



# Dr. George M. Weir Elementary

## School News

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<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/dr-george-m-weir>

⌘ Thursday, September 24, 2020 ⌘

### **IMPORTANT REMINDER:**

Our first Professional Development Day for school staff is  
**Friday, Sept 25<sup>th</sup>.**

**SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION FOR STUDENTS/SCHOOL BUSES NOT  
RUNNING**

Hello Weir Families,

Welcome back to school everyone! This has been quite a different summer and although our start to school feels different this year, having learners walk back through our doors has breathed life back into our community. Our learning from home transition plan began this week and we are all looking forward to connecting with those students who are still at home. With every great challenge comes great opportunity. The Weir team, at all three sites, is continuing to think about creative ways to stay connected as a community.



There have been a few changes in our staffing since last school year. Ms Carrea, our school teacher-librarian retired during the summer. We are pleased that Mr Hornberg had agreed to be our teacher-librarian 3 days/week while remaining as classroom teacher to Division 12 for 2 days/week. (We are presently interviewing to hire a teaching partner for his class for the days when he is in the library.) Ms Wong, Division 8, continues to be on leave until Spring Break and we welcome Ms Jacobson who will be with us until then. Ms Wou, Division 9, will be on leave until the New Year, and we welcome Ms Edalatmand who will be with us until then. We welcome Ms Forsyth as the new part-time Student Support Worker partner with Ms Calla. The Itinerant District Speech and Language Pathologist assigned to our school this year is Ms Lam. We also welcome Ms Nagasawa, our new Supervision Aide assigned to Killarney for the duration of the seismic upgrade. And finally, we welcome Mr McMitchell as our new Vice Principal. Mr McMitchell has worked in the Coquitlam school district for the previous 10 years as an elementary classroom, music, and learning support teacher. During the past 3 years he worked at the district level in Coquitlam as the Early Learning Coordinator and District Literacy Mentor Teacher. We are very fortunate to have had all of these experienced and dedicated people join our Weir Learning Community and look forward to getting to know them throughout the coming school year.

Ms Gascoigne, Principal

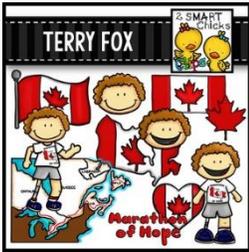
## WEIR SEISMIC PROJECT UPDATE

The current stage of the seismic project has taken longer than anticipated due to unforeseen circumstances such as COVID-19 and geotechnical considerations. The Weir seismic project has now proceeded to tender which is anticipated to close in mid-September. The project team will proceed with hazmat abatement and the start of demolition after the tender process is complete.

## ALL PHOTO DAYS POSTPONED

The district has currently postponed all elementary photo days until the new year.

## TERRY FOX RUN



As we are not allowed to gather in large groups this year, we invite families to consider remembering Terry Fox and his legacy this Friday, Sept 25<sup>th</sup> in their own way. Going for a family run or walk or perhaps watching some videos on his life and work are great ways to keep his spirit alive. We will be collecting 'Toonies for Terry' at all three sites on Monday, Sept 28<sup>th</sup>. For more great ideas on how to participate as a family check out: [www.terryfox.org](http://www.terryfox.org)

## STUDENT LEARNING FROM HOME (OPTION 4)

Some of our families have made the decision to keep their children home for the start of the school year. The district has offered this transition support by having classroom teachers provide some learning experiences for students at home each week via TEAMS. Check-ins will happen with classroom teachers and other school staff. In addition, some teachers are scheduling invites to those students at home for certain activities such as outdoor learning and library book check times.

If your child is learning at home and you would like your child to return to in-person learning with their class, one week prior to each date, we will send a link to a form. Please indicate on the form that would like to return.

The return dates are: **Oct. 13, Nov. 9, Jan. 5**

\*a link to a form will be sent one week prior to each date

## WEIR PAC NEWS

**Our first PAC meeting will take place virtually next Monday, September 28 from 7:00PM-8:00PM.** \* All parents/guardians of Weir Elementary are automatically members of the PAC and are invited to attend \* You will get a chance to meet Ms. Gascoigne and our new vice-principal, Mr. McMitchell at this virtual meeting. They will be providing us with an update of what has been happening since the start of the school year. If time permits, they will also be taking your questions. [Please RSVP here](#) so that we can send you the Zoom meeting link.

The Weir PAC website ([www.weirpac.weebly.com](http://www.weirpac.weebly.com)) gets updated regularly with useful information. Description of PAC-run programs and dates for upcoming events, Pro-D Days, early dismissal days can all be found on the site.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge the fantastic job the teachers, staff and administration are doing to make the transition back to school a positive experience for students and their families. Thank you!

Should you ever have any questions or concerns, the PAC can be reached at [weirpac@gmail.com](mailto:weirpac@gmail.com) . We look forward to working together over this school year! Your Weir PAC Executives