BUCKINGHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
6066 Buckingham Drive, Burnaby, BC V5E 2A4

September 3, 2026

Hello Kindergarten Families!

We are thrilled to begin this journey with your child and your family. The first day of kindergarten is a major milestone, filled with anticipation, curiosity, and countless opportunities for growth. Our team is eager to meet our newest learners and help them discover all the wonderful experiences that await them this year.

As exciting as this transition is, we also recognize that it can bring a range of emotions. For many children, kindergarten may be their first experience spending a full day away from family or entering a new environment with unfamiliar faces and routines. It is completely normal for students, and parents, to feel a mix of excitement, nervousness, pride, and even a few tears.

Please know that these feelings are a natural part of the process. Our teachers and staff are experienced in helping young children navigate this transition with patience, care, and encouragement. We will work to create a welcoming classroom community where every child feels safe, valued, and loved. Through consistent routines, engaging learning opportunities, and supportive relationships, we help children build confidence and independence each day.

You may have already received the school newsletter outlining plans for the first week back. *Please note that kindergarten students will follow a different schedule during this time.* Attached, you will find the gradual entry schedule indicating the **specific days and times your child will attend based on their assigned group.** As attendance times will vary throughout the week, we encourage you to review the schedule carefully to ensure your child arrives at the correct time each day. In addition, there are scheduled ***Welcoming Conversations*** *Tuesday September 8th, Wednesday September 9th, and Monday September 14th*. If you have **forgotten your time or need to schedule one, please reach out** to the school, **604-296-9004** or reply to my email and I can help schedule that for you.

During the gradual entry period, all students will have opportunities to learn, play, and interact with a variety of peers while our kindergarten team observes how each child learns, engages, and builds relationships. These observations help us make informed decisions about class placement for the school year.

It is important to remember that the students your child attends with during gradual entry may not necessarily be the students in their final kindergarten class. We appreciate your trust, patience, and understanding as we work to create balanced classroom communities that best support the learning and success of all students.

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Kindergarten is a year filled with remarkable growth. We will celebrate first friendships, emerging readers, budding mathematicians, creative thinkers, and problem-solvers. We are honored to

Thank you for entrusting us with your most precious gift. We look forward to building strong relationships with your family and making this a joyful, successful, and memorable kindergarten experience.

We can't wait to welcome our newest students through our doors!

Warmly,

Christina Coletta, Sarah Saunders and Tanja Steverding