



SEPTEMBER 2009

Whale Tales

TEXADA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

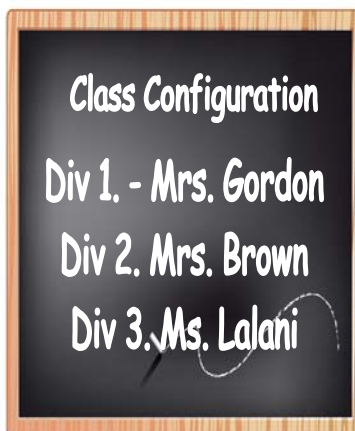


Welcome Back!

It was a great summer and we are already having a great year! We thought you might appreciate a mid-month newsletter just to get you going. Our regular monthly newsletter will be published after Assemblies so you may bask in the glory of student achievement. Newsletter Dates (barring any unexpected changes) are:

October 5	November 2	November 30	December 18
February 1	March 26	May 3	May 31

Class Configuration



As you know we re-configured our classes due to late and unexpected student changes. We continue to have three divisions:
Division 3 - Ms. Lalani, K-2 in the morning, K-3 in the afternoon
Division 2 - Mrs. Brown, Gr. 3/4 -in the morning
Division 1 - Mrs. Gordon, Gr.5/6/7 - in the morning, Gr. 4/5/6/7 in the afternoon

This configuration allows the delivery of core curriculum in the morning and the remainder of the curriculum in the afternoon. So far this has been a successful model and, as we branch out into more areas of PE, Art and Music, should allow us to provide a wide variety of activities for all students.

Logging and Mining Mural



We got the grant! After all those recent cuts I was pretty sure we would not be funded BUT we are. Art Starts has given us a \$1800 matching grant (we also have to supply \$1,800) to create a logging and mining mural on the outside wall of the Museum/Fine Arts Centre (aka Old School).

Dobie Dobrostanski has been accepted as our artist and we are about to finalize the project. Stay alert for news. This project will involve every student in the school.

Music



Denise Swan from The Academy of Music gave us a two day Orff workshop in August and inspired us to use all those instruments downstairs.

We will be teaching music in the afternoons and we hope to have a surprise for the Christmas Concert! Mrs Swan will be coming over seven times this term to do additional work with the staff and students.

Secretarial and Custodial Hours

With our declining enrolment we have lost some secretarial and custodial time.

Secretarial

Mrs. Garvin is available from 9:30 - 12:00 daily.

Mrs. Brown *may* be available in the afternoon.

Please leave a phone message if you call outside these hours.

Golf coming soon!

Your children may have urged you to make sure they are here on time lately because we play active games every morning for 15 minutes as soon as the opening bell sounds.

This is a very enjoyable and popular way to start each day and we are seeing results in the classroom as fully alert and cheerful students start the day.

We are investigating a Golf for Beginners program. A series of five lessons for Gr. 5/6/7 this term in, you guessed it, Golf!

Hopefully we will be able to work out ferry times.



Pancake Breakfast



As always the best pancakes in town with celebrity flippers on site. Chef Gordon whipped up her secret batter and Ron Arnold, Kevin Morris and Gord Brown flipped. Many pancakes, oranges, bananas and juice boxes were enjoyed and our new coffee urns actually produced good coffee on time. It was great!

Thanks to Louise Grayson, Lara Robertson, Monica Garvin and all the set up/clean up crew for a great job. Our sincere thanks to all the parents and community members who came out to the assembly and even more thanks to all our new volunteers - we have your names and we will contact you soon.

Mini Fun Day

On Friday, September 11th we all went out to Shelter Point for the afternoon and had a terrific Scavenger Hunt, Free Form Sculpture and Tug O' War afternoon.

As always our students had a terrific time playing and working together



Forms, Forms, Forms



Forms, Forms, Forms

There were a number of forms to fill out and we thank you for your support. They are all back in now and with 28 forms in by Friday, September 11, we awarded 2 800 House Points!

We are off to a rousing start in our House Team competition.

Attached to this newsletter you will find a yearly magnetic calendar for your fridge (or any where else - EXCEPT on a computer because magnets destroy computers) to help you stay on top of all our dates. A small Thank You for all your help and support



PAC Corner

Pac has had it's first meeting and has a new executive.

President: Sally Jarvis

Secretary: Monica Garvin

Treasurer: Louise Grayson

We have some fantastic new fundraising ideas including:

- A Raffle (look out for more information coming soon)
 - Magazine subscriptions
 - Bottle drive
 - Coin drive
 - Garbage-a-thon

Money raised this year will help with: swimming, curling, gymnastics, fun day, and of course the wall mural.

Hot lunch will be starting up again in early October. We can look forward to receiving the cookie list, with dates when each family will donate cookies for hot lunch. Please remember that cookies need to be healthy!

Our first "Share the Pen" lunch is on October 30th. Denise Hoyle has volunteered to prepare a very special lunch! Anyone who wishes to help Denise please give her a call!



October 2009



Sun

Mon



Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 Destination Imagination 9:00 to 11:30 am	2 Assembly	3
4 Parent Teacher Interviews Early Dismissal 1:30 Newsletter	5 Parent Teacher Interviews Early Dismissal 1:30 Newsletter	6	7 Parent Teacher Interviews Early Dismissal 1:30	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Picture Day TGIF 	17 Thanksgiving
18	19 Off	20	21	22	23 Pro-D No class	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Share the Pen All invited to lunch & Assembly! 	31 Happy Halloween 