



## ÉCOLE ARBUTUS GLOBAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

### **AVALANCHE WEEK** September 3-6, 2019

As part of the transition back to school we have planned a variety of engaging events and activities for the first week back that all relate to our nickname **The Arbutus Avalanche**. This is designed to be a fun way for students to begin school and meet new friends, while they wait for the final organization of class lists for the year. (Hopefully students will be in their new classes by Friday, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> or Monday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>.)

***We are the Avalanche! – passions, challenge, connections and support***

<b>Classroom Assignments:</b>	<p>On the first day of school, your child's <u>temporary classroom placement for the first few days will be posted outside the entrance</u> of the school on portable boards. Grade six students, and all <b>new</b> students, will gather in the gym. Returning grade seven and eight students will move directly to their temporary rooms. Mixed groups of English and French students will spend the first few days of the year together in temporary groups during <b>Avalanche Week</b>. Classes should be finalized the end of the first week.</p>
<b>School Supplies:</b>	<p>Supply lists are available on the school website. The direct link is:  <a href="#">Supplies - Arbutus Global Middle School</a></p>
<b>Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<p><b>9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.:</b> Students gather outside the main entrance and will enter the building when the bell rings at 9:30 a.m. Students should bring a pen, some paper, and a small snack. We know students will be excited to get back to school, but we ask that they not arrive too early or enter the building before the bell goes.</p> <p><u>Grade 6 students and all new students:</u> At 9:30 a.m., report to the gym.  <u>Grade 7's:</u> At 9:30 a.m., go directly to your temporary grade 7 class.  <u>Grade 8's:</u> At 9:30 a.m., go directly to your temporary grade 8 class.  <b>International students</b> and your home stay parent please report to the office at 9:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Welcome Café:</b> New parents to Arbutus Global are invited to join the PAC in the Cafeteria for coffee at 9:30 a.m. on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.</p> <p>Students will be dismissed at <b>11:30 a.m.</b> They will leave from the gym.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Students will not return to school that afternoon.</b></p>
<b>Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>8:30 a.m.</b> Warning bell rings. Students may enter the building.  <b>8:35 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.</b> Regular daily schedule – full day.</p> <p>Students should bring their school supplies, snack and lunch today. Students are encouraged to bring healthy foods to school.</p> <p><b>New students</b> pay a one-time deposit for text books and a one-time fee for locks; a form will be included in the student pack-up that goes home in early September. Please, <b>no</b> private locks.</p>
<b>Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup> &amp; Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>8:30 a.m.</b> Warning bell rings. Students may enter the building.  <b>8:35 a.m.</b> Students should be in class with their supplies, ready to learn.  <b>8:35 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.</b> Regular hours now in place for the year (see on next page).</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> We will make every effort to have our students placed in their permanent classes by Friday morning.</p>

<b>School Hours:</b>	<p>School hours for the 2019-2020 school year will be:</p> <p><b>Warning bell</b> <b>8:30 a.m.</b></p> <p><b>Monday – Friday daily schedule</b> <b>8:35 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.</b></p> <p>Lunch 11:51 a.m. – 12:36 p.m. (Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri.) 11:54 a.m. - 12:39 p.m. (Thurs.)</p>										
<b>Lunches &amp; Snacks</b>	<p>We recycle and compost at school. In fact, we only have one garbage can inside the school. We are an environment friendly school with the goal of no garbage. <b>Pack it In – Pack it Out:</b> Please send foods in reusable containers, metal water bottles, cloth lunch bags, etc. We also ask students to take home any garbage and snack/lunch wrappers.</p>										
<b>Personal Devices</b>	<p>We are a <b>Bring Your Own Device School</b> – students may have their phones or tablets at school <u>for educational purposes</u>. Some teachers have students use their own phones or tablets in class for research or uploading assessments, and some teachers do not (they use school-owned sets instead). Each teacher will let students know what their classroom policy is.</p> <p>Students are not permitted to take their personal devices (phones, tablets) outside, so they will maximize their physical activity and socializing time on their Nutrition Break and Lunch Break. We ask students not to have devices out in the hallways between classes for safety and social reasons as well.</p> <p>To minimize disruptions to learning, we also ask that parents do not text or call students on their phones during the day until after 2:45 pm. In case of an emergency, where students need to be contacted, parents are asked to call the Office at 250-477-1878. We realize that some families use personal devices to stay in touch while children go to and from school but want students to be able to focus on school and their learning during the school day. Our main goal is to help students learn to use modern technology in a balanced and healthy manner that supports their learning.</p> <p>We appreciate your support at home in furthering this cause.</p>										
<b>Leaving Staff:</b>	<p>We would like to recognize and thank the following staff that are leaving positions at Arbutus Global and wish them all the best in their new positions:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><b>Mr. Tymoshuck</b></td> <td><b>Mrs. Doyle</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Ms. Sonia (Counsellor)</b></td> <td><b>Mr. Clarke</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Ms. Parker</b></td> <td><b>Mr. St. Jacques</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>Mrs. Weist is taking a one year leave and we look forward to her return in September 2020. Congratulations to our long-time Custodian, Rhonda, and to our Speech &amp; Language Pathologist, Bernice Higgins, on their retirements.</p> <p>The hiring process continues this summer and we will be welcoming and introducing new staff in September at our Meet the Teacher Night at 7 pm on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>.</p>	<b>Mr. Tymoshuck</b>	<b>Mrs. Doyle</b>	<b>Ms. Sonia (Counsellor)</b>	<b>Mr. Clarke</b>	<b>Ms. Parker</b>	<b>Mr. St. Jacques</b>				
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<b>Other School-Wide Events in September:</b>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Sept. 5</td> <td>Instrument Rental Night: 4 - 6 pm in Cafeteria</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sept. 6</td> <td>Whole school goes to Gyro Park for beach clean-up and picnic</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sept. 23</td> <td>Professional Development Day (<i>no school for students</i>)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sept. 17</td> <td>PAC BBQ at 6 pm, <i>Meet the Teacher Night</i> for all Arbutus families at 7 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sept. 18</td> <td>Photo Day (individual)</td> </tr> </table> <p>Finally, we are very excited about welcoming all students back to be part of the Avalanche Team, and know it will be another engaging and active school year in 2019-20. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns prior to the start of school (Office open August 26 - 30, 2019).</p> <p>Have a safe and fun summer!</p> <p>Rob Parker, Principal <span style="float: right;">Aaron Maxwell, Vice Principal</span></p>	Sept. 5	Instrument Rental Night: 4 - 6 pm in Cafeteria	Sept. 6	Whole school goes to Gyro Park for beach clean-up and picnic	Sept. 23	Professional Development Day ( <i>no school for students</i> )	Sept. 17	PAC BBQ at 6 pm, <i>Meet the Teacher Night</i> for all Arbutus families at 7 pm	Sept. 18	Photo Day (individual)
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