

## Shaughnessy Newsletter – September 2021

4250 Marguerite Street  
Vancouver, British Columbia, V6J 4G3  
604.713.5500  
<http://shaughnessy.vsb.bc.ca>  
Principal: Jim Embree  
Vice Principal: Paul An  
Director of Instruction: Richard Zerbe  
PAC Co-Chairs: Arshnoor Manavi and Liz Goepel

### Important Dates to Remember:

- Sept 6<sup>th</sup> Labour Day (holiday)
- Sept 7<sup>th</sup> Anti-Racism In-service for all staff (no school)
- Sept 8<sup>th</sup> First day of school (9:00-10:00 am)
- Sept 9<sup>th</sup> First full day of school 9:00-3:03 pm
- Sept 9<sup>th</sup> First day of Kindergarten gradual entry
- Sept 15<sup>th</sup> School Individual Photos
- Sept 16<sup>th</sup> First full day of Kindergarten
- Sept 17<sup>th</sup> Heritage Day
- Sept 24<sup>th</sup> ProD Day (no school)
- Sept 29<sup>th</sup> Orange Shirt Day
- Sept 30<sup>th</sup> National Day of Truth and Reconciliation (no school)



### Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year!

Welcome back to all our returning students and their families and a special welcome to those who are joining Shaughnessy for the first time. We are happy that you are a part of this school community.

**Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**, will be the first day of school. Students are asked to attend school for one hour from 9:00-10:00 am. **Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>** will be the first full day of classes. The school hours are 9:00 am-3:03 pm. The warning bell rings at 8:55 am daily and classes begin promptly at 9:00 am.

Monthly newsletters will be emailed to parents and posted on our school website every month. Please ensure that you have supplied the school with your correct email address. If you are not receiving our newsletter, please contact the school office and we will check to see that your information is accurate. As well, please refer to our school website at <http://shaughnessy.vsb.bc.ca>.

We will work hard to get students into their permanent classes as soon as possible. Once they are in their new class, a package of forms will be sent home with each child. Please review these forms carefully so that your information is correct and up to date. Contact numbers and medical information must be complete so that we can reach you in the event of an emergency.

As this will be my first year at Shaughnessy, I am looking forward to meeting you in the days and weeks to come. The Shaughnessy staff appreciate your support in preparing your child for an exciting year ahead. Your encouragement and positive approach to this year will help your child adjust and thrive in a brand-new school year. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the school staff and administration. We are here to support your child's learning this year. On behalf of the Shaughnessy staff, welcome to the 2021-2022 school year.

Jim Embree  
Principal

## Shaughnessy Office Staff and Administration

The office staff is here to help you throughout the year. Please reach out by email or phone if you have any questions:

Principal	Mr. Embree
Vice-Principal	Mr. An
Office Admin Assistant	Ms. Good
Extra Clerical	Ms. Ma

## Covid-19 Update

A variety of COVID-19 health and safety protocols and procedures, as advised by health officials, will be in place again this year to help keep everyone safe. Please review the letter sent to all families on Thursday, September 1, 2021, as well as the VSB Communicable Disease Prevention Plan <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx>. In addition, there is a very helpful student Health Check app available, and we encourage families to use it. I have included the QR code here.



## School Hours

This year the school hours are **9:00-3:03 pm**. The warning bell will ring at 8:55 am and instructional time begins promptly at 9:00 am. Students will continue to meet their teachers in the designated space outside. **Recess is from 10:35-10:55 am and lunchtime is from 12:05-12:52 pm**. Outside supervision begins before school at 8:40 am and will take place from 3:03-3:15 pm every day after school.

## National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

Following federal legislation to mark **Thursday, September 30, 2021**, as the **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**, and the provincial government announcement to make it a day of commemoration, all schools and work sites in the Vancouver School District will be closed on this day. This is a day to reflect on the impact of colonialism and genocide that resulted in the establishment of the residential school system in Canada and the deaths of countless Indigenous children.



## Class Casting

The placement of your child in a class is a thoughtful process that takes time. Staff know their students in the school context and engage in a rigorous placement process that involves the consideration of several factors (balance of academic, social, and emotional abilities, social concerns, students with special needs, cohesive student groupings, as well as class-size and composition requirements from the VBE).

Students will remain with their last year's class and teacher on **Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>** from **9:00-10:00 am**. This is so we can check attendance as well as verify families that have moved in and out of our catchment area. The first day of full-day classes is Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. It is our hope that students will transfer to their new class on or before **Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup>**.



## Forms, Forms, and a few more Forms

This month is the beginning of a full year of activity. Please anticipate a school package containing emergency health information, as well as a media consent form. We update all your child's contact information every year and appreciate the time you take to go over and return the completed forms. Please help us by getting these forms back to the classroom teacher as soon as possible.

**If there is a health issue that we need to be aware of, please let the office know asap**



### Communication

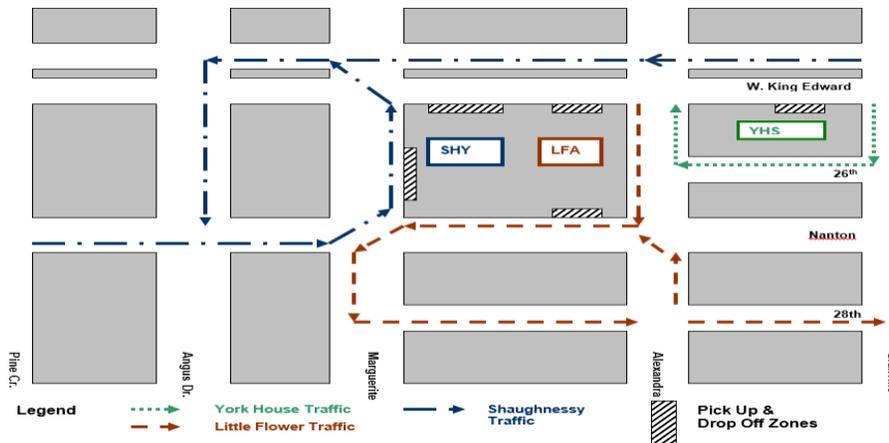
As we work in partnership with you, we would like to keep the lines of communication open. Please talk to your child’s teacher first, as they will be able to answer many of your questions. You can also phone or email the office with any school related questions. We like to hear how things are going.

Our school newsletter will be sent out electronically on the first day of every month. In addition, we will continue to update our webpage <http://shaughnessy.vsb.bc.ca> with important dates and information. Feel free to check out our school twitter account (@VsbShaughnessy), as we will tweet out many great events that happen at Shaughnessy throughout the year.

### Traffic Safety

Traffic before and after school continues to be a concern around Shaughnessy, Little Flower Academy, and York House School. The streets are congested and potentially very unsafe for children and pedestrians. Vancouver City Engineers have worked with all three schools to create a coherent traffic plan.

To reduce congestion and increase safety, we all need to work together to follow the traffic flow pattern and designated parking zones as shown on the map provided.



### It is important that everyone follow the Traffic Safety Plan for our school

Whenever possible, we encourage families and older students to walk to and from school. Fitness and personal health are important lifestyle choices that we should be teaching and modelling to our children from a very young age. If you need to drive, please obey the Shaughnessy Traffic Safety Plan:

- Drive **EAST** on Nanton and North on Marguerite
- Do not stop in our **No Stopping Zone**
- Do not stop in the middle of the road to pick up or drop off children
- Do not get out of your car **or stop longer than 3 minutes** in a No Parking Zone
- Use the identified pick-up and drop-off zones for your school. Do not use the lanes for pick-up and drop-off

### PAC News

SHY PAC would like to extend a warm welcome back to all new and returning families of Shaughnessy Elementary. We hope to be a place of connection to our school community. Stay tuned for PAC updates and a new website coming your way! To keep in touch, please use the following email [shypacchair@gmail.com](mailto:shypacchair@gmail.com) (Arshnoor and Liz, SHY PAC Co-Chairs).

## Reporting Student Absences

Student safety is of paramount importance at the Vancouver School District. Ensuring safety is a shared responsibility. To assist our school, we ask parents to notify us of student absences. If your child will be away from school, please phone or email the school to report this absence as early as possible. Messages will be received before the office is open. School offices are busy places: consistently notifying the school in advance of your child's absence will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the **Safe Arrival** morning routine.



On behalf of our Office Team here at Shaughnessy, thank you very much for following our district-wide **Safe Arrival** Program! To help us keep track of the students in our building, please continue to report your child's absence in the following way:

### **To Report Your Child's Absence via Telephone:**

1. Call 604-713-5159 (SHY CODE 78)
2. Record your message (include child's full name, grade, division, and reason for absence)

**Please report the absence to the Safe Arrival Program even if you have already notified your teacher.**

## Student Sign-Out Procedure

If you need to pick up your child *during* the school day, please ensure that you contact the school office. Students will need to sign out with Ms. Good in the office before they leave. Clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches. **Thank you for helping us keep your children safe!**

## Nut Aware School (Nut Allergies)

We have a few students and staff who have a life-threatening allergy to NUTS and exposure could result in sickness or serve health issues. To help reduce the risk of accidental exposure, we need your cooperation to provide a safe and secure learning environment. The following are respectfully requested:



1. Students do not bring food to school that contain peanuts or nut products (i.e., peanut butter, muffins/cookies with nuts, granola bars). Please read ingredients on purchased and packaged food items included in your child's lunch and snack.
2. If your child enjoys peanut/nut containing products at home, please ensure that your child adds hand washing to their routine before coming to school. Even a small amount of peanut oil or dust from a friend's hand can easily be transferred to crayons, books or playground equipment that can pose a risk for the allergic child.
3. Discuss with your child the importance of not trading or sharing food.

The above items will also be discussed with all the students in the classroom setting along with ways to help their allergic friend stay safe. We hope you will appreciate the seriousness of this condition and that you will assist us in our efforts to create as safe an environment as possible for all students. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## **Direct Donations Make a Difference to SHY Students!**

This past year, all students at Shaughnessy had a hands-on pottery experience taught by Ms. Pace. You can see the results were amazing! This type of specialized art program, using clay and glazes, was funded by your direct donations to the PAC. So, thank you parents for supporting the arts at SHY and contributing to strengthening your child's creative skills. It is a priceless investment!

It was wonderful to see all the students from Kindergarten to Grade 7 embrace this special Pottery experience!



## **Join the Cross-Country Running Team at Shaughnessy**

We are happy to have our Cross-Country running team available once again for student participation. This team is open to all students from K to 7. It's the only team that allows for such a diverse group of students! We encourage all levels of runners and previous running experience is not necessary. Shaughnessy has always had a big team and shown lots of enthusiasm about joining in. This year, grades 4 to 7 will have two morning practices (Tues. & Thurs.) and grades K to 3 will practice in-class during daily kilometre club. Cross-Country running is a great way to build leadership, social skills, and fitness.

We do not yet have a schedule of racing. We will make announcements and have a class sign up when we learn more information from the VSB. We will also have a SHY t-shirt sale online as this is our racing uniform. We will keep you posted on team information but for now, Shaughnessy Cross-Country running is on for this fall (Ms. Pace)

## **Shaughnessy Heritage Day, Friday Sept 17<sup>th</sup>**

Students and staff are invited to wear their Shaughnessy black t-shirts, black and gold, or a decade costume in honour of our 102nd anniversary on **Friday, September 17th**. Just two years ago we celebrated our school's hundred years heritage and the laying of the foundation stone by the Prince of Wales in September 1919. We will announce the sale of SHY black t-shirts soon as our new order is in the works. (Ms. Pace)



## **Shaughnessy Mission Statement**

The Shaughnessy community is committed to providing a safe, respectful learning environment where students are challenged academically and are encouraged to be responsible learners and productive global citizens.

## **Shaughnessy Code of Conduct**

Students will work with their teachers during the first few weeks of school to review our school code of conduct and what it means to them. It is our hope that we can actively live out our code of conduct at school, home and at play.

**Act Respectfully**

**Act Responsibly**

**Act Safely**