



Respect
Safety
Success

September 2017 Parent Newsletter

A Message from Principal Kenyon

Welcome back, everyone! I am excited to start the new school year. This year will see a renewal of the school culture that is based on "Respect, Safety, and Success (R.S.S.)". We say to students, and what data backs up, is that we have a strong and positive culture in the school. What we need to do is examine it from time to time to ensure that everyone is intimately familiar with the values and expectations of our learning environments, and to allow the evolution of the culture to reflect the current needs of the school community. The last time a major review occurred was in the old building, with an entirely different cohort of students and parents. The current staff members, students and parents will all have the opportunity to examine our 'R.S.S.' culture and provide feedback. This definitely ties into our primary school goal of student well-being--school culture reflects student well-being very clearly.

I look forward to this year and the renewal of the RSS culture. I want to wish everyone a great school year in 2017-2018!

Greg Kenyon
Principal – Revelstoke Secondary School

Absences and Lates – (250) 837-2173

Parents are reminded to call the office or send a note to the school in the event their son/daughter will be late, absent, or leaving early for a medical or dental appointment. Students should get an early dismissal slip from the office for their teacher before heading off to class. Texting your child about appointments or notifying the teacher of their absence is not notifying the office. Please make sure the office secretaries are aware of all appointments and absences. As well, students **MUST** sign in at the office when **arriving late** and sign out **when leaving early**. This will avoid unnecessary calls home of absences from class.

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS....

When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...
10 minutes a day	50 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 1½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year of school
20 minutes a day	1 hour and 40 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 2½ weeks per year	Nearly a year of school
½ hour a day	½ a day of learning a week	4 weeks a year	Nearly 1 ½ years of learning
1 hour each day	1 whole day of learning each week	8 weeks per year or nearly a term a year.	Over 2 ½ years of learning

**Your child's best learning time is
at the beginning of the day...**

DON'T BE LATE!

Student Cell Phones

Please do not call or text students during class time as students' cell phones are to be off while classes are in session.

Family Vacations

A vacation form must be filled out if you intend to take your child out of class for **3 days or more** during school time. Please have your child obtain a vacation form from the office.

Home Work (HW) Club

HW Club is starting Thursday September 14th and will run from 3:15-4:30 in the library with Mrs. Carey most Monday, Wednesday & Thursday afternoons. Please confirm dates on the online RSS calendar found on our website. HW Club is the place to go if you need help in any subject, if you need extra time to work on your assignments in a quieter setting, if you need to access the computers, if you need to write missing quizzes or tests, if you need time to get caught up from being absent or if you just want to get your HW done before you leave the building.

Early Dismissals

There will be an early dismissal at 1:10pm on Wednesday October 18th with Parent-Teacher interviews from 7-8:30pm. There will also be an early dismissal on Thursday October 19th.

RSS Post-Secondary Visits

Representatives from Colleges, Universities, Trades & Technology Schools and some private post-secondary schools will be visiting RSS this fall. The students have the opportunity to visit the booths to collect information and talk with the reps. The Alberta visit will take place Monday September 18th and the BC presentation is scheduled for Wednesday October 4th.

Terry Fox Run

Our annual Terry Fox Run will take place Friday September 29th at 10:45am. Come ready to walk or run in the commemoration of Canadian cancer activist Terry Fox, and his Marathon of Hope.

Aboriginal Education & Orange Shirt Day

Goal One of Aboriginal Education in our community is to make sure students are successful in our school system; as we know, school has not always been a positive place for Aboriginal people, and we want that to change. Goal Two for us is to make sure that rich, vibrant and varied Aboriginal teachings are a part of every student's and every staff member's school experience, particularly teachings of this local area.

Our very first District-wide event this year will be Orange Shirt Day, held in schools on September 29th. Orange Shirt Day is a day to recognize the impact of the Indian Residential school system, and to commit to an education system that celebrates instead of denigrates diversity.



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Welcome New Staff!

A warm welcome to Ainslee Atamanuk, a great addition to our English department!

The RSS Website!

Check out our website at revelstokesecondary.ca. Our home page has quick links to Teacher Blogs, Counsellors, Athletics, Student Opportunities and the RSS Calendar, as well as a scrolling daily events calendar. Students and staff can tweet @RevelstokeSec. You can also find a digital copy of the RSS Handbook, RSS newsletter and RSS calendar on line. Should you wish to obtain a hardcopy of the above please pick one up from the office. If you wish to have the newsletter sent to you via email, please email your request to rssnewsletter@sd19.bc.ca

RSS Swim Team

The RSS Swim Team is open to Grades 8 to 12 students and will be coached by Ms. Wood. Practices will take place on Friday mornings, starting on October 6th at 7:00 am. Everyone is welcome – all you need is a swim suit, goggles, and a water bottle. RSS is hosting a regional meet at our Aquatic Centre on Sunday, October 29th.

What's Going on in Class? Check the Blog!

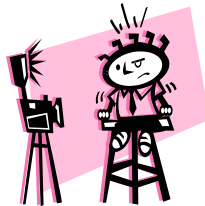
Many teachers at RSS use daily or weekly blogs as a way to communicate to parents and students. Visit your teacher's blog to get updates on homework, check your marks, and see when assignments are due. Visit revelstokesecondary.ca and click on Students & Parents, Teacher Websites for a full list!

Careers

Did you have a summer job? Was it in a trade related occupation? Students working with qualified employers might be eligible for credits and have the opportunity to be signed on as a youth apprentice. The Youth Work in Trades programs jumpstarts careers in ITA recognized trade programs, it could also mean up to \$1000 in your pocket! See Mr. Colvin in the Careers department for more information or to see if you are eligible.

Picture Day

Bring your best smile to school on **Tuesday October 17th, 2017** for **Picture Day**. Please note that all students will be photographed for the yearbook regardless of whether you plan to purchase a package or not. **Please do not send money on Picture Day.**



Music Department Announcements



There will be a **Grade 8 Band Parents Meeting** on Tuesday September 19th from 7-7:30. From 7:45-8:30, there will be a **Scotland Meeting**. Please attend! **Jazz Band Rehearsals** will take place Monday evenings from 7-9pm, including September 25th. **Choir** is held Wednesday evenings from 7-9pm.

Parent Advisory Committee

Our Parent Group encourages parents to attend their monthly meeting. This group facilitates informational sessions for parents during the year, and secures money for specialized equipment for our students. **PAC meetings** are the last Tuesday of each month. The next **PAC meeting** will be held Tuesday September 26th at 7pm in the RSS Library.

RSS Student Well-Being Goal

The *Student Well-Being Goal* will focus on the social-emotional and physical health of students. There are three main areas to promote: social-emotional health, mental health, and physical health. We will be gathering data on areas like student-school connectedness, mental health awareness and education, and promoting healthy lifestyles. The school culture is very positive already, however, we want to be able to identify areas for improvement for the coming years in these three main areas. We look forward to having constructive conversations with the school community on these subjects. A healthy school is always our goal, and student well-being is at the heart of that goal.

Fair Notice

Our school community is committed to creating and sustaining school environments in which students, staff, parents and others feel safe. All reported threats and incidences of violence will be investigated.

Did you know? – Ambulance Services at School

Should we need to call an ambulance for a student, and a family does not have extended health coverage, the ambulance will be at our expense.

Dates to Remember

September 14	Homework Club Starts (Mon/Wed/Thur)
September 18	Alberta Post-Secondary Visit
September 19	Grade 8 Band Parent Meeting @ 7pm Scotland Trip Meeting @7:45pm
September 25	Non-Instructional Day – No School No Homework Club JAZZ BAND REHEARSAL FROM 7-9PM
September 26	PAC Meeting @ 7pm in RSS Library
September 29	Orange Shirt Day Terry Fox Run
October 4	BC Post-Secondary Visits
October 9	Thanksgiving – No Classes
October 17	Picture Day
October 18	Early Dismissal @ 1:10pm – Parent Teacher Night 7–8:30pm
October 19	Early Dismissal @ 1:10pm
October 20	Non-Instructional Day – No School
October 24	PAC Meeting @ 7pm
October 26	No Homework Club

