attend on Monday from 9:00am – 10:30am as scheduled. Kindergarten Parent Interviews will be scheduled for Monday, Thursday and Friday of next week (if these days do not work for you, your child's teacher will be happy to schedule a conversation for another time/day that does work).

News from our PAC

We are happy to share that the PAC will be holding its Back to School BBQ on Thursday, September 21. More details will be coming soon but save the date!

Please note that the first PAC meeting of the year will take place on **Wednesday, September 27 at 7:00 pm**. We look forward to seeing you there.

Terry Fox Run

Our annual Terry Fox Run is fast approaching, and the students and staff are excited for another successful run! The run will take place on Wednesday, September 27th. We will be collecting 'Toonies for Terry' beginning on Monday, September 12th with the last day to donate being September 29th. You can also make a donation using this [online link](#) and where you can collect a tax receipt.

Health & Safety

To prevent any and all communicable diseases, we ask that you please keep your child home if they are feeling ill. If a child becomes sick at school they will be given a mask and will wait in the medical room until picked up. We ask that they not return until they feel better or medical advice has been sought. **Please make arrangements to have someone available to pick up students at any time throughout the day should it be necessary.**

Staff will continue the practice of wearing district identification badges so that they are recognized as safe adults for students in the school and on the playground. Also, staff on supervision outside before school, at recess, lunch and after school will wear high visibility vests to make them easy for students to locate should they need assistance. Parents and other adults are encouraged not to be on the grounds during the school day as it is often difficult for our staff to know if an adult “belongs” on our grounds or not.

Band/Music

I am very pleased that the Delta School District will now be offering after an after-school band program at Sands Secondary for grade 6/7 students who are interested. You should have received an email on Friday from the School District with the details of the Band program offered. As a result, moving forward, Gray will provide music to grade 6/7 students instead of mandatory band.

Important Traffic Safety Routines

As you get into the routines of school drop off and pick-up for your child/ren, to keep all students safe, we would like to remind you of the following safety points:

- The school parking lot is for *staff only*. With the large number of staff members we have, we need to ensure that all have a place to park when they arrive.
- The drop off area is for DROP OFF only. We ask that you please have your child/ren ready to exit the car (backpacks and jackets ready) so that you do not need to leave the car.
- If you are driving and would still like to accompany your child/ren to their door, we encourage you to park your car on the side roads off of 80th Ave., or on the road beside Gray’s main field (108th street).

We understand that on some days, traffic congestion, rough starts or other challenges may prevent your child/ren from arriving on time. We all have those kinds of mornings. Please take your time. Student safety is our greatest priority and we would rather students arrive safe, calm and secure than in a rushed state.

Administration of Medication:

Schools are required to maintain a safe procedure for dispensing medications. We would like to have information regarding medication administration within the first two weeks of school. If your child is required to take medication at school, please request a Request for Administration of Medication at School form from the office. These forms must be completed each year and are required to be signed by your physician.

Scent Sensitivity:

At Gray, we have staff who suffer from respiratory difficulties that are made worse by scented products. We ask that students, parents, and staff do what they can to avoid using scented aftershave, hair spray, cologne or other scented personal care products. Teachers within specific pods may send further information regarding this – please make an effort to honour any specific requests made in this regard. Thank you!

We are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead. Thank you in advance for all of your support and have a wonderful weekend.

Mr. J. Mann
Principal

Mrs. T. Sohal
Vice Principal