



# Cliff Drive Elementary



You're off to great places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting, so...get on your way!

—Dr. Seuss—

## Principal's Message

### Farewell Messages

The atmosphere around the school is one of mixed emotions. There is much happiness as students and staff are thinking about their summer plans. However, the end of each school year also brings with it many changes and goodbyes.

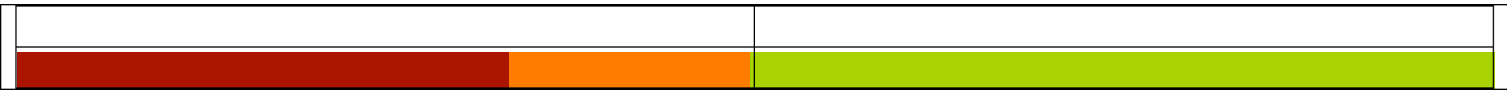
We bid farewell to the grade 7 class and we wish them all the best. We are proud of their individual and collective accomplishments in various academic subjects, arts, athletics and leadership service. This is a wonderful group of students who are more than ready to embrace the challenges and excitement of going on to high school.

We had a lovely farewell to grade 7 's at our assembly on Friday, followed by

a wonderful luncheon for our honored guests, hosted by the grade 7 parents. Thank you to all the parents, the grade 7 teachers, Madame Ramsbottom and Mrs. Gillis, and Education Assistants, Mrs. Hoskins and Mrs. Taylor, who all worked so hard to put together a memorable farewell. A special thank-you also goes out to Mr. Connaughton and his A/V student leaders for their technical support at the assembly.

As well, we bid farewell to three of our long-standing teachers at Cliff Drive, Mrs. Gillis, Mrs. Loiselle and Madame Ramsbottom. You leave us with powerful examples of the efforts committed teachers can make. Your time at Cliff Drive has left a lasting impact on our school community.

**Madame Ramsbottom** has been a Late French Immersion teacher at Cliff Drive for 5 years. She has accepted a District position as the French Coordinator. This position is a wonderful opportunity for Madame Ramsbottom to use her talents and skill in instructional leadership in her area of expertise. As a staff member she has initiated and organized many special events for students and teachers and has devoted a great deal of time to sharing her teaching practices with colleagues. She further extended herself and as a School Associate to student teachers. We will miss her smile, fun-loving attitude, outgoing personality and leadership in many areas of the school, but wish her well in her new position.



## We'll miss you

### Farewell

**Mrs. Loiselle**, our Teacher Librarian, has accepted a position as the Teacher Librarian at DSS. She has worked in various roles at Cliff Drive for ten years to increase her teaching assignment. She has been a thoughtful leader and role model in her time at our school demonstrating kindness, support and dedication when working with students, parents and staff. She is a treasured friend and colleague to many staff members. Mrs. Loiselle has devoted a great deal of time to building an outstanding library collection and skillfully made the library a welcoming place for all learners. Further, she has devoted countless hours of volunteer time and expertise to coaching extracurricular sports and served in the leadership capacity as Teacher In Charge and a First Aid Attendant.

**Mrs. Gillis** has decided to retire. She has taught all subjects in grades 2 to 7 since 1979, with a focus during the last 10 years on grades 7 and 6. She feels privileged for having taught at Cliff Drive her entire teaching career. It is hard to contemplate what our school will be like without her presence. We are grateful for her commitment to our school community and the rich collection of experiences she has shared so generously with students, parents, teachers and support staff alike. Mrs. Gillis's enthusiasm and passion for teaching has never disappeared.

We were very fortunate to have her produce and direct many plays over the years. She has taken great care and pride in leading each production and it was inspiring to be included in her vision and creative capacities.

She worked very hard in a coordinated manner with all the teachers, their students and support staff, to produce an essential theatrical experience for our students and parents to enjoy each year. We wish you a joyous and meaningful retirement Mrs. Gillis. Congratulations!

We are also saying goodbye to Mrs. Torok who has moved to Abbotsford. After taking an extended parental leave, she intends to secure a teaching position closer to home. Mrs. Alger who taught in Mrs. England's class on Tuesday afternoons, Mrs. Whiteley who worked in a jobshare assignment with Mrs. Emes, and Mrs. Viccars, our Itinerant Support Teacher are also leaving Cliff Drive. We are thankful for their commitment to our students and their learning. We wish them well in their new assignments.



Our appreciation is also extended to our **Education Assistants** Mrs. Hospes, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Birkeland, Mrs. Foucher and Mrs. Wilson. Their assignments at Cliff Drive end in June. Thanks to you from the students and teachers who have benefited from your hard work and positive support. We hope that as District staffing proceeds you will be reappointed to Cliff Drive.

**New Staff:**

I am pleased to announce the addition of some new staff. I know this community will embrace our new staff and it is our pleasure to welcome them to our school:

Grade 7 Late French Immersion teacher, **Ms. Annabelle Su** joining us from Devon Gardens Elementary where she held a position as the Grade 7 French Immersion teacher.

**Ms. Camille Hobbs** joining us from Chalmers Elementary. She will be teaching early primary.

**Ms. Caroline McCue-Davies** who will be sharing a teaching assignment with Mrs. Emes, working three days each week. Ms.

McCue-Davies is joining us from McCloskey Elementary.

**PAC Advisory Council Annual General Meeting**

Our last PAC meeting of the year included elections for the 2017-18 Executive. We have a wonderful start to next year's Executive. Thank you and congratulations to the elected PAC for the upcoming year.

*New PAC Executive for 2017-18 School Year:*

- Chair: Joanne Hoekstra
- Vice Chair: Diana Thompson
- Treasurer: Mirka Filc
- Secretary: Karen McWhirter.
- DPAC: Tracey Innes

*Members at Large:*

- Communications: Michelle Guppy
- Hot Lunch/LFI Contact/Spookfest: Minta Chan

If you would like to learn more about how the school is run and how parents support many programs and initiatives at the

school, the PAC is a great way to get involved. The next PAC meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm in the library.** Please come out and meet your new executive.

**2017-18 School Year – Extracurricular Band**

Extracurricular Band is being offered again next school year! The band program will run again by Karen Nakajima [karen.nakajima@gmail.com](mailto:karen.nakajima@gmail.com), a young and enthusiastic musician/music educator in Delta. Registration information is posted under 'News' on the school Website.





(Continued)



## Return to School in September!

The first day of school for 2017-18 is Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>  
Classes will be in session from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the first day

Classes will be in session from **9:00 – 12:00 noon on the first day of school.** Do not bring in any school supplies for the first few days of school with the exception of a pencil, pen and some paper. Although we make tentative class placements in June, changes from projected enrollment numbers can create staffing changes and require the classes to be organized once school has started in September. For this reason, students in Grades 1-7 will not go into their new classes until after the first few days, or possibly the first week of school. The plan is for most students to return to their “old” classroom and to use the same enter/exit doors for the first few days, or possibly the first week of school.

However, there are a couple of exceptions:

We ask that the previous Kindergarten students from Mrs. Janzen’s class and Kindergarten/Grade One students from Ms. Turik’s class meet Mrs. Gough and Mrs. Cooper outside in their usual enter/exit door and lineup. These students will work in the library and room 108 while the teachers are busy with the kindergarten gradual entry schedule.

*On behalf of the Staff of Cliff Drive Elementary, I would like to wish you a wonderful summer holiday, and we look forward to seeing you again in September.*

*Respectfully,*

*Mrs. Vikki Chapman, Principal and the Staff  
of Ecole Cliff Drive Elementary*