



# Redhawk

RELEASE

August 2023

Issue # 1

## Message From Your New Principal

Welcome back, Redhawks! If you are new to DW Poppy Secondary, then we would like to welcome you to our school community!

We work together closely with our feeder schools: Peterson Rd., Wix Brown, Fort Langley, North Otter, and Coghlan Elementary schools. Together, we provide our students with strong community values while helping them reach their full potential.

DW Poppy takes pride in its long-standing traditions and provides strong academic, elective, and extracurricular programming within a linear and semester schedule.

We have a strong commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. In partnership with families and the community, we strive to create a school where differences are celebrated, barriers are dismantled, and unity is forged through understanding.

DW Poppy is also about students exploring and pursuing their passions. It is our goal that all students find a place at school where they feel a sense of connection and where their talents flourish. We encourage students to take advantage of the many opportunities provided through innovative elective courses, athletics teams, fine arts, and school clubs. It is through these shared experiences that students discover their strengths, build friendships, and strengthen their connection to their learning and our school.

We are excited about the upcoming school year, and we look forward to connecting with students and families!



Jonathan Harris  
Proud Principal  
DW Poppy Secondary School

## Upcoming Events

Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>  
Grade 8s Only (12:30-3:05pm)

Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>  
ALL Students (8:55am-3:05pm)

Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>  
School Photo Day

Sept 12-16<sup>th</sup> - Spirit Week

Monday, Sept. 18 (6-8pm)  
Post-Secondary Mini Fair  
Grades 10-12

Monday, Sept 18<sup>th</sup> (6-7pm)  
Grade 12 Parent Meeting

Tuesday, Sept 19<sup>th</sup>  
Grade 8 Parent Meeting – 6pm  
Music Parent Meeting – 7pm

Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>  
Terry Fox Run

Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>  
Orange Shirt Day

Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Truth and Reconciliation Day  
(School Not In Session)

Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>  
World Teachers Day

Friday, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>  
School Improvement Day  
(No Students In Attendance)





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## Course Change Requests

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Student timetables are available to view on MyEdBC. If you are having trouble accessing your MyEd account, please contact Ms. Heyes at [eheyes@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:eheyes@sd35.bc.ca)

Counsellors will be processing course change requests through the online form. The form is now open and will close on **Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**. We will not be processing requests over the phone or by email.

Please note that not all requests are able to be completed as many courses are currently full. The priority for completing course requests will be as follows:

1. You do not have a complete timetable (8 courses).
2. You are missing graduation requirements or post-secondary admission requirements.
3. You have already completed a course on your timetable or you did not complete the pre-requisite course.
4. You wish to change your elective courses.

Please use this link to submit your course change request:

<https://forms.office.com/r/1BmqMp3wQG>

**Please note: Timetables may have changed over the past week due to an increase in enrollment and the need to balance classes. Please check MyEd on the first day of classes to see your most updated schedule.**

**Counsellors are working to process course change requests, but many will not be possible. The main priority is to make sure all students have a complete timetable with all required classes. Please submit requests ONLY through the online form. Counsellors will not be meeting with students or parents or taking requests by phone/email/TEAMS.**

Thank you,  
Ms. Blount & Ms. Dennison

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## Transportation for First Day (Grade 8)

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Grade 8 students who take the bus, should keep an eye out for an email from the District Transportation Department which will tell you your pick-up time. Arrival to the school on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> will be for our Grades 8s only and will be arriving between 12:00-12:30pm. Please see the September 5<sup>th</sup> schedule below.



## First Week's Schedule

Please see the schedule of the first week below:

<b><u>THE FIRST WEEK</u></b>	
<b><u>Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <b>Gr 8 Students Only</b>	<b>Home Room Lists posted in Front Foyer</b>  Grade 8s Arrive (bus drop-off) - 12:30pm Grade 8 Homeroom Orientation - 12:30-2:00pm Grade 8 Welcome: Dramnasium - 2:00-2:30pm Grade 8 Group & Staff Photo - 2:30-3:00 pm (tennis courts) Grade 8s Dismissed (Bus Pick-up – 3:05pm)
<b><u>Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <b>ALL STUDENTS (Gr. 8-12)</b>  Homeroom lists will be posted in the front foyer	Warning Bell - 8:50am Homeroom - 8:55-9:30am Block A2 - 9:35-10:45am Block B2 - 10:50-12:00pm Lunch - 12:00-12:35pm Block C2 - 12:40-1:50pm Block D2 - 1:55-3:05pm Dismissal - 3:05pm
<b><u>Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup></u></b>	Homeroom - 8:55-9:00am Block C1- 9:00-10:10am Tutorial (C1) - 10:10-10:45am Block D1 - 10:50-12:00pm Lunch - 12:00-12:35pm Block A1 - 12:40-1:50pm Block B1 - 1:55-3:05pm
<b><u>Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup></u></b>	Homeroom - 8:55-9:00am Block D2 - 9:00-10:10am Tutorial (D2) - 10:10-10:45am Block C2 - 10:50-12:00pm Lunch - 12:00-12:35pm Block B2 - 12:40-1:50pm Block A2 - 1:55-3:05pm
<b><u>Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <b>PHOTO DAY!</b>	Homeroom - 8:55-9:00am Block A1 - 9:00-10:10am Tutorial (A1) - 10:10-10:45am Block B1 - 10:50-12:00pm Lunch - 12:00-12:35pm Block C1 - 12:40-1:50pm Block D1 - 1:55-3:05pm



<b><u>Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup></u></b>	Homeroom - 8:55-9:00am Block B2 - 9:00-10:25am (Grade 9/10 Assembly) Block A2 - 10:30-12:00pm (Grade 11/12 Assembly) Lunch - 12:00-12:35pm Block D2 - 12:40-1:50pm Block C2 - 1:55-3:05pm
<b><u>Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup></u></b>	<b>Homeroom (Attendance/Locker Distribution) - 8:55-9:30am</b> Block B2 - 9:35-10:45am Block A2 - 10:50-12:00pm Lunch - 12:00-12:35pm Block D2 - 12:40-1:50pm Block C2 - 1:55-3:05pm

## School Fees

Every year, there are fees payable to the school for different items, including student fees, grad fees, donation items, any athletics related items, workbooks, etc. The Langley School District uses an online system to collect these fees as it is user friendly and saves students from having to carry cash. Please go online at <https://schoolcashionline.com/> to register your child(ren). You will get an email notification any time a new "item" is available for purchase and the first item you will see are the student fees for the coming year. Please email Mrs. Bezanson at [mbezanson@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:mbezanson@sd35.bc.ca) if you have any questions regarding school cash online or school fees.

## Bell Schedule

Please note the **Bell Schedule** below:

BELL	SCHEDULE	M	T	W	Th	F
<b>Welcome</b>	<b>8:50</b>	Day 1/2	Day 2/1	Day 1/2	Day 2/1	Day 1/2
Period 1	8:55 – 10:05	A	B	ABCD	C	D
MTSS	10:10 – 10:45	Tutorial	Tutorial	Tutorial	Tutorial	Tutorial
Period 2	10:50 – 12:00	B	A	BADC	D	C
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>12:00 – 12:35</b>					
Period 3	12:40 – 1:50	C	D	CDAB	A	B
Period 4	1:55 – 3:05	D	C	DCBA	B	A

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## Tutorial Time

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Tutorial is instructional time built into the DW Poppy daily schedule that supports students' learning. During tutorial time, students may choose to meet with teachers for support within their timetable or work in areas of passion to extend their learning. Tutorial time (Multi-Tiered Student Supports, or MTSS) is scheduled every day for 35 minutes.

<b>Welcoming Bell</b>	<b>8:50</b>
Period 1	8:55 -10:05
<b>Tutorial</b>	<b>10:10 – 10:45</b>
Period 2	10:50 – 12:00
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>12:00 – 12:35</b>
Period 3	12:40 – 1:50
Period 4	1:55 – 3:05

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## Parent Consent Request

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Each year, Langley Schools asks families to complete a set of parent consent forms for their child. These consent forms are required by our schools to ensure the health, safety, and security of all students. Langley Schools uses a secure web form to collect this information. Beginning mid-September, please watch for an email request (subject Parent Consent Request) that contains one link for you to submit consents for all children in your family attending any Langley School. If your email address or contact information has changed, please call your school to correct it in our files. If you have not received an email regarding Parent Consent Request by the end of the month or have any questions/concerns, please contact your school administrator.

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## Support for Students

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### Learning Commons

DW Poppy's Learning Commons has a collection of print and non-print materials and Technology resources. In addition to library skills, our Learning Commons teacher, Grace Li, cooperatively plans and teaches units with classroom teachers. Ms. Li manages the learning commons, technology, provides lunch-hour access, holds book exchanges, interactive author visits, and provides instructional opportunities.

### School Counselors

DW Poppy Secondary has two school counselors, Ms. Blount and Ms. Dennison, who are available to help students with their course selections, timetable, grad requirements, post-secondary information, and provide social emotional support. Students are assigned to the school counsellor based on their last name.



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## **Resource Teachers**

If your child has a Ministry Designation, a Resource Teacher will be working with your family to formulate and support any IEP goals and to create a wrap-around support model.

## **School Based Team (SBT)**

Each month, the Resource Department chairs a meeting which includes teachers, an administrator, and School District support staff. Meetings are scheduled to discuss the needs of individual students as referred by teachers, and to brainstorm suggestions for their support.

## **English Language Learner Support (ELL)**

ELL support teachers work with students for whom English is their second language. Our ELL teachers are experts in English language acquisition and provide supports for all levels of ELL development.

## **Aboriginal Support Worker**

Our Aboriginal Support Worker, Sheila Jack, is available to provide Aboriginal students with academic and cultural support.

## **Youth Care Worker**

Our Youth Care Worker, Genille Headley, provides support to both students and families. YCWs help students build connections, support social and emotional growth, find creative ways of correcting challenging student behaviors, and will help families with community supports.

## **The Role of Parents (PAC)**

Many hands make light work, and the PAC is an integral support structure that works alongside the school administrators to positively impact students and the school culture. The PAC applies for necessary provincial government grants, assists with fundraising, and implements a plan of how to best financially support classroom learning. Parents who would like to get involved with the PAC, please email [popypacsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:popypacsecretary@gmail.com).

## **PAC Executive**

Kim Leifso: Co-President  
Sandra Young: Co-President  
Jana Hikichi: Treasurer  
Tyree Buchanan: Secretary



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## **Culture of Care**

We understand that our students will learn more effectively when they feel genuinely connected to the school culture. Our staff work hard to support and engage students academically, socially, and emotionally while providing opportunities for personalized learning. We encourage you to continue to be involved in your child's educational journey and we look forward to partnering with you!

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## **Calendar**

Students use "My School Day" App to help keep organized with block orders and the school calendar. Check it out under "Student Life" on our website. Homeroom teachers will help students navigate this App as it is a tool that all students are encouraged to use.

[Click here for District Calendar 2023-24](#)

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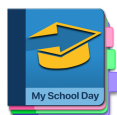
## **Staying Connected - Communication Tools**

Good communication between home and school is critical to ensuring student success. We have a few structures in place to help share information. In order to stay informed, please be sure you use the following online methods.

**Redhawk Release:** Good communication between home and school is a critical factor in student success. We encourage parents to read the monthly newsletter "Redhawk Release" and pay close attention to school emails for important information. We welcome your involvement, and your suggestions.

### **SchoolMessenger**

The Langley School District uses a notification system called SchoolMessenger to communicate information to families. As we welcome our new families to our schools, some parents/guardians may receive a text message notifying them about SchoolMessenger. For more information about the system and how to opt-in to receive text messages, visit the District webpage [here](#).



My School Day - [Click here](#)



Website: <https://dwps.sd35.bc.ca>





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### Follow Us On:



Instagram: @dwpoppysecondary



Facebook: @DW Poppy Secondary Parent & Guardian Page

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## DW Poppy Secondary Student Expectations

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At DW Poppy Secondary, we maintain high expectations for our students and expect the best. We want our students to be able to empathize with others and have the moral courage to make the right decisions. We are confident our parents will partner with us in using Restorative Action, where all adults in our school community establish and reinforce clear expectations. Please refer to the District Code of Conduct on our school website or [click here](#).

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## Breakfast Program

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A breakfast program will run every morning for students who wish to participate. Support staff will be there to cook breakfast and assist students. Our start-up date will most likely be **Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>** but we will keep you posted.

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## Lunch Break

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Lunch break is 35 minutes. We offer a cafeteria service and students can choose to eat lunch outside, on the hallway benches, or in the cafeteria. Students are to be respectful of our neighbours and it is expected that students will clean-up after themselves. Intramurals or club activities may also take place during the lunch break. We encourage students to get involved in the fun!

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## School Supplies

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Please come prepared every day with basic supplies such as a 3-ring binder, dividers, loose leaf paper, pens, pencils, and a calculator. Individual teachers will advise students of any special supplies required for their courses.

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## Personal Technology

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There have been ongoing discussions around the use of personal technology (Cellphones, iPads etc.). Our policy is that students use personal devices with responsibility and under the direction of the classroom teacher while respecting the integrity of the classroom instruction.





Individual teachers will set their own guidelines for technology usage in the classroom. Depending on the activity or assignment, this could change frequently. Students are encouraged to organize and record their homework electronically and to use the school calendar app for the block order.

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## Lockers and Locks

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Lockers are assigned by the homeroom teacher and are located near each student's homeroom class. School locks are on the lockers. Personal locks are not to be used and will be removed. It is advised not to share your combination with others but register it with your homeroom teacher who can help if needed. **Please note that lockers will be assigned to grade 8's on Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> and grades 9-12 on Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>.**

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## Illness/Absence

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It is always best to keep sick children home from school. If a student is away for an extended amount of time, please contact their teachers to arrange for work that they can complete at home or on TEAMS.

DW Poppy has an automated system to contact the home of every student who is absent to inform parents of their child's absence. Please contact the school at **604-530-2151** or by email at [dwpattendance@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:dwpattendance@sd35.bc.ca) to avoid the automatic call and help inform us of any absences. This not only saves us from making an unnecessary call, but if there are students who need our help, it helps us to identify them faster.

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## Fair Notice – Response to Threat Making Behaviour

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DW Poppy Secondary is committed to a safe and supportive environment for all. We take all threatening comments and behaviours seriously. Students, staff and parents should be aware of the District's Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol that can be found on the district website by clicking [here](#).

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## Student Life and Extra Curricular

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### **ATHLETICS**

Poppy Redhawks Athletics had another strong year in 2022/2023. Several programs were offered, and many teams competed at the highest level in the province. This year, we saw another strong finish by the Sr. Girls Rugby team which placed second overall, and it saw many players selected to Team BC and one to Team Canada. Track and Field also saw one of their members (Damion) compete at the BC Track Provincials. Among other highlights Jack McEwan was in the spotlight for wrestling with his incredible gold finish at the Canadian National Championships. We are eagerly anticipating another remarkable year of school sports here at DW Poppy! The upcoming season commences with a variety of fall sports, including volleyball, cross-country, swimming, and boys' soccer. Students keen on participating in



athletics are encouraged to watch the Athletics Information Board adjacent to the main gym. This board will provide details about upcoming meetings and try-outs.

We will continue to offer a variety of Redhawks Athletics merchandise online this year. This will be accessible to all students and their families. The store's openings will coincide with each season of play, lasting two weeks at a time. The store will be open once in the Fall and in the Winter. To order Redhawks swag you can access the store via this link once we have opened our sales. <https://www.prostockathleticsupply.com/collections/dw-poppy-online-store>

This year we will continue with mandatory game-day t-shirts for all student-athletes representing a school team. This shirt is required to be worn on game-days. The uniform shirt will remain consistent across all teams, making it a one-time purchase for multi-sport athletes. Once team rosters are finalized, athletic fees including the shirt fee (\$25) will be listed on your child's SchoolCashOnline account. Shirts can then be collected from the Physical and Health Education (PHE) office upon presenting the receipt. Game day shirts will be the same as last year, so if your child has one already, they will not need to purchase another one.

Athletics serves as an excellent conduit to forge new connections, establish friendships, and enhance the high school experience. I strongly encourage all students to explore at least one sporting pursuit this academic year. Should your child have questions regarding athletics throughout the year, do encourage them to visit me at the PHE office at their convenience.

**Lee Ellis, DW Poppy Athletic Director**

## **FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS**

DW Poppy's Fine & Performing Arts, including Band, Choir, Art and Drama, continue to be provincially and nationally recognized programs and we look forward to another wonderful year in 2023/24.

**Art:** Students had numerous art pieces on display throughout the school last year demonstrating their in-depth studies and applied skills. Students who are interested in getting involved in yearbook, which runs outside the timetable, should contact Mr. Sandquist in the Art Room. Grade 8s are encouraged to join Yearbook as Club Members and grade 9-12s receive course credits for their work through-out the year.

**Drama:** With the full return to in-person performances last year, drama students put on numerous productions including Poppy's One Act Plays and their critically acclaimed production of "Our Town". We are very excited to welcome Ms. Tobin as our new drama teacher for 2023/2024 and look forward to the opportunities she provides for students both on and off stage this year.

**Band & Choir:** DW Poppy continues to offer one of the largest music programs in the district. The students' concert band, jazz band, and choir festival performances were recognized with 3 Bronze, 10 Silver, and 5 Gold awards. The program also hosts numerous evening concerts including the incredibly popular ESPRESSIVO events. We encourage all students interested in



playing an instrument to see Mr. Follett in the Band Room (110), and those interested in singing in the choir please see Mr. Steeves in the Choir Room (108). A reminder that students in our off-timetable classes (Senior Wind, both Jazz Bands and all three choirs) have a brief meeting at lunch on Friday, September 8th in the Band Room.

All Music Parents are asked to join us for our first **Music Parents Meeting 7:00pm on Tuesday, September 19** (after the Grade 8 Parents Meeting) where we will discuss plans for this year including our concert and festival schedule, our Junior and Senior Music Tours and fundraising plans to support your child's involvement in music.

Visit [www.dwpoppymusic.com](http://www.dwpoppymusic.com) once school begins for further details.

The Arts, Athletics and Leadership work together to allow students to be involved in as many areas of the school as they choose. If there are any concerns about scheduling issues, please have your child speak with the relevant teachers/coaches and we will look for the best solution to support your child's experiences outside of the bells here at DW Poppy.