



BC CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

CHRIST | COMPASSION | COMMUNITY

August 17, 2021

Dear BCCA Families,

Middle School Summer Mail-Out, SY 2021 – 2022

Hello and welcome to BC Christian Academy Middle School.

After months of sunshine, heatwaves, smoke, and sunshine again, it's time to turn our heads to the new academic year, an exciting year, that marks the beginning of BCCA's Middle School program. Around campus, construction projects are coming to a close with many of the office area being relocated to office trailers to make way for another classroom, and our new Middle School. Office staff, administration, and our teachers are preparing for students to return. September 7th, our first day of school is just around the corner. My wife and I have enjoyed the beauty of our province this summer traveling through the Okanagan, Vancouver Island, and the Sunshine coast. I am rejuvenated and eager to begin the Middle School program.

Our God has faithfully provided for our needs throughout our past, and we look forward to His continued provisional care in BCCA's 30th year of providing Christian education to the Tri-Cities community. I am writing to put a few important reminders on your radar for the start of school, including:

Middle School Theme

Making an Impact is our Middle School theme for this school year. *Making an Impact* has its foundation in Scripture (Gen. 2:15; Jer. 29:7; 1Pet. 2:12; 4:10-11), and the BCCA Vision Statement: ***Equipping students to impact the world for Jesus***. Our LORD calls us to influence individuals, communities and the creation by being His light and salt. Our prayer is that ***Making an Impact*** will enable the middle school students to be Christ's Ambassadors in all areas of their lives.

MS Teachers

Our LORD provides abundantly for all of our needs, and He has blessed us with a wonderful teaching staff. Our Middle School team members are Mrs. Odette Lombard (Grade 5), Miss Anne-Marie Chamberlain (Grade 6), Mr. Andrew Westerveld (Grade 6/7), Mr. Joe Brandsma (Grade 7), Mr. Michael Potopaev (Grade 8), Mrs. Elizabeth Dol (French), Mrs. Kathy King (Art), Mrs. Ivy Lisik (Music), and Mr. James McLachlan (Woods). We are so thankful to begin our Middle School program with this team of gifted and Godly teachers who are excited to work with students in the middle, and partner with parents in providing a rich Christian education.

MS Handbook

A separate Middle School handbook has been developed over the summer and will be available soon on the school website. The handbook is your family's reference tool, in partnering with BC Christian Academy in providing a Christ-centred education for students in the Middle School.

Terms and Daily Schedule

Middle School students receive report cards four times a year (November, February, April, and June.) The November and April report cards are informal and will be followed by parent conferences. The February and June report cards are formal reports. Interim reports may be issued at any time when requested by a parent or a middle school teacher and can be printed out on MyEdBC.

bcchristianacademy.ca | office@bccaschool.ca

Elementary School Campus | 1019 Fernwood Ave. Port Coquitlam BC V3B 5A8 | 604.941.8426
High School Campus | 3000 Christmas Way Coquitlam BC V3C 2M2 | 778.819.8534



BC CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

The Daily Schedule:

- 8:15 Grade 5-8 Students line up outside of their classrooms
- 8:30 Teachers welcome students to their homeroom classrooms
- 8:35 The school day begins
- 10:20 Twenty-minute recess
- 12:10 Fifty-minute lunch break
- 3:00 End of the school day, students are dismissed

Fridays - Students are dismissed at 12:35

School Computers

All middle school students will have a computer to be used for school work. Computers are available for purchase from the IT Office and are managed by the school.

Formational Learning Experiences - FLEx

The middle school program includes a variety of FLEx subjects that the students take. Students will be provided with several choices of FLEx classes including Art, Christian Doctrine, Digital Literacy, Foods, Technology, Textiles, and Yearbook. FLEx time is Wednesday afternoons from 2-3 PM. Grade 7 and 8 students will also be taught Woods during first or third term at the high school campus.

PE and Athletics

We are blessed this year to be able to use the new Panther Hoops athletic facility for our PE program. One PE class per week will be held in our gym and the middle school students will be bussed to the Panther Hoops facility for the other class.

As of this writing BC School Sports remains in stage two of the COVID protocol in September. That means there will not be any inter-school competition allowed as we begin this school year. We will run intra-school activities and through the club programs Cougars Volleyball for middle school girls and Panther Hoops for middle school boys.

Relaxed COVID Protocols

Parents are expected to continue the vigilant practice of assessing their children's health before school each day and keeping them home if there is any sign of illness (cough, runny nose, temperature, stomach ache, vomiting, etc.) Reporting on BLOOMZ will no longer be required. Children who become sick while at school will be isolated until the parent or guardian arrives to pick up the child. It is imperative that you ensure the School has correct phone numbers for your emergency contacts on file with the Office in the event you are not able to return to the school on short notice. While we have not received notification from the Ministry of Education and the Fraser Health Authority about specifics at the time of the writing of this letter, we understand that mask-wearing will be optional for those staff and students who prefer to use one. Increased hand hygiene will continue to be practiced each day.

COVID Vaccine

While vaccines have been actively promoted across our country, they have not been mandated for school staff and/or children. Therefore, BCCA will not discriminate against any child, parent or staff member who has chosen to decline the vaccine. A friendly reminder - All medical information is private and indeed protected under the Protection of Privacy Act. As such, asking someone if he/she has been vaccinated contravenes the Act. Please be considerate of your neighbour's medical privacy.

Uniforms

Students are to be in full uniform as of the first day of school. This means the proper clothing and attire from NEAT Uniform (the uniform store.) Please remind your child(ren) that hair and jewelry need to be in accordance to the Student Uniform Code as well. Uniforms must be in clean condition each day, and kindly send a note of explanation with your child if there is an irregularity one day. As with all matters relating to appearances, our guiding principles are clean, modest, and appropriate. Please refer to the



BC CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

uniform code if you have any questions. We will be issuing uniform infractions as reminders and we will follow through to ensure all students are in compliance with the Student Uniform Code.

Hot Lunches

Grade 5-8 students will be permitted to use classroom microwave ovens. Another great option for hot food (as we found out during last year's COVID restrictions) is to use thermos containers. We are planning to invite the Lunch Lady back to offer a wide selection of healthy, hot lunches as this has been a popular program in past years.

MS Retreat

The middle school will be going on a retreat at Camp Luther on September 30 and October 1. This is an overnight retreat for grades 6-8 and the grade 5 class will join the retreat for the second day. On the first day the grade 6 through 8 students will focus on *Making an Impact* and participate in developing servant-leadership activities that enhance the middle school community. The grade 5 students will be joining the grade 6-8 students on October 1 to develop personal and middle school community-wide learning goals centred on *Making an Impact*.

Servant Leadership Opportunities

Middle School students will be given opportunities to learn to serve community as Junior Indoor Recess Supervisors, Crosswalk Monitors, Middle School Librarians, and for those who demonstrate spiritual maturity, opportunities to share devotionals/testimonies for Elementary Chapels.

Class Lists

The class lists will be published by the School Office on Friday, September 3. Serious thought, prayer and multiple necessary considerations by our educational staff drive all these decisions. We make a sincere effort to ensure that each child has at least one friend in the same class as them. Kindly be aware that, according to school policy, we cannot accept special requests for placement with a certain teacher or classmates.

Fernwood Traffic

Please comply with all our traffic safety routines at all times.

- One-way traffic enters at Oakdale off Lincoln, exits at Evergreen.
- 30km/hr in the school zone and 10km/hr directly in front of the school.
- Drop-off and pick-up allows for a 1-minute stay at the curb with no exceptions.
- If your child is not ready to jump into the car within 60 seconds of your arrival you must drive around the block to keep our traffic moving.
- Please encourage your passengers to get in and out on the curb side of the car.
- Please be kind and considerate to the Traffic Volunteers who help us out.
- For Grades K-2, parents are to park on Oakdale, Evergreen, Lincoln or Killarney.

PLEASE ALWAYS SHOW UTMOST RESPECT FOR OUR NEIGHBOURS BY CAREFULLY FOLLOWING ALL THE RULES OF THE ROAD. Never block driveways or speed. Park in the direction of the flow of traffic. Courteously pull over and let oncoming traffic through if they happen to appear during our school rush hours.

Please feel free to reach out to me or my colleagues with any questions. We are looking forward to students returning to campus and to a fantastic year in the middle! It is exciting to partner with you this year in educating your middle schooler to wholeheartedly live for Jesus.

Mr. Tony Bylenga
Middle School Principal