



## Hans Helgesen Elementary

4983 Rocky Point Road, Victoria, B.C. V9C 4G4  
Office: (250) 478-3431 | Fax: (250) 478-1459

### Welcome to Hans Helgesen!

We are excited to welcome our new families to our HH school community! This year, we anticipate several new students joining us at Hans Helgesen in Grades 1-5.

### Back to School 2025

The first half-day of school for students in Grades 1-5 is **Tuesday, September 2nd from 8:30 am -11:38 am**. Children who are new to Hans Helgesen are asked to **come to the library with a parent after the 8:30 bell**. We will be welcoming our new students and families and offering a short introduction to Hans Helgesen. Following the welcome, new students will be met by various HH staff and some student leaders. New students will be working alongside grade level peers for the first few days until all students are assigned to new classes. At the end of the day, new students may be met by parents outside the front entrance, near the flagpole, for after-school pick up.

### Returning Students

Returning students will return to last year's classes for the first few days of the new school year before moving to new classes. This is our long-standing District-wide practice as we work to ensure all new registrations have seats in our District schools. Students will be met by members of the HH staff in the morning. This year we have some new staff, so students will not necessarily be meeting their previous teacher.

Once the District gives schools approval to move to our new classes (typically within the first week), children will be introduced to their new teachers for the coming school year. **Unfortunately, we are unable to take any requests regarding student placements.** Please refer to the *Student Placement Process* sent to all families in May of 2024 for information about the complex work of class configurations and the many considerations involved.

### What to bring on the first day

Students will not need to bring their school supplies for the first morning of school. Please see our school website for our 2025 school supply lists, [Hans Helgesen | Elementary School](#). Students should bring a recess snack on the first half day and be prepared to play outside in all weather.

### First Week Schedule (Grades 1-5)

- Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> (Grades 1-5)
  - 8:25 - first bell
  - 8:30 - classes begin (return to last year's class; new students and families meet in library)
  - 11:38 - 3-hour early dismissal (buses run early)
- Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> (Grades 1-5)
  - Full days of school begin (8:30 – 2:38)

## Welcome to Kindergarten!

Our new Kindergarten children will be joining us for their "**Gradual Entry**" on **Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 - 2:30**. Kindergarten children will attend alternating half-days on Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. **Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> is the first full day of Kindergarten. All Kindergarten families will receive a welcome email this week with a reminder of this gradual entry schedule.**

We look forward to meeting new students and families in September. If you have any questions, **our office will reopen on Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am**. We are excited about the year ahead!

Enjoy a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Karen Sjerven



**Karen Sjerven (she/her)**

**Principal**

**Hans Helgesen Elementary School**

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<https://hanshelgesen.web.sd62.bc.ca/>

We acknowledge the traditional territories of the Coast Salish: T'Sou-ke Nation and Sc'ianew Nation and Nuu-chah-nulth: Pacheedaht Nation. We also recognize some of our schools reside on the traditional territory of the Esquimalt Nation and Songhees Nation.