



Mr. L. Hurst, Principal

Year End Newsletter – June 28, 2017

CONGRATULATIONS ON AN AWESOME YEAR OF LEARNING, LIFE AND LAUGHTER AT DEBECK

It has been an exciting and memorable year at DeBeck – and we are proud of the growth and progress all of our students have demonstrated throughout 2016 – 2017 – and the fun we have had with them along the way.

Thank you to all of the DeBeck families for supporting our children and our school community – and for your contributions to make the year a success.

THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING PAC

Special thanks to the people who dedicate their time behind the scenes to help make life and learning at DeBeck more enjoyable for all.

Thanks to the following PAC Executive members:

1. Penny Wong - Food Day Coordinator as well as taking on many duties of the Chairperson
2. Tara Laing – former Chair – advisor and also helped with many duties of the Chair
3. Vivian Kok - Treasurer
4. Alexia Tam - Fruit and Veggie Coordinator
5. Jo-Ann Wilson – many jobs as Member at Large
6. Rhonda Schuette – many jobs as Member at Large
7. Teresa Wang – Spring Fair Coordinator
8. Patti [redacted] – Spring Fair Raffle Draw Coordinator

In addition to the Executive members, so many DeBeck parents volunteered their time to help out with Food Days, Movie Nights, Spring Fair, Fundraising, Fruit and Veggie Days, Snack Sales, Pumpkin Patch, numerous Field Trips, and other special events – and we thank you all for the effort, time, selfless leadership and support you have given to our community and our students.

Farewell to Families Leaving DeBeck

Sadly, in addition to the grade 7s who are leaving us, some DeBeck families are moving to different cities and different schools next year. To those students and their families, we will miss you greatly but wish you all the best at their new school. We hope you will remember to stay in touch and know that DeBeck will always be your home.

Farewell To The Following DeBeck Staff:

Ms. Carina Ip

Ms. Ip has been a burst of sunlight at DeBeck this year – working as a Relief teacher and working in many different classrooms in different ways. We thank her for doing such a great job for us – and we hope our paths will cross again in the near future!

Ms. Simmi Bains

Thank you and best wishes to Ms. Bains, who returns to the classroom after providing excellent counselling support to all of us at DeBeck this year.

Ms. Robyn Perrin

Ms. Perrin has been an excellent Educational Assistant at DeBeck for several years now – and this summer, she is taking a leave of absence for an exciting year-long European adventure with her family. We thank her for

her caring and positive way with kids and wish her all the best in her travels abroad.

Mrs. Shauna Hudson

We are excited for Mrs. Hudson as she awaits the arrival of her second child this summer, and heads off to her Maternity leave next year. We will miss her positive spirit, and her thoughtful and giving way of interacting with her students and all of us – and we hope to be able to bring her back to DeBeck in the future. In the meantime – we wish her all the best with her growing family.

Heather Plank

Ms. Plank has been part of a dynamic job share with Mrs. Hudson at DeBeck for many years – and has taken a job teaching closer to home in Surrey. We thank her for her energy and enthusiasm, her passion for teaching, and her child-centered approach to teaching – qualities that we know will endear her to the students staff and families of Surrey.

Ms. Josie Zahn

With mixed emotions, we announce that Ms. Zahn has accepted a position closer to her home in Delta. We are so happy for her and her family but we will surely miss the warmth, creativity and innovation she brought to the classroom each day and the tremendous commitment she brought to our school and our profession since arriving here three years ago. Congrats and all the best to her from all of us at DeBeck.

Congrats and Farewell to Ms. Sarah McAlister

As mentioned on our website earlier this month, we congratulate Ms. McAlister on her appointment as Vice Principal at General Gordon Elementary in Vancouver – also close to home for her and her family. We can't thank her enough for the amazing support she has provided the English Language Learners (ELL) at DeBeck over the years – and for her outstanding leadership and contribution to our school community in so many ways. Her dedication to our children and desire to make a difference will be greatly missed here, but serve her well in her new role as VP in the Vancouver School District.

Happy Retirement to Mrs. Kathy Yamasaki

Our last farewell goes out to someone who has helped to shape and embody the very values that define what it means to be a DeBeck Dragon. Since 1988, when DeBeck was a tiny two room Elementary school, Mrs. Yamasaki has been brightening the lives of others and inspiring the students, staff and families of DeBeck to view life and learning with curiosity and enthusiastic wonder: to constantly explore and seek out innovative and progressive ways to help students learn – and to embrace the process of learning; to join our students and staff to share in the joy of learning; to bring a sense of joy and passion to the community

This year Kathy joins her husband Brian in retirement – and talk about leaving on a high note! In her last year of teaching, Mrs. Yamasaki has been “rocking it” like a brand new teacher – implementing and exploring so many new and exciting teaching ideas, such as NStep and the core competencies – and we know that she will bring

that youthful energy and attitude to the next chapter of her life.

The students, staff and families of DeBeck past and present thank her for her amazing career – and, for, each and every day, caring so deeply about the students in her care. We thank her for always viewing our students with a sense of hope and optimism – for not just seeing their strengths but perhaps more importantly, for seeing their potential and her work to help that vision to become a reality. And we are already looking forward to her “visits” to her home here at DeBeck in the future.

Welcome Back To Ms. Kim

We are very excited to announce that we have hired Ms. Kim, who did a great job as our Teacher Librarian - as a “continuing” Primary Teacher at DeBeck. This means that she will be able to call DeBeck home in the years to come. And, as she did in her temporary role as Librarian and PE teacher, she will make strong connections with our students and make a huge impact on our whole school community.

Welcome New Staff

We are pleased to announce the hiring of two new staff members to DeBeck:

Ms. Kassan Borthwick

We are thrilled to announce that our new Teacher Librarian and Relief Teacher is Ms. Kassan Borthwick who comes to us with rave reviews from Dixon Elementary, where she served as Teacher Librarian. Welcome Ms. Borthwick.

Ms. Kailey Greczmiel

We are also pleased to announce the hiring of a new Intermediate teacher, Ms. Kailey Greczmiel, who has been working recently as a 6/7 and PE Relief teacher at Spul’uk’wuks Elementary. We are excited to have her join the Dragon team.

First Week Back September 5 – 8, 2017

Tuesday, September 5th 9:00 – 10:00 am

Students who were in Primary (Divisions 6 – 11) this year - please report to last year’s teacher.

New students in Grades 1 – 3 - please report to the Library.

10:30 – 11:30 am

All new Kindergarten students, please reports to room 111 (Mrs. Lindsay’s room) - *as per the Gradual Entry Schedule for Kindergarten which will be sent home to all K families this summer.*

1:00 – 2:00 pm

Students who were in Divisions 1 – 5 this year - please report to last year’s teacher. *New students in grades 4 – 7 please report to the Library.*

Wed. Sept 6th / Thurs Sept. 7th

First Full Days - 8:45 – 3:00 pm

Grades 1 – 7 Students:

Students will be grouped in previous year’s classes and participate in a variety of ROARS-themed learning activities for these two days. *New students in grades 1 – 7 will be placed in one of these classes with same grade peers.*

Friday, Sept. 8th

We hope to have all Grades 1 – 7 students placed in their new class for the year by the end of today.

Mark your Calendars...

**OUTDOOR EDUCATION FOR GRADE 6 AND 7 STUDENTS
SEPTEMBER 25TH TO 27TH (MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY)**

2017 - 2018 Professional Development Days

Friday September 22, 2017

School-based Pro-D

Friday October 20, 2017

Province-wide Pro-D

Friday November 24, 2017

Curriculum Implementation Day – All schools

Friday January 26, 2018

School-based Pro-D

Friday February 23, 2018

District-wide Pro-D Day

Friday May 18, 2018

District-wide Pro-D Day

Thursday, June 28, 2018

School-based Pro-D

2017 – 2018 Holiday and Break Schedule

Thanksgiving Day:

Monday, October 9, 2017

Remembrance Day:

Monday November 13, 2017

Winter Break:

December 25, 2017 to Jan 5, 2018

BC Family Day

Monday February 12, 2018

Spring Break Holidays

March 16 – 29, 2018

Good Friday / Easter Break Holidays

Friday March 30 to Monday April 2, 2018

Victoria Day

Monday May 21, 2018

Summer Break

June 29 to September 3, 2018

2016 - 2017 School Hours

Mondays Only:

8:45 am	Classes Begin
10:25 – 10:40 am	Recess Break
12:20 – 1:10 pm	Lunch Break
2:00 pm	Dismissal

Tuesdays Through Fridays:

8:45 am	Classes Begin
10:25 – 10:40 am	Recess Break
12:20 – 1:16 pm	Lunch Break
3:00 pm	Dismissal

Arrivals: DeBeck School doors will now open at 8:30 am

In 2015 - 2016, DeBeck became a school with just one Administrator – a change which has impacted our ability to adequately supervise and keep students safe in the gym in the early morning. Thus, for safety and supervision reasons, we will now be opening our school to students 15 minutes before school – at 8:30 am.

We know this will impact working families, and so we have been working with Mrs. Young at Childhood Discoveries, who has generously offered to create a plan for “Before School-Care” at a low cost for those who need support for their children from 8:00 - 8:30 am. Please note that priority for this service will be given to families with primary aged children and their siblings. Please e-mail her at [redacted] if you are interested in this service and/or call Mr. Hurst at 604-668-6281 if you have any questions or concerns.

Dismissals:

We are responsible for your child’s safety until they are dismissed. Please arrive promptly at dismissal time.

On behalf of the staff at DeBeck, we would like to wish all of you an awesome summer full of fun and lasting memories. Be safe and we will see you in September!