

---

# TOMSETT NEWS

---

May 2023



It appears that the cold and dreary days of March and April are behind us. Things at school are very busy - third term usually is. We have track and field next week, Welcome to Kindergarten the following week and some class field trips this month. With eight weeks to go until summer holidays, we have lots to accomplish. Keep checking our school website and your kids' backpacks for other upcoming events.

## Tomsett Students Participate in Math Contest - Results

On Monday, May 2nd, forty interested Grade 3, 4, and 5 students participated in the Canadian Math League Grade 5 Math Contest. Students had 30 minutes to complete 30 multiple choice math questions.

Thank you to all the students for their hard work and participation. Congratulations to our top 5 finishers. They are:

1. Ivana Chen
2. Saranya Kommaraju
3. Levin Lau
4. Lily Hsia
5. Ivan Tong / Kirei Widodo

---

**Being on time is a  
life skill. We  
need your help  
to teach this to  
our kids.**

### Wednesday, September 6th Onward.....

We begin regular school hours (except for new K's) on Wednesday, September 6th. The hours are:

8:30am - Doors Open

8:40am - Warning Bell

8:45am - Classes Begin (students arriving after this are late)

10:10am - Recess

11:50am - Lunch

12:42pm - Classes Resume

2:45pm - Dismissal



Each year at this time, we begin to make school organization plans for September based upon the number of students we know are returning and new registrations. Before school ends in June, your child's current classroom teacher, resource staff, educational assistants and administration will work together to place students for the upcoming school year. These plans are tentative until the first week in September when final student numbers are known. In the first few days of September, all staff meet to confirm teaching assignments and review student placements.

In the organizational meetings, many factors are considered when placing students. Considerations include:

- **learning styles and strengths**
- **social / personal characteristics**
- **students with special needs**
- **ELL Levels**
- **age and physical maturity**
- **work habits**
- **male / female balance**
- **friendship groups**
- **contractual obligations**

As you can see, this is a complicated process, and this list is by no means exclusive, as there are many factors unique to a situation that must and will be taken into account.

If you would like the opportunity to provide the school with information about your child's placement for next year, you are welcome to **send a letter to the school office by Monday, May 30th**. The information you provide should **not include a request for a specific teacher**, but rather some important personal or educational information that will assist us in our decision. All information will be shared with the teacher(s) and will be taken into consideration. Please be aware that the final decision regarding placement needs to be a school-based decision.



## Here We “Grow” Again

You may recall that just a year ago, we had twelve divisions (classrooms) prior to our addition being built. This school year, we added four more divisions and increased our number to sixteen.

With construction continuing at unprecedented rates in Richmond’s City Centre, we are adding two more portable classrooms to the school (next to the two portables we have now) and will have **nineteen divisions** beginning in September 2023.

We are excited and pleased to be welcoming these new children and their

---

welcome to  
**KINDERGARTEN**

Our Welcome to Kindergarten event will take place on Thursday, May 18th. We have divided our new students into three welcoming groups and have sent invitations to all of our families. We look forward to seeing you / meeting you then.

# Farewell Old Friends



With the installation of our new portables at the back of the school, the Richmond Fire Department needs to be able to access this area in case of a fire. Over the summer, a new fire hydrant will be installed near the new portables and a new access lane will be put in on the west-side of the school. In order for this work to be accomplished, the tree in front of the school (pictured) and the tree to the west of the school will be removed. While we are sad to see these trees go, we understand that the safety of our students and our school remain our top priority and that their removal is necessary.

The tree in front of the school is especially pretty right now. We encourage you to come and take photos.



School District No. 38 (Richmond)

NOTICE OF LATE RETURN FORM – 2023/24  
(Due to Extenuating Circumstances)

This form is to be completed for any student(s) who expects to return to school  
LATER THAN 12:00 pm Wednesday, Sep. 6, 2023 AND ON or BEFORE Sep. 13, 2023

Please complete this form and return to the school principal before June 24, 2023. Please attach a letter that contains an explanation of the extenuating circumstances for returning late in September.

Student Last Name	Student First Name	Sept. Grade
-------------------	--------------------	-------------

Student Last Name	Student First Name	Sept. Grade
-------------------	--------------------	-------------

**THE DATE OF RETURN TO SCHOOL for my child(ren) will be:**

**Please note that being absent at the start of the school year has the following ramifications for students:**

1. Missed valuable instructional time, therefore missed valuable learning opportunities.
2. Missed valuable teacher and administrative explanations of expectations and routines for the course & school.
3. Missed valuable opportunities to make important social connections at the start of a school year.
4. If a student is not returning on or before September 13, 2023, a school cannot reserve a spot guaranteeing the ability to be enrolled in the school. There may be a need for placement at another school upon the students' late return.

**In conclusion, the reason for a late return should only be for extremely extenuating circumstances.**

In the event of an unforeseen critical family circumstance occurring on or after July 1, 2023 that causes an unexpected late return to the school, the parent must advise the school as soon as possible by email via the school website or by letter directed to the Principal.

School Email Address: Tomsett@sd38.bc.ca

School Website: <https://tomsett.sd38.bc.ca/>

**I understand that if my child does not return to school by September 13, 2023 they may lose their placement and may have to attend another school upon their late return.**

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

