

Newsletter # 8

May 30th, 2025

Stride Community School Newsletter



Principal - Mr. K. Chow
Head Teacher – Mr. D. Cockram
Administrative Secretary - Mrs. Giovanetti

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It's a Matter of "*Principal*"

Dear Families,

This month, we've been having meaningful conversations with students about a powerful word: **character**. While academic success is important, who our students are becoming as people is just as vital. At the heart of this is character.

Website - Our school website is filled with information. Visit: stride.burnabyschools.ca

So, what is character? It's not about being perfect. It's about doing the right thing, even when it's hard, even when no one is watching, and even when no one gives you credit for it. In other words, character is who you are when no one is supervising.

Throughout the day, there are many moments when students aren't being directly watched by an adult, at recess, in the hallways, during group work, or online. It's during these moments that true character reveals itself. Will a student include someone who's left out? Will they take responsibility for a mistake? Will they choose the right path, even when it's not the easiest one?

Just last week, I happened to be nearby when one of our students noticed some garbage left behind on the field after lunch. The student had no idea I was watching. Without being asked or prompted, they quietly picked up the wrappers, put them in the bin, and returned to class. That is character in action. We're encouraging students to ask themselves:

- Will I do the right thing, even if no one sees?
- Will I admit a mistake, even if it's uncomfortable?
- Will I choose honesty and kindness, even when it's tough?

These aren't always easy questions, especially with peer pressure or strong emotions in the mix. That's why we work hard to create a school culture where kindness, responsibility, and integrity are not only talked about but practiced daily.

Character is built over time, shaped by small everyday decisions: returning something lost, standing up for someone, or telling the truth. It's in these quiet moments that character is truly formed.

Thank you, families, for your role in this work. When you talk with your child about values, set clear expectations, and model ethical choices at home, you're reinforcing what we teach at school. Together, we are helping our students grow into not just capable learners, but caring, trustworthy people. In the end, it's not what we say that defines us, but what we do, especially when no one is watching.

With appreciation,
Kelly Chow
Principal, Stride Avenue Community School

Character
is who you
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SCHOOL NEWS



If you know you will be moving out of the Stride area and will be changing schools for the 2025-2026 school year, please call StrideAvenue.Info@burnabyschools.ca to let us know as soon as possible. We need this information to help with the organization of classes for next year.

Class Placement Requests

At our school, we take great care in getting to know each of our students, their strengths, learning styles, and social dynamics. When we build classes for the new school year, we thoughtfully consider a wide range of factors to ensure balanced, supportive learning environments for all.

Occasionally, parents wish to make a special request regarding their child's classroom placement. If you would like to share information to support our placement process, please email Mr. Chow at Kelly.chow@burnabyschools.ca by **June 16, 2025**.

We ask that any requests focus on your child's specific **learning needs or learning style**, rather than naming individual teachers. This helps us consider the best fit while maintaining fairness and flexibility in the placement process.

Please understand that while we do our best to consider each request, we must also adhere to a number of factors, including **class size limits, class composition guidelines**, and the overall needs of all students. As such, we may not be able to accommodate all requests.



SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWS

Community Room Updates

Community Council – Light Dinner and General Meeting on June 3, 2025

Please join us on Tuesday, June 3 at 6pm at school for the June Community Council General Meeting and a light dinner. Childcare will be available. Please RSVP by Monday, June 2 to Sandhya.krishna@burnabyschools.ca to ensure we order enough food and can accommodate child-minding.

Stride and UBC's Together We Grow Gardening Program



In the previous newsletter we shared the news about growing a School Salad Garden with students from kindergarten to Grade 7. In addition, we received some funding from the University of British Columbia's Centre for Community Engaged Learning to support an afterschool program called Together We Grow. This program is made up of students and their family members who are interested in learning more about gardening. The participants are learning about the Indigenous Ways of connecting with the land and growing food. We are grateful to all the teachers involved in this project such as Elder Kanatii, Ms. Sangeeta, Ms. Fei, Mr. Eduardo and Ms. Varley. We look forward to seeing the fruits of our labor with the planting of strawberries, carrots, beans, snow peas and much more!

Volunteer Appreciation Tea.

The Volunteer Appreciation event is taking place on Wednesday, June 11, 9:15 to 10:45. Parents and Caregivers are reminded to return their reply slip to their student's classroom teacher by June 2. If you have any questions, please contact sandhya.krishna@burnabyschools.ca



Fundraising for a New Playground – Freezes, Walk-a-Thon and Baseball Hats

When our new school opens next year, we will need to purchase a new playground. The Stride Avenue Community Council is starting to fundraise now for this project. This month all funds raised with the freeze sales, the Walk-a-thon and the Stride Baseball Hats will go towards the new playground.



SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWS

"Freezie Wednesdays"

We've already raised **over \$300** through our **Freezie Wednesdays** fundraiser—thank you for your support!

We'll continue selling freezies throughout **June** at the **picnic table outside the gallery** and near the **small parking lot**.

Volunteers needed: If you're available to help with sales between **2:45 PM and 3:30 PM**, please contact Sandy at 604-838-6280. Your support makes a difference!



"Walk-A-Thon" – Friday, June 6

Please join us on **Friday, June 6 at 9:15 AM** for our **Walk-a-thon**—a fun and active event to help raise funds for the new playground that will accompany our new school building.

Students are encouraged to collect **donations or pledges** from family and friends in support of this important project.

If you would like a **tax receipt**, donations must be made **online** through **School Cash Online**:

 www.schoolcashonline.com

A minimum donation of \$20 is required to receive a tax receipt.

Stride Baseball Hats – Order by June 3

Show Your Stride Spirit and Support Our New Playground!

Stride baseball hats are now available for **\$20** in both **youth and adult sizes**. All proceeds will go toward fundraising for our **new playground**!



Order Deadline: June 3



Delivery: Hats will be delivered to the school in time for **Sports Day**.

Order yours today through the **Stride Elementary Online Store**: **Prostock Athletic Supply Ltd** (click here to buy: [ProStock](#))

Let's wear our Stride spirit proudly while supporting a great cause!

