



Friday, August 30, 2024

Dear Tomsett Families,

We hope you've had a wonderful summer and enjoyed time with family and friends in the beautiful sunshine. We look forward to reconnecting with you all next week and throughout this new school year.

**Welcome Back!**

Our staff are excited to welcome our students and families back to school. We welcome fifteen new staff to our already amazing group of dedicated professionals. The Office Team, Mrs. Lang and staff, and I have been in school all week getting ready to welcome our community back to school.

**Staff Updates**

We welcome the following staff to Tomsett. Please be sure to say hi and give a big Tomsett welcome to our new staff!

Division 3 → Ms. O' Leary

Division 5 → Ms. Nistor

Division 6 → Ms. Ewart

Division 10 → Ms. Macdonald

Division 12 → Ms. C. Wong

Division 13 → Ms. Htan

Division 15 → Ms. L. Chan

Division 16 → Ms. Co

Learning Resource Teacher → Ms. Halton

Learning Resource Teacher → Ms. K. Wong

Learning Resource Teacher → Mr. Rashid

Welcome Back from leave.

Division 4 → Ms. Hamm

Noon Hour Supervisors – Ms. Dancy and Ms. Hu

Custodian – R. Kaler

### First Day

All students in primary grades 1 – 3 students will attend school from 8:45 – 9:45; intermediate grades 4 - 7 will attend from 1 – 2 pm on Tuesday, September 3rd. Students return to their teacher and/classroom from last year. Our newest students our Kindergarteners will attend according to their gradual entry students. Please see important 1<sup>st</sup> Day of School Info below. New students please come to front door and go to the library, where our staff will give a tour and introduction to Tomsett and then place the students in temporary classes for the remainder of the week.

### Wednesday to Friday

Students will go to their old classes—see the list below—until Friday morning when we hope to move into classes with the district's approval.

Last year's Teacher	Go to room number	Supervising Teacher
<b>Primary</b>	<b>8:45 – 9:45 am</b>	
Mr. Kripps	Portable 4	Ms. Macdonald
Ms. Dodds	161	Ms. Dodds
Ms. Eguia/Ms. Bredefeld	125	Ms. Eguia/Ms. Bredefeld
Ms. So	121	Ms. So
Ms. Fong	123	Ms. Co
Ms. Bryne	160	Ms. Htan
Ms. Crozier	162	Ms. Crozier
Ms. Maclaren	150	Ms. G. Chan
Ms. Tham	159 pick up Portable 1	Ms. L. Chan
Ms. Nasiopoulos	154 pick up Portable 3	Ms. C. Wong
Ms. Sangha/Ms. Bredefeld	147 pick up in gym	Ms. Musil
New Primary students	Library	Ms. Parvez, Ms. Halton, Mr. Rashid, Ms. Ferreira

<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>1:00 – 2:00 pm</b>	
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Ms. Tillotson	156	Ms. Tillotson
Ms. Chee	126	Ms. Chee
Mr. Tham	Portable 2	Ms. O’Leary
Ms. Bautista	127	Ms. Hamm
Ms. Ferreira	Portable 5	Ms. Nistor
Ms. Chang	Portable 6	Ms. Ewart
Ms. Bahd	124	Ms. Bahd
Ms. Flewelling	117	Ms. Flewelling
New Intermediate Students	Library	

### **Meet My School**

Mark your calendars! On Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m., we welcome families to an open house to meet our staff. Classrooms will be open for families to visit and see their child’s learning space and meet our amazing Tomsett staff. At 6:30 we will meet in the gym for introductions.

### **Class Placements**

As a parent of three, I understand the first-week worries of parents and students. We request that families refrain from asking teachers or staff about their child’s new class placement – it puts staff in an awkward position as we keep this information confidential until it is ready to be shared. As a reminder, our classroom teachers and learning resource staff have spent countless hours developing learning communities for all our learners.

### **Our Doors are Open**

Our main entrance to the school is open for our community to enter the school. We ask that parents continue to make appointments, when possible, to meet with teachers.

Some classes will line up outside their classrooms and some classes will enter the school via the two outside rear doors. We ask that parents/guardians to please wait outside their student’s line-up door for their student. Please see the map on our school website, a *Classroom Pick Up/Drop off Guide Map*.

### **Lunch Time**

Our students eat first and then play outside. At lunchtime, students are supervised by our 4 Noon Hour Supervisors, who provide roaming supervision during eating time. We expect our students to demonstrate Tomsett Pride and honour themselves and others by sitting at their desks and eating their lunch. We ask that all students open their own containers. We will not be able to heat up any lunches in



microwaves. Students will eat from 11:50 – 12:10 and then go outside from 12:10 – 12:42.

### **Outside Playtime**

We have two outside playtimes: recess and lunch. Students go outside at 10:10 and at 12:10. All students go outside every recess and every lunch no matter the weather. Please send your child to school with appropriate clothing for the weather (e.g., Raincoats and boots). I saw a lot of Vessi's last year and can attest that yes, they are waterproof. Kids love to play in puddles and test how deep they can venture into them with their boots.

### **Student Health**

We continue to ask sick children to stay home. If your child is feeling sick in the morning before school, please keep them home. Following the guidance of Vancouver Coastal Health, we ask that students return to school after being symptom-free for 24 hours. We will continue to notify parents when their children need to be picked up when they feel sick at school. <https://www.vch.ca/en/when-should-i-keep-my-sick-child-home-school>

### **Cell Phones at School**

As per our District Code of Conduct and Provincial Expectations, we ask students to either keep cell phones at home or, if they must bring them to school, keep them away in backpacks for the entire school day and not carry phones in a pocket on the student's person. All communication between home and school must go through school staff. Please review these expectations with your child. We can access telephones at school, and students can call home when needed.

### **Driving to School and Parking**

We are welcoming almost 500 students to Tomsett this new school year. Almost all of our students reside in our catchment area. We ask that our students walk to school if at all possible. The first day of school is a perfect to start these new routines.

If families have any questions, please feel free to call us at school between 8 am and 4 pm.

Take care and enjoy the last days of summer.

With Gratitude

Ms. Wallace, Mrs. Lang and the Tomsett Staff

***Kirsten Wallace (she/her/hers)***

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*The Richmond Board of Education acknowledges and thanks the First Peoples of the hən̓q̓əmiñəm language group on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live.*

