

THE MIDPOINTE

News and opinion for Southpointe Academy families



September 8, 2011

Back
to
School!



A Message from Mr. Baldwin

Welcome to our new school year.

It was a great joy to see so many of you at our opening ceremony and a particular pleasure to greet grandparents, some from afar. Those in attendance enjoyed some memorable moments: the fine playing of the young band; the special introduction of our Kindergarten class and, later, their delight when they received their bears; the impressive arrival behind the swirling pipes of this year's graduating class; the news of last year's spectacular academic successes (91% of the grade 12 class graduating with honours, the top Math 10 student in BC, the top Grade 8 Math team in BC, a record number of students on the honour rolls and the top academic student of all, Taryn Jessop, with an average of 96%); the welcome of our new teachers; the appointment of Prefects and the swearing in of the Head Prefect; the profoundly thoughtful speech of Mrs. McMartin, the Teacher of the Year; the warm, sound advice to be aware of your effect on others from

Mrs. Common; and, finally, the return of the Heart of the School from the Schaub family. In short, the year was launched well and the school feels positive, happy and ready for our best year to date of happy excellence.

I hope you will all join us as often as you are able to enjoy this remarkable year in the young history of our school.

- Graham Baldwin

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Prefects

The prefects are selected after a thorough process involving application and submission of resume, reference checks, check of the school record and an interview. There were fifteen applicants, all very impressive and all students to make us proud. The prefects appointed are:

Sonja Gill – Head Prefect
 Eric Bhatti
 Navi Boparai
 Paul McCarlie
 Ramneet Gill
 Aninder Sarai
 Jana Meerman
 Susie Yoo

Short biographies of each prefect will appear next week.

Pot Luck Dinners

Please join us for your class's pot-luck dinner at Gunn House. These dinners and the time we spend together help us to know each other better, which is important for such matters as deciding on 'sleepovers', choosing friends, understanding the homeroom teachers and so on. Each family is asked to bring a dish enough to serve eight people.

The dates of the pot-luck dinners are on the Zimbra School Calendar.

Tonight, we welcome the Grade 12's.
 Next Week, on Thursday, we welcome PreK and K parents.

Curriculum Night

Next week on Tuesday is Curriculum Night – a night on which we introduce our new teachers, speak about our curriculum, and then make all your children's teachers available for you to meet. Given the extraordinary pace of change in the educational milieu, we feel it will be very helpful for you to attend if you possibly can.

Details of the evening –timings, locations etc.-will be sent separately.

Afternoon Extra-Sessions

The time from 3.30pm to 4.45 pm is the afternoon extra session. (The morning one is from 7am-8am).

Any student in the school after 3.30pm must be under the supervision of a teacher and remain in their activity until 4.45pm.

The late buses leave at 5pm and the school is locked at this time with no supervision available.

Students up to and including Grade 10 need to register during Friday homeroom for extra-session activities the following week. The extra-sessions available will be published in Midpointe on Thursday.

Extra-sessions for next week:

Grades K-3:

The Junior Fyppers Club: (previously known as after-school care.) For this activity, parents need to register at the Front Office by 12 noon daily. This club runs every day from 3.30 to 5pm.

Grades 6-12:

- ***Study Club:*** This is a supervised room where students work quietly on revision or homework.

- ***Study Help Club:*** This is a supervised room where students receive help on their work from student and faculty tutors.

- ***Library:*** This is supervised by the librarian and is for students who wish to read silently or research. This is not a waiting room or a social room.

All these activities happen every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

- ***IT Club:*** Sponsored and supervised by Mr. Hilton, this is a club that explores and uses IT in its many facets. Students will, for example, help teachers understand IT, learn some programming, learn new Web 2.0 applications, or any area of IT interest. Come with your ideas.

Tuesday and Thursday weekly

- ***Science 10 Tutorial:*** with Dr. Kwan
 Thursday 3:30-4:45pm in Rm 206 (Science Lab)

- ***Math 11 Tutorial:*** with Dr. Kwan
 Wednesday 3:30-4:45pm in Rm 206 (Science Lab)

Activities for Grades 4 and 5 will begin soon, as will additional clubs for Grades 6-12.

Athletic teams have begun already. They are NOT part of the above arrangements.

Athletics Update

I will write more about the “new and improved” Athletics Program at Southpointe Academy in the coming weeks, but for now, I have included a brief overview of the sports teams we will be offering this fall. I look forward to your support and your child’s involvement in sports at our school and, if you would like to get involved in any way or have any questions about our Athletics Program, please do not hesitate to contact me.

- Robert McCall, Director of Athletics

Fall Sports Season (September - November 2010)

Elementary Boys Soccer Team - Grades: 5 - 7

Coaches: Mr. Lupton and Mr. Ross
 Practice Times: 3:30 - 5:00 pm, days TBD
 Participating in the ISEA League (game days vary)
 * First training session: Thursday, Sept. 8th



High School Boys Soccer Team - Grades: 8 - 12

Coach: Mr. Levitt and Mr. Lum
 Practice Times: 3:30 – 5:00 pm, days TBD
 Participating in GVISAA League (most games on Monday or Wednesday) and some weekend tournaments
 * Tryout sessions this week:
 Tuesday, Sept. 6th, Wednesday, Sept. 7th, Thursday, Sept. 8th



Elementary Girls Volleyball - Grades: 5 – 7

Coach: Ms. Santry
 Practice Times: 3:30 – 5:00 pm, days TBD
 Participating in the ISEA League (game days vary)
 * First training session: Monday, Sept. 12th



High School Girls Volleyball Team - Grades: 8 -12

Coaches: Mr. Griffioen and Mr. Mackay
 Practice Times: 3:30 – 5:00 pm, days TBD
 Participating in GVISAA league (most games on Tuesday or Thursday) and some week-end tournaments
 * Tryout sessions this week: Tuesday, Sept. 6th, Thursday, Sept. 8th



Cross Country Team (Elementary & High School) - Grades: 3 – 12 (Coed)

Coach: Mr. Simpson and Ms. Wright
 Practice Times: Tuesday & Thursday, 3:30 - 4:45 pm
 Participating in ISA, ISEA, FVSSAA & GVISAA Meets (weekdays) and club meets (Saturdays) First training session: Thursday, Sept. 8th



Traffic Report : Settling In Phase

Stop, Look
Be Aware
Keep Our
Kids Safe

Can You Help?

River Road Ride

A student from our school needs an occasional ride after school if anyone is going down River Road. If you can help, please contact the front office.

Green House Connection?

The Grade Threes are studying plants this year and they would be thrilled if anyone knew of a green house they could visit. Please contact the front office if you or anyone you know could help.

Goal of this System:

- Keep everyone safe.
- Keep traffic flowing at a slow speed.
- Have any hold ups on site rather than on 56th Street.

How do we do this?

- Use the one way system
- Follow instructions from the traffic crew
- Drive cautiously

Notes:

In the morning and afternoon please drop and pick up as far along the back lane as possible. This way there is more room for cars to wait on site.

If you are late please do not speed up.

When driving on site it is a single file of traffic we need so we can have better visibility . Drive in the center of the lane - the pedestrian lane is on your right closest to the building. Please stay clear of that and do not pull in there to drop

In the morning you may drive into the parking spaces on the back lane. We will try and help you back out when you leave.

In the afternoon the lane is open after 3 pm for parking and waiting. Back into the parking spots when you arrive early .

During the school day the grounds are used by the children and cars are notpermitted on site except at the front of school. Should you need to come to school at these times please use the front entrance and park at the front of school or off site.

There is Limited parking in the neighbourhood and plenty of parking in the Parking lot across 56 th at the Rec center.

When you can not find a spot to park that is always the safest and easiest option.

Thank you to everyone as we all adjust to the daily routine of school life which includes traffic and parking both on and off the site.

Library Volunteers Needed!

Every year there is a dedicated crew of library volunteers who help keep our library running smoothly. If you are able and interested in volunteering in the library this year, please come to an information meeting with Mrs. Levitt, the teacher-librarian, on Thursday, September 15th in the library at 10:00 a.m. Please email any questions you may have about the library, or volunteering in the library, to: jessica.levitt@spacademy.ca

- Jessica Levitt

