



# Quigley Elementary Quasars

September 2017

Wow – week one is already done! We want to thank parents, students and staff for such a smooth start up at Quigley Elementary. We have over thirty five new Kindergarten students and twenty five new grade 1 – 5 students, as well as eight new teachers, a new student support teacher, two new certified education assistants, a new administrative assistant and a new principal...that is a lot of new. Despite all the newness, we have really come together as a family to make sure that everyone is feeling safe, welcome and part of our community. We will continue to work on this sense of family throughout the school year. We appreciate you giving all of us newbies a chance to figure things out, make a few mistakes, honor the past successes of QGE and bring a few new ideas along. It is going to be a great year.

After reviewing our enrollment numbers on Tuesday afternoon, our staff decided to reorganize the classes (and all the hard work done in June) to create straight grades from K – 5. As a result of these changes we managed to get all the students into their new classes on Wednesday morning. Here is a list of the teachers and grades:

Dana Elder	Kindergarten
Carrie Yamaoka	Kindergarten
Shannon Ball	Gr 1
<b>Jessica Ashley</b>	Gr 1
<b>Kyla Knorr</b>	Gr 2
Briana Hokazono	Gr 2
<b>Dawn Buehner</b>	Gr 3
Tess Perry	Gr 3
<b>Kelly Shin</b>	Gr 3
<b>Annika Siemens</b>	Gr 4
Deanne White	Gr 4
<b>Alanna Brook</b>	Gr 5
<b>Quinten Dreger</b>	Gr 5
Benita Crombie	Learning Assistance / ELL
Rosie Stuart	Teacher Librarian / ELL
Ginger Roger	Music / PE
Carla Friesen	Counselor
<b>Tami Cameron</b>	Student Support Teacher

Christina Verhagen First Nations Advocate

We do have Parent-Teacher conferences scheduled for September 28-29, but we encourage you to take a few minutes to meet your child's teacher before these dates and open the communication channel. When we work together, teacher-parent-student, we can create pretty amazing learning opportunities for every child.

### **PAC Meeting**

Parents are an integral part of any great school. We have our first PAC meeting of the year on Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Library. This is a great opportunity to connect with other QGE parents and to meet the new Principal. The focus of our meetings is on helping set direction at QGE, discussing ideas / issues that impact our children's education, determining PAC budget priorities, and helping to organize services that make every day learning better for our students. We hope to see you there. As a motivator at our first meeting, Principal Sjoquist will be giving away a free car to one of the lucky attendees! Don't miss your chance.

We are also looking for volunteers to help assist us with our breakfast program, reading in classrooms, gardening in the courtyard, protecting our students as crossing guards on Hollywood Road, facilitating / organizing the exchange of winter clothes, organizing/running PAC special events and supporting fund-raising activities. If you are interested in helping with any of these opportunities, please send an email to [desmond.sjoquist@sd23.bc.ca](mailto:desmond.sjoquist@sd23.bc.ca) or drop by the office to chat.

### **Quigley Families in the News!**

We were very fortunate to be selected as the Traffic Safety School to kick off the school year. We had visits on the first day of school by several Board Trustees, Superintendent of Schools/CEO for SD 23, the RCMP, and our District Traffic Safety Officer. Our families did a great job (and continue to – thanks) dropping off and picking up students. It was great to see all of our bike riders wearing their helmets as well.

Don't forget speeding in a school zone is a minimum fine of \$196.00 and 3 penalty points.

Our Traffic Safety Officer Dave Gibson offered these tips:

- Never pass a bus from behind – or from either direction if you're on an undivided road – if it is stopped to load or unload children with its red warning lights flashing and its "Stop" sign extended;
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children so stop far enough back to allow them space to get off and on the bus safely;
- Be alert: children are often unpredictable, and they tend to forget hazards and perhaps take risks;
- When dropping off children at school, consider parking a couple of blocks away to relieve traffic congestion at school and get a little energizing exercise to start the day.



### **Photo Day**

We are scheduled to have our individual student photos taken on Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to have your child brush their hair in the morning before heading out the door!!!

### **Terry Fox Run**

QGE students, teachers and parents will take to the streets on September 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 am for the annual Terry Fox Run. The theme this year is 'Be Like Terry' and everyone is encouraged to wear red and white for the day. Our PAC has agreed to provide a treat for all participants. We are hoping each student can donate \$2.00 to the run so we can reach our goal of \$500.00! Watch for permission forms coming home soon.

### **Grade 5 Leadership Opportunities**

We want to thank our grade 5 students for volunteering to take on some leadership roles. We have students volunteering as lunch monitors in all of our primary classrooms, as radio broadcasters to help with our daily announcements, as guardians to lock up the bike racks, and as office monitors to help us in the office at lunch so our administrative assistants can actually get a chance to eat.

### **Parent-Teacher Interviews**

We look forward to meeting with many of our parents on Thursday, September 28 and Friday, September 29. We will be dismissing students at 12:30 on both days and teachers will be available to meet with you on either afternoon. Of course, you don't need to wait for interview times to chat with your child's teacher. We encourage you to contact your child's teacher any time you have a question or concern. Stay tuned for details about signing up for interview times.

### **School Supplies**

Fees for school supplies and cultural events can be paid online by visiting the school website and following the School Cash Online link (<https://centralokanagan.schoolcashionline.com/>). Fees this school year are as follows: Cultural Fees \$10.00 and School Supplies \$30.00. Please pay your fees by the end of September – your support enables us to create exceptional learning

opportunities. For families that may be struggling financially at this time, please feel free to contact the school Principal (Des Sjoquist) to make alternative payment plans as per the School Districts Financial Hardship clause (School District Regulation 425R – Student Fees see [www.sd23.bc.ca](http://www.sd23.bc.ca) ).

### **Absent from School**

One of the best indicators of future academic success, and a key life skill in the workforce, is excellent attendance. We need your child here at school in order to help them to learn most effectively. If for any reason your child is going to be absent or late, please call (250) 870-5134 and press "1". Leave a very brief message with your child's first and last name, teacher name and grade.

See you at the PAC meeting!

Des Sjoquist  
Principal

### **Important Dates**

**Tuesday, September 19** – Photo Day (Re-takes are on Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>)

**Thurs. & Fri., Sept 28/29** – Parent / Teacher Conferences (Early Dismissal 12:30 pm)

**Monday, October 2** – **SCHOOL FEES ARE DUE**, \$40.00 Payable online

**Friday, October 6** - Implementation Day (School Closed)

**Monday, October 9** - Thanksgiving Day (School Closed)

**Friday, October 20** - District Wide Pro-D Day (School Closed)