



Alexander Robinson Elementary
HOME OF THE DRAGONS

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Principal: Adam Stanley

Vice Principal: Kathy Kosman

Newsletter #2 – October 2021

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello AR Families,

Well, September is out of the way with no more than the expected mishaps. It is always nice to head into the fall and settle into more established routines - at least as established as they can be these days. Being the season of thanksgiving, I am grateful that despite all of the troubles that the last couple of years have brought, we live in a country with resources and expertise that many other nations can't access. Hopefully this time next year the world will look very different.

Remembrance Day is also upcoming, and once more we will be having our school assembly virtually for all of our classes. This is a sombre occasion that doesn't really lend itself very well to cyberspace, but we will do the best we can. Many thanks to Mrs. Bartle who supports this every year. More than 100,000 Canadians lost their lives in only the two world wars, and that toll has continued since then as Canada maintains its peacekeeping presence overseas. **A reminder that photo retakes are on October 27th** if you need them. There is no need to book appointments as we will call down students from each division to have this done as the photographers are unavailable. **Our 'technical Hallowe'en'** at the school will be on the 29th, so if students wish to wear their costumes that will be the day - a reminder that it will probably rain, so it might be a good idea not to send very delicate things that might be spoiled by getting wet.

UPCOMING DATES:

October 22 - Non-instructional day (no school)

October 27 - Picture Retake Day

October 29 - Primary Hallowe'en Parade

November 9 - PAC Meeting 7:00pm

November 11 - Remembrance Day (no school)

November 12 - Non-instructional day (no school)

DAILY HEALTH CHECK

Please do a daily check with your children before sending them to school. IF YOUR CHILD IS NOT FEELING WELL, PLEASE KEEP THEM HOME. Thank you for helping keep the community safe.

<https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1>

UPDATED MASK MANDATE

The following message was sent out by the superintendent of schools regarding the latest version of the mask mandate:

Subject Line: October 1, 2021: Important update to the provincial K-12 mask mandate

Dear families,

This morning, Minister of Education Jennifer Whiteside and Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry announced an important update to the [Public Health Communicable Disease Guidance for K-12 Schools](#) and the [Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#). I am writing to inform you about this change and to update you on the notification process for school exposures.

Update to face coverings mandate

The provincial government has announced **that beginning Monday, October 4, 2021, all students in B.C. schools will be required to wear a mask when inside a school building, including while at their desks and on buses.** This builds on the existing guidelines that currently apply to all students in grades 4-12. Learn more about this change to the face coverings mandate in the [Ministry of Education news release](#).

Because we recognize that many students in grades K-3 may not be used to wearing masks, teachers will spend October 4 and 5 helping children adjust to this change, with the goal of building mask wearing into student routines by Wednesday, October 6. We suggest you send your K-3 child to school with a clean mask and a spare mask that they are used to wearing. Schools will have disposable masks available.

As a reminder, [provincial guidance advises](#) that mask requirements do not apply to staff, students and visitors in the following circumstances:

- A person cannot tolerate wearing a mask for health or behavioural reasons;
- A person is unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person;
- If the mask is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the person wearing it;
- If the mask is removed temporarily to engage in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask;
- If a person is eating or drinking;
- If a person is behind a barrier; or
- While providing a service to a person with a disability or diverse ability where visual cues, facial expressions and/or lip reading/movements is important.

The guidelines stipulate that schools must not require a health-care provider note to confirm if staff, students or visitors cannot wear a mask, and that no student should be prevented from attending or fully participating at school if they do not wear a mask.

Change to notification process for school exposures

The provincial government also made a change to the notification process for school exposures, directing local health authorities to begin posting general school exposure notifications to their websites. You can find exposure notifications for our school district and the Fraser Health region more broadly on the Fraser Health [school exposures page](#). For a helpful overview of the contact tracing process for school exposures, [visit the BC CDC website](#).

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Harry Dhillon
Superintendent of Schools

CONSENT FORMS

A number of consent forms for your student(s) are now available on the parent portal awaiting your approval. Please take a moment to login and approve these forms.

PHOTO RETAKE DAY



Mountain West Studios will be returning on Wednesday October 27, 2021 for all students and staff who either missed the first photo day or would like to get retakes.

WEST COAST RECESS



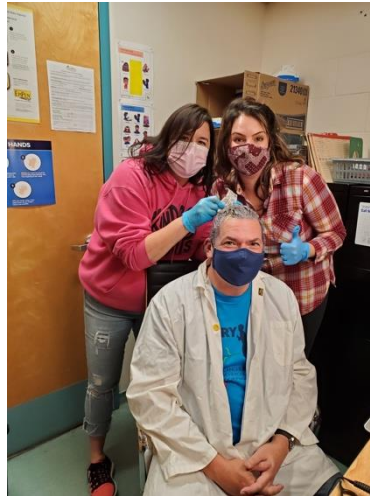
Now more than ever public health orders require that children spend as much time as they can outside. All recesses and lunches will be outside unless the weather is unprecedentedly severe and poses a risk to health and safety. Please be sure students have proper jackets, footwear or warm clothing for the day. An extra set of clothes at school will avoid unnecessary trips to the school with spare pants!

TERRY FOX

Thanks to the efforts of the whole neighbourhood, ARE students raised more than \$2700 for the Terry Fox Run, which went very smoothly this year. As they exceeded their fundraising goal, this meant that Mr. Stanley got his hair dyed blue (to be retained for at least a month) and Mr. Oleksyn had his hair shaved off. A big thank you to all of our parent volunteers, the staff, students, and especially to Mr. Oleksyn and Mrs. Elder who organized the primary and intermediate events, respectively.



Mr. O gets shaved



Mr. Stanley Gets Dyed

AR THEME FOR THE YEAR

Led by Mr. Jinnouchi, this year's theme is "AR Through the Decades" offering an historical look at how life has changed since ARE was founded in 1913. Many events will take place throughout the year and each month will spotlight a particular decade:

Alexander Robinson's History Through the Decades (1913-2022)

- 1) **Month of November - "The Roaring 20's"**
 - i. Music of the 1920's throughout the month
 - ii. Student games of the 1920's
 - iii. Dress up day of the 1920's (Friday November 19th)
 - iv. A dance instruction 1920's
 - v. Trivia question of the week throughout the month

- 2) **Month of December - "The Fabulous 50's"**
 - i. Music of the 1950's throughout the month
 - ii. Student games of the 1950's
 - iii. Dress up day of the 1950's (Friday December 10th)
 - iv. A special dance instruction 1950's
 - v. Trivia

- 3) **Month of January - "The Rebellious Far-Out 60's"**
 - i. Music of the 1960's

- ii. Student games of the 1960's
- iii. Dress up day of the 1960's (Friday January 21st)
- iv. A special dance instruction 1960's
- v. Trivia question of the week

4) Month of February - "The Copacetic Can you dig it? 70's"

- i. Music of the 1970's
- ii. Student games of the 1970's
- iii. Dress up day of the 1970's (Friday February 18th)
- iv. Disco Dance Contest of the 1970's
- v. Crazy Hair Day of the 1970's
- vi. Trivia of the 1970's

5) Month of March - "The Awesome Rock'n 80's"

- i. Music of the 1980's
- ii. Student games of the 1980's
- iii. Dress up day of the 1980's (Friday March 11th)
- iv. A special dance instruction 1980's
- v. Trivia 1980's

6) Month of April - "The Internet.com Busy 90's"

- i. Music of the 1990's
- ii. Student games of the 1990's
- iii. Dress up day of the 1990's (Friday April 22nd)
- iv. A special dance instruction 1990's
- v. Trivia 1990's

7) Month of May - "The Noughties Techno 2000's"

- i. Music of the 2000's
- ii. Student games of the 2000's
- iii. Dress up day of the 2000's (Friday May 20th)
- iv. A special dance Instruction 2000's
- v. Trivia 2000's

8) Month of June - "The streaming, viral 2010's"

- i. Music of the 2010's
- ii. Trivia 2010's
- iii. An Old Fashioned Sports Day (Sports events from various decades)
- iv. Old Fashioned Sports day **Friday June 17, 2022**
 - 1. Decorated bike parade
 - 2. Slow bike race
 - 3. Tug-o-war
 - 4. Etc.

HOMESTAY FAMILIES WANTED

Are you interested in welcoming an International Student into your home and sharing the experience of being part of a Canadian family?

We are always looking for great host families!



**MAPLE RIDGE
PITT MEADOWS**
INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

www.inted.sd42.ca  @intedsd42  www.facebook.com/IntEd.SD42

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT:**

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