



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back! And, for those in our community who are new, welcome to Evergreen!

There is something that stirs deeply in my soul at this time of year. The sun sets earlier, rises later. Dew wets the grass and the mornings are cooler. For me, after 16 years in schools, its a time for new beginnings, new constellations of children, and a time of change.

After a summer of rest & rejuvenation, Autumn calls for a renewed focus, drawing in my energy, mind and attention. It's a time that brings joy and anticipation (along with the usual back-to-school nerves I still get from time to time).

A big part of what makes this school special for me is the connection to the students, their parents, and community. Starting this week, and fortnightly, we will continue to have Thursday morning coffee from 8:30 - 9:00. Please come a join me for a coffee & chat, bring your ideas, thoughts, and questions!

There are several ways to stay in the loop:

- "The Week Ahead" email from Leslie
- The Parents Facebook Group
- The Facebook & Instagram pages
- Drop off & pickup time to connect with teachers
- Monthly Newsletter
- Coffee mornings

Please feel free to connect with teachers or myself by email as needed.

There are some events coming up that I'd like to share about:

Community picnic and Meet the Teacher. 5-7 pm, September 14. Bring some food and drinks, and enjoy some time getting to know new families. We will have a schedule for class meetings in this window of time before the GM. Teachers will preview the year ahead, including important Camp Creina details.

The September General Meeting. I am looking forward to seeing one parent from each family as we come together as a society for out first GM of the year. 7-9 pm on September 14.



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Welcome Evergreen Families!

As the new school year unfolds, I am thrilled to welcome each and every one of you back! The energy of our community, coupled with the anticipation of the year ahead, brings a special kind of magic to the school.

This year holds promise for growth, development, and cherished memories. To the families joining our Evergreen community for the first time, a warm welcome to you! You're now part of a tradition of excellence and community spirit.

A heartfelt thank you to all the families who devoted their time and energy to the work party. The sense of community and collaboration you exhibited ensures our school's environment remains welcoming and vibrant. As we gear up for the academic journey ahead, let's come together to make this year a memorable one, filled with achievements, camaraderie, and joy.

September promises to be a month filled with exciting events:

- September 14: Our community picnic & Teacher Meet and Greet offers a casual space for you to connect with your child's educators, immediately followed by our society's general meeting. A perfect occasion to mingle with fellow parents.
- September 21: An adventurous two day excursion awaits our students at Camp Creina. A tradition we eagerly uphold, providing memorable experiences outside of the classroom for all.
- September 29: Let's reminisce and celebrate! Evergreen Independent School turns 40, and we're marking this milestone with an anniversary party. We warmly invite all our families, past and present, as well as the community, to join in this momentous celebration.

With warm regards,

Rachel Miles-Pickup

Chair of the Board, Evergreen Independent School



CAMP CREINA UPDATE

Important camp information will be shared at the "Meet the Teacher" evening on the 14th.

Camp Creina information, including the day schedule for students, can be found on the new <u>Parent Portal</u> on our website. If you need a permission slip or registration form, please ask Leslie at the front desk.

<u>Please sign up</u> for tasks to help run the camp <u>here</u>

Please <u>return permission slips and fees</u> to Leslie by Monday, September 18 at the latest - Thank you!

An update to the initial email - Dogs and camp trailers are *not permitted*. Thank you for respecting the camp rules.

CALENDAR & REMINDERS

The school calendar can be found on our website under *Resources* (click link to go to calendar):

- September 7 Board meeting
- September 8 School Open K-7
- September 11 Cedar opens
- September 14 Community Picnic & Meet the teacher, followed by the general Meeting
- September 18 Camp Cookie baking
- September 19 school photos TBD
- September 21/22 Camp Creina
- September 28 Terry Fox Run
- September 30 National Day for truth & Reconciliation (Monday is a stat)





UPDATES & REMINDERS

As we head into variable weather, please send students to school with appropriate clothing, including waterproofs.

Our <u>lost & found</u> is located downstairs in the library. Please check it regularly. To help us, please label your child's clothing.

Through the province's <u>Feeding Future</u>s School Food Program Funding, we will be continuing our program of having snacks available to all students in Leslie's office.

Reminder to bring your child's *Emergency Kit* to school asap - Thank you.

OUR HISTORY

Evergreen Independent School was established in 1983 by a group of families looking for an alternative learning environment for their children. In the first year there were seven students in kindergarten and grade 1. The school now enrolls students from Pre-K to grade 7. Some of the founding teachers and parents are still involved with the school today. Evergreen's growth has been slow and controlled from its beginning to present day and a commitment to the original philosophy has remained central to the school.

The school house was built in 1914. It was named Cobble Hill School when it officially opened in 1915. Grades 1 to 8 were taught there. In 1930 the basement was utilized for "superior school" grades 9 and 10. A year later, the building was enlarged to include grades 11 and 12. It remained a combination elementary and high school until the 1950's. EIS bought the heritage building in 2003 where we have remained ever since.

Evergreen Independent School gratefully acknowledges the privilege of living, learning, and playing on the traditional lands and waterways of the Coast Salish people.

