



# DeBeck News

<https://debeck.sd38.bc.ca> Twitter: @debeckdragons



**Howard DeBeck  
Elementary**

8600 Ash Street  
Richmond, BC  
V6Y 2S3

**Kathy Pantaleo**  
Principal

**Cori Anderson**  
Vice Principal

**School Schedule:**

8:40 - Welcome Bell  
8:45 – Classes Begin  
9:55 - 10:10 Recess  
12:00 -12:50 Lunch  
2:45 - Dismissal

## March 27th - March 31st Week at a Glance

Monday	First Day Back! Hot Lunch - A&W
Tuesday	Breakfast Club 7:45 am - 8:30 am
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	

Dear Families,

Spring is almost here! There are a lot of fun, exciting activities planned for Third Term such as swimming lessons in June for students in Grades 2 and 3, a five day Bike Safety program for students in Grades 6 and 7, as well as Track Attack leading up to a Track Meet in May. More information about all of these events and activities will be sent to families after Spring Break.

Shortly after Spring Break, students in Grades 4 - 7 will be a part of digital literacy and internet safety virtual presentations by a company called the White Hatter. The content will be age appropriate, as there will be one presentation for students in Grades 4 and 5, and another presentation for students in Grades 6 and 7. There will also be a presentation for DeBeck families on Thursday, April 6th from 7:00pm - 9:00pm. This session will be recorded and shared with families who will not be able to join us at that time. More information will be shared after Spring Break, including the link to join. You can click [HERE](#) if you would like to learn more about the White Hatter and their offerings.

On another note, we are noticing that more students are asking for snacks from the classroom snack bins. The snack bins are to help students who are in need of a snack, or if they are still hungry after eating their own food that they have brought to school. We would appreciate it if you have a conversation about this with your children at home. Please let us know if you would like for us to set aside extra snacks for you if it would help your family.

Wishing everyone a wonderful Spring Break! First day back is Monday, March 27th.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [kpantaleo@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:kpantaleo@sd38.bc.ca) or [coanderson@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:coanderson@sd38.bc.ca).

Wishing you all good health,

Kathy Pantaleo and Cori Anderson

## Important Dates!

Mar 10	Last day of class before Spring Break!
March 27	First day back from Spring Break!
March 27	Hot Lunch - A&W
April 6	White Hatter parent presentation 7:00 pm
April 7	Good Friday
April 10	Easter Monday
April 12	White Hatter Presentations to Gr 4 - 7
April 18	Class Photos

# CHESS CLUB

We are looking for donations of new or gently used chess boards to start up a chess club at school!

If you would like to donate one, please drop it off at the office.



We currently have many items in the lost and found bin found by the office. They will be laid out on tables from Wednesday - Friday next week for families to come by. Photos of the items will also be shared on the DeBeck PAC Facebook page.



## Purdy's Chocolates Grade 7 Fundraiser!

Order by: March 20, 2023  
Phone: 1-888-478-7397 Ext 1  
(Debeck Grade 7 Fundraiser  
Campaign Code: 59656)



All monies raised will support our year-end plans for our Grade 7's!

Online:  
<https://fundraising.purdys.com/1370205-104986>

Spring Break is from March 11th to March 26th. The first day back is Monday, March 27th!



# #2: What does "trans" mean?

## bite size SOGI series



"Trans" or "transgender" is an **umbrella term**, meaning "change" or "different." It refers to one's gender identity: that is, how do you see yourself? A man, a woman, a mix, neither?

The umbrella term "trans" encompasses a variety of identities for people who **do not identify with the gender they were assigned at birth**. For example: a trans man is a man who was assigned female at birth, but that label didn't resonate with him, so he transitioned either medically or socially or both to present as a man.



A person who is not trans is "cis" or "cisgender," meaning "same." It refers to one's gender identity as well, but this term is more specific. It's a word to denote "not trans," so that people don't use the word "normal" to mean "not trans."

When you were born, a doctor held you up, inspected your genitalia, and declared your gender based on those traits: "it's a boy!" When you grew up, you happily wore the clothes you were dressed in, played with the stereotypically "male" toys you were given, and the word "boy" resonated with you. That means you're a cis man!



However, there are also folks who don't identify as "male" or "female." You could think of gender as a colour wheel! To use our society's gendered stereotypes:

- some people are happily in the "blue" end
- some people are happily in the "pink" end
- some people are a mix of both colours (**Two-Spirit** or **genderqueer**)
- some people flit between colours (**genderfluid**)
- some people are outside of that wheel entirely (**non-binary, agender**)



One of the most common struggles that people outside the LGBTQ+ community express is that it's difficult to keep track of all the labels. Even queer cis people agree!

You're right! Language is constantly changing, and identity is a complex and extremely personal experience and journey.

The best thing to remember is: **you don't need to understand everything about someone's identity to show them respect.**



March 31st is Trans Day of Visibility. This day is dedicated to celebrating transgender people and their contributions to society, as well as raising awareness of discrimination faced by transgender people worldwide.

Trans folks face higher discrimination than any other population, and are one of the most targeted groups in hate crimes. Consider using your time, privilege, money, or voice to support the trans community in any way that you can.