



Bench Elementary
1501 Cowichan Bay Road
Cowichan Bay, BC V0R 1N2
Telephone: 250.743.5552
Fax: 250.743.5807
Principal: Dani Garner

Dear Kindergarten Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Bench School! In September you and your child will be making the transition to Kindergarten. It is a memorable and important "milestone" and we are thrilled to be a part of that. This email is intended to familiarize you with the gradual entry process and thereby alleviate any stress and/or anxiety that may accompany this situation.

On Wednesday, September 7th and Thursday, September 8th, Mrs. Wardle, Mrs. Sheftel and Ms. Kinsley will be hosting 30-minute, small group interview sessions for parents to attend with their children. You and your child are scheduled to attend one of these. Attached is a schedule to allow you to plan for this well in advance.

During the small-group interview session, you and your child will have the opportunity to meet all three teachers. The children will be asked to complete a few simple tasks and activities with their new friends and will have time to engage in some play together.

This time will also serve as an opportunity for you to talk to teachers individually, and a time to share pertinent information about your child that will assist us with class placement for the upcoming school year. Class placement decisions will be made after these small group sessions. You will receive a phone call and an email on Thursday, September 8th, confirming your child's teacher along with the schedule for the following week. If numbers don't change drastically over the summer, Mrs. Wardle and Mrs. Sheftel will be teaching straight Kindergarten classes, and Ms. Kinsley will be teaching a Kindergarten/Grade One combined class

The following week will begin with two half days ~ one morning and one afternoon (September 12th and 13th). Your child will be scheduled for either a morning or an afternoon session on Monday, September 12th, and the opposite time slot for Tuesday, September 13th. Regular full-day Kindergarten will begin Wednesday, September 14th. Unless bussing times change, the school day is 8:26 am until 2:24 pm.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to call the office at 250-743-5552.

A hard copy of these notes will also be mailed out to all families this week.

Sincerely,

Karen Wardle, Laurie Sheftel and Gabriele Kinsley

