

Welcome Back!

Welcome to all new and returning students for the 2023-2024 school year! We are looking forward to another great year! Taylor Park is a great school because we have great students, great families, and great staff. Thanks for bringing your children in, getting them ready for school and filling in the online questionnaires!

Hal Wall (Principal)

Opening Week and [Placement in Classes](#) for the Coming Year

Our Kindergarten students have been going through a gradual entry process so we can get to know them, so they can get used to school and also so that we can see what the best placement in our four kindergarten classes would be. We are expecting to go into permanent classes on Monday, September 18 but please know that we often have a few changes in placement that we have to make so that all our students will have friends they are comfortable playing with. In kindergarten, students develop their language and other learning skills through play so it is important that they each have someone to talk to with whom they will engage in play.

Parents as Partners

Students will be dismissed at 2:00 p.m. on Wed., Sept. 27th and Thurs., Sept. 28th to enable parents and teachers to meet to go over class expectations and give an opportunity for parents to help teachers better understand their students. Further information and registration information will be sent out soon.

School Carnival

We are in the process of planning a school carnival for Thursday, September 21st from 3 pm to 7 pm. This carnival will provide a fun way for families to get to know other families in our community. We will have a variety of games and activities and the proceeds will go towards supporting our grade 6/7 leadership events, pancake breakfasts and other school activities. We have sent out a note with some details and parents can purchase tickets online. There will be many games including two water activities to soak a grade seven student or our principal/vice-principal!

No More Paper Newsletters

Emails provided by parents at registration will be used to send an electronic version of our newsletter as well as periodic updates. Parents can update email information on the data verification sheet coming in mid-September. Our school website at taylorpark.burnabyschools.ca/ has our monthly Hot Lunch Menu, calendars, newsletters and upcoming events.

Online Payment of School Fees

We are pleased to offer parents a safe and secure way to pay all school fees online as well as providing a record of your purchases and receipts. You can pay for, kindergarten shared supplies(\$25 – will be posted once students are in permanent classes), Hot Lunch, field trips, school yearbook, etc. directly to your child's account. With 600+ students we often receive money without forms or illegible names, so this helps us make sure your fees and requests are accurate. Paying online also provides a receipt which we cannot provide when paying by cash or cheque. Please go to our school website at taylorpark.burnabyschools.ca/ for directions on how to sign up for the [SchoolCash](#) program.

Yearbooks

We will again be providing 60-page, full colour yearbooks in late June for those who order them. Online payment only in September will be \$30. Online payment October – January will be \$35, Feb. – March \$45 and any extras in June will be \$55. This will be posted to school cash for payment and is optional.

School Meals Program

The School Meals Program has started again, and we have a record number of participants – 375 students are registered. As usual, no late orders can be accepted as we order a specific number of meals based on envelopes received. We have to place our order several weeks in advance so our supplier can order the right amount of food and schedule their staff. We cannot change our order once it is placed. We recommend paying online so you can have a receipt, not miss a month, and be assured of your purchase. The signed envelope is currently a required safety step to ensure that students haven't developed any allergies.

Terry Fox Run

Our annual run took place on September 8th. We are collecting donations through school cash online for the Terry Fox Foundation Cancer Research Fund.

Traffic Concerns

Many people expect to find parking for drop off and pick up at a school, but that is not possible at Taylor Park. Our school is within walking distance for almost all our students, so we recommend that families walk – even in the rain. When students walk to school, the exercise and fresh air gets their brain ready and they are calmer and ready to learn when they enter the school. When there are parents parking illegally in the turn-around area, emergency vehicles such as fire trucks and ambulances cannot get to our school. There is only a very limited drop off/pick up area that stretches along the school side of Mission Ave. Remember that the driver of the car must remain behind the steering wheel while stopped in a loading area. Our school welcomes the enforcement of traffic and parking rules for the safety of our students by the RCMP. Violators of traffic and parking rules will be ticketed. The city of Burnaby will be changing the turnaround area and also parking regulations on Southpoint to help with keeping our school safe at pickup-dropoff time.

Professional Development Days for 2023-2024

- Friday, September 22, 2023
- Friday, October 20, 2023
- Friday, November 24, 2023
- Friday, February 16, 2024
- Monday, April 29, 2024
- Monday, June 3, 2024
- Our calendar of events can be found [here](#)

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

All parents of students attending Taylor Park are automatically members of the Taylor Park PAC (Parent Advisory Committee). We hold meetings each month to discuss issues of concern for our students' learning and how to support programs at the school through fundraising. The Principal, Vice-Principal and Head Teacher bring issues for parents to discuss and there is an opportunity to bring up school wide concerns with them as well. Our meetings are informal and have lots of laughter combined with the satisfaction of contributing to the learning of our students. We will provide the exact date and time of our first meeting soon.

School Routines and Expectations

School Hours

8:50 a.m. – bell to line up at outside classroom doors
8:55 a.m. – classroom doors open and instruction begins
3:02 p.m. – students are dismissed

Student Absences

For your child's safety and security, please contact us if your child will be absent or late. Parents are asked to email the school at taylorpark.info@burnabyschools.ca with the student's name, teacher, and division number. You can also call the school and leave a message but our phone system can become overloaded as we share lines with the other school in the district. (604-296-9034)

Arriving Late to School

It is important that your child arrives to school on time. Students miss important instruction at the beginning of the day and interrupt the learning of others if they arrive late. The teacher will mark your child late after 8:55. If your child does arrive later than 9:20 am, he/she needs to report to the office to 'sign in'. This informs the secretary that your child is safe at school.

Leaving School Early

A student leaving school early, either with a parent or with parent permission needs to report to the office to 'sign out'. If a student is ill, the secretary will phone home to ask you to pick up your child or to get permission to send your child home alone.

Parents Visiting the School

If you need to see your child for any reason or wish to leave a message for your child or the teacher during school hours, please phone/email the school or come to the office at the front of the school. Please do not go directly to your child's classroom. If you are helping or volunteering in a classroom, you need to sign in at the front of the school and confirm that you have completed a personal Health Check.

Morning Drop-Off

We are unable to provide supervision before school so students should not arrive at school before 8:45 unless they have a meeting with a teacher (sports/homework help/etc.). They should line up outside their classroom door when the bell rings at 8:50. This builds community by providing a time and space for a connection between families and the teacher. It also gives students a sense of ownership for their place. When students arrive early, they can talk with their friends before school, so their level of comfort is higher, and their brains are ready to learn. It also allows the teachers to meet and greet children and their caregivers at one door and helps us monitor who is in the building. When students rush in at the last moment or come late, their brains and emotions are not settled, and they will not learn as well as they could if they were a few minutes early.

Student Accident Insurance

Accidents Happen The Burnaby School district does not insure expenses for student injuries that happen on school grounds or during school activities. Parents and guardians are responsible for these expenses. Whether it's playing sports, using playground equipment, or simply having fun in the gym or in the schoolyard, accidents sometimes happen. The Medical Services Plan (MSP) either limits or does not cover some charges and group health plans often have deductibles. Costs that are not covered by MSP or may be limited by group health plans may include: • Dental treatment • Eye glasses • Physiotherapy Accident Insurance For many years the district made

arrangements for families to voluntarily purchase student accident insurance through the Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance program. That program has been replaced by the Family Accident Reimbursement Plan provided by Industrial Alliance. This voluntary plan provides coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses and critical illness. To apply or to find out more, visit: <https://www.solutionsinsurance.com/aonbc>

Dates to Remember ...

Thursday, September 21st..... Family Welcome Carnival
Friday, September 22..... Pro-D Day
Wed/Thurs, Sept 27/28 (2:00 pm dismissal)..... Welcoming Conversations
Friday, September 29 Assembly..... Orange Shirt Day(observed)
Monday, October 2..... National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Holiday
Oct. 3 – Nov. 10..... FSA Assessments
Friday, October 6 School Photo Day
Monday, October 9 Thanksgiving Day – school closed
Friday, October 20 Professional Development Day – school closed
Tuesday, October 24 Photo Retakes

(See our website for the full year's schedule)