



11849 238B Street, Maple Ridge BC V4R 2T8
Phone 604-463-3035 Fax 604-463-0667
Website: <http://elementary.sd42.ca/alexanderrobinson>
Principal: Ramin Mehrassa
Vice Principal: Kathy Kosman

Newsletter #1 – September 2022

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello and welcome back to everyone ☺ I am so excited to start the year with you, with the hopes of continued normalcy for all of us. It was so great to be able to have a full school assembly again on Wednesday. The students were so excited to be in the gym altogether again. I'm looking forward to getting to know our parents and students and invite you to our Open House on Thursday, September 22nd. This event will take place from 5:30-7:00pm. I'm grateful to our PAC for supplying the food and drinks for our ARE community. Parents are welcome to leave a donation at the Open House for some of the costs.

I'm really looking forward to our annual Terry Fox Run this month (September 28th). Portal information has been sent to parents including the details about how to donate. Our Intermediate students will run first thing in the morning and primaries after recess. Thank you in advance to those of you who have volunteered to help during the run.

Our PAC will also be starting up hot lunches again in the next few weeks as well as planning community activities for our school. I can feel the excitement in the air and I know we will have a terrific year this school year with lots of activities and fieldtrips planned for our students. Thank you to all of you in advance for your patience as I get to know our school community. If you'd like to get in touch with me, please don't hesitate to email me "ramin_mehrassa@sd42.ca" or contact the office.

Sincerely,

Ramin Mehrassa

UPCOMING DATES:

September 19 - Day of Mourning (no school)
September 22 - Open House (5:30-7:00)
September 28 - Terry Fox Run
September 29 - Picture day
September 30 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (no school)
October 3 - School Growth Planning day (no school)
October 10 - Thanksgiving (no school)
October 19 - Photo Retakes
October 21-Non-instructional day (no school)



NO DEVICES POLICY:

I wanted to share with you that as of this week, students are asked to keep their devices in their classroom during recess and lunch recess. If students need to contact parents during these times, they can go to the office to call home. Conversely, if parents need to contact students when school is in session, they can do so by calling the office.

The rationale for this policy is that we'd like to encourage students to be more active during outside playing times instead of using their devices. Typically, recess and lunch recess are times for students to engage with each other and to have some form of exercise, whether it be playing games, using the playground apparatus, or chatting with friends while walking.

Thank you in advance for your support.

WELCOME NEW STAFF

We are fortunate to have excellent and experienced staff at Alexander Robinson. You may notice some familiar faces who have returned as well as some new faces around the school. We are pleased to welcome the following staff:

Christine Baron (CT)	Anita Neufeld (Librarian)
Carole Fleming (CT)	Travis Sheppard (CT)
Adrienne Hattingh (CT)	Janice Desgagne (ASW)
Mineesha Kenyon (CT)	Penny Ahmadi (EA)
Haley Partridge (CT)	Sandra Fuller (EA)
Jenny Goodwin (secretary)	



STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS

Student Verification Forms for each child were sent home. It is imperative that we have all information filled out and returned to your child's teacher ASAP. We must have these forms in the office in the case of an emergency. Please make sure all emergency contacts are individuals who would be readily available, if needed, and provide cell phone numbers and/or work phone numbers. Also ensure your child's health care number is on the form. **BE SURE TO SIGN AND DATE THE FORM BEFORE RETURNING.** If any information changes throughout the year please notify the office. It is essential we have accurate contact information on file at all times.

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 DAY

Mountain West Studios will be here for individual student photos for all grades on Thursday September 29. As in the past, participation in the program is strictly voluntary, however, every student is required to have their photo taken for identification purposes. You are not required to purchase a photo package.



STUDENT PLANNER FEES

Many teachers request their students to use a student planner to assist in staying organized. Individual teachers will inform their students of this once students they have settle into new classes. Our school planner fee is **\$6.00**. Request for payment has been sent out via the parent portal.

PRIMARY SCHOOL SUPPLY FEES



School supplies for Kindergarten to Grade 3 students are purchased in bulk by the school and provided to students for a fee. Request for payment has been sent via the parent portal. The primary school supplies fees are as follows:

- Kindergarten supply fee is **\$45.00**
- Primary (Gr.1-3) supply fee is **\$50.00** (includes \$6.00 for a planner)

please note Gr 1 students that are in a K/1 class will only need to pay \$45.00. No planner is used

Portal payment is preferred but alternately fee payment can be sent to your child's teacher (cash or cheque payable to Alexander Robinson Elementary).

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

A Medical Intervention form must be completed on a yearly basis if your child has an existing medical condition that the school should be aware of. This form must also be completed if your child will be taking any medication while at school. Staff may not administer medication to students unless the required form is completed and signed by the parent. For students requiring epi-pens at school, parents will be required to complete an Anaphylaxis Individual Student Emergency Procedure Plan. These forms can be obtained at the office.



TREE NUT & PEANUT AWARE SCHOOL

We have several students who have SEVERE LIFE THREATENING allergies to a variety of nuts, including TREE NUTS and PEANUTS. If this applies to your child, please make certain to notify the office and your child's teacher and that you have provided the appropriate medical information and any medication necessary. Since this is a common concern, we ask if possible to not send your child with food items containing nuts to school. Peanut/Tree nut allergy signs will be posted in affected classrooms.



SCHOOL PROCEDURES AND ROUTINES

Student Entry/Exit

All students are assigned entry and exit doors. Students are required to line up at their designated doorway upon the sounding of the warning bells. We ask that parent/caregivers meet their children at the designated doorway when meeting afterschool at dismissal.

Student Absences and Late Arrivals

The warning bell for morning classes goes at 8:25am. Students are expected to be in their classroom and instruction begins no later than 8:30am. If a student is not in the classroom the student will be marked absent. Entry past 8:40am requires the student report to the office to sign in and receive a late slip to give to the classroom teacher. When your child is marked absent we will phone all contact numbers we have in an attempt to confirm that your child is safe.

In the event your child will be absent or late, please advise the office prior to 8:30am. You can either enter an absence on the Parent Portal, email the school at are_reception@sd42.ca, or call the office at 604-463-3035 where you can leave a message.

Parents are responsible for providing or arranging supervision for their child prior to 8:25am. After dismissal at 2:20pm students are encouraged to go straight home for there is no formal supervision provided at the school.

Students Leaving School Grounds

Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds unless they have permission from a parent/guardian or are signed out by a parent/guardian or designated adult. If your child routinely has lunch at home, please inform the office in writing. If your child usually remains at school during lunch, please send a signed note for each occasion you give permission to leave the school grounds. Students leaving the school grounds and returning must be signed out and then back in at the office as we need to account for all students in the event of an emergency or fire drill.

VISITORS OR DROPPING ITEMS OFF

For safety reasons, **all visitors and volunteers are required to sign-in, sign-out and wear a visitor's tag while in the building or on the school grounds outside.**

If you have a message or something to drop off for your child, you may do so through the office.

SCHOOL NOTICES AND NEWSLETTERS

All correspondence, notices and calendars will be sent home using the Parent Portal. We encourage new families to create a Parent Portal account at <http://parents.sd42.ca>. Once your account has been created please contact the office to obtain a linking key letter for your child.

We also post our monthly newsletters to our school website at <https://elementary.sd42.ca/alexanderrobinson>.

PARKING REGULATIONS

Parents/daycare providers may NOT pull into the back parking lot at any time for picking up or dropping off children. The vehicles create a safety hazard for students *and* on several occasions, have blocked staff members from entering/leaving the lot. Also, the back parking lot is the designated emergency evacuation route for students during fire drills and "real" emergencies.

The drive through lane at the front of the school is for HANDICAPPED STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP ONLY. You must pull into the curb and quickly pick up your child. Please do NOT park in the drop off zone and do NOT stop in the drive through lane. Please do not park in this area during the school day or there is the possibility you will be ticketed. Please do NOT park in the bus stop/fire hydrant zone on 238B Street (directly across from the front entrance of the school). These regulations are from the Fire Department and the Safety Officer. Thanks for your attention to safety.

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!

TREATS IN CLASS

Only store bought and commercially wrapped treats will be allowed this year at the school for students. Therefore, no homemade or baked goods will be allowed to be handed out in the classroom this year.

TERRY FOX RUN

Our annual Terry Fox Run will be held on Wednesday, September 28th. Terry Fox's story provides many inspirational lessons and gives our community an opportunity to raise funds for cancer research. Our fundraising challenges this year include; staff getting duct taped to walls (\$1000), dressing as Disney princesses (\$1500), and a head shaving (\$2500). Donations for challenges will be accepted until the end of the school day on Friday, October 7th. Online donations are encouraged, and tax receipts are provided for donations over \$20. Regular cash and cheque donations are still accepted at school.

Our school link for online Terry Fox Donations is: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/11392>

The QR code for this (use smartphone camera) is:

Thank you for supporting cancer research.



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:**

International Education
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows School District
20575 Thorne Ave., Maple Ridge,
BC, V2X 9A6, Canada
604-466-6555
<https://inted.sd42.ca/homestay>



PAC INFO

Alexander Robinson Elementary PAC September Info

Welcome to all our ARE PAC Parents!

Every parent/guardian is a PAC Parent. The PAC's success throughout the year is dependent on Parent involvement.

We had our first PAC Meeting on Sept 13th and had an amazing turnout. We are excited for the new school year and have many exciting events planned for ARE.

Open House and Welcome Back BBQ Sept 22nd 530 pm-7:00pm

All parents/guardians and students are invited to a School Community BBQ and Open House. Food Orders for the BBQ **must** be placed through [MunchaLunch](#). The Community BBQ is being funded by the PAC but will be based on orders received through MunchaLunch and there will be VERY LIMITED extras to keep costs down. We will need a number of volunteers to help with the BBQ. Munchalunch will be open for orders by Friday, September 15 and will **CLOSE** TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 20th @ NOON!!!

HOT LUNCHES!!

Our first Hot Lunch will be Wednesday, October 5th. Hot Lunches are ordered by the Month using:

<https://munchalunch.com/login>

Ordering will open sometime next week and will include Oct 5, Oct 12, Oct 19 and Oct 26.

Ordering for October will CLOSE on Wednesday, Sept 28 at 7pm!!

Hot Lunch days require parent volunteers for some prep the day before and from about 11am until noon the day of. **If we do not have enough parent volunteers, the hot lunches will be cancelled.**

If you registered for Munchalunch last year, your account will still be active, but will need to be updated.

If you had an account at a previous school, you should be able to transfer your account at the login. If

you are new to the school, please go to:

<http://www.munchalunch.com/schools/AlexanderRobinson>

and register for your account. Payments are accepted online with credit card, or cash/debit in person.

We currently offer choices of:

Subway

Domino's Pizza

Aburiya Sushi



ALEXANDER ROBINSON ELEMENTARY 2022-2023 LINEAR SCHOOL CALENDAR

Schools opening day for students (Delayed Start 12:30pm)	Tuesday, September 6, 2022
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	Friday, September 30, 2022
<i>Non-instructional day (School Growth Planning Day)</i>	<i>Monday, October 3, 2022</i>
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 10, 2022
<i>Non-instructional day (province-wide)</i>	<i>Friday, October 21, 2022</i>
<i>Non-instructional day (school-based)</i>	<i>Thursday, November 10, 2022</i>
Remembrance Day	Friday, November 11, 2022
Student Conferences (11:30am Dismissal)	Thursday, December 1, 2022
Student Conferences – All Day (no school)	Friday, December 2, 2022
Schools close for break	Friday, December 16, 2022
Winter break	Monday, December 19, 2022 to Friday, December 30, 2022
New Year's Day Holiday	Monday, January 2, 2023
Schools reopen after break	Tuesday, January 3, 2023
<i>Non-instructional day (district-based)</i>	<i>Monday, January 23, 2023</i>
Family Day	Monday, February 20, 2023
<i>Non-instructional day (school-based)</i>	<i>Tuesday, February 21, 2023</i>
Student Conferences (11:30am Dismissal)	Thursday, March 2, 2023
Student Conferences – All Day (no school)	Friday March 3, 2023
Schools close for break	Friday, March 10, 2023
<i>Schools not in Session</i>	<i>Monday, March 13, 2023 to Friday, March 17, 2023</i>
Spring break	Monday, March 20, 2023 to Friday, March 24, 2023
Schools reopen after break	Monday, March 27, 2023
Good Friday	Friday, April 7, 2023
Easter Monday	Monday, April 10, 2023
<i>Non-instructional day (district-based)</i>	<i>Wednesday, May 10, 2023</i>
Victoria Day	Monday, May 22, 2023
Last day for students (12:00pm Dismissal)	Thursday, June 29, 2023
Year-end administrative day	Friday, June 30, 2023
Schools close for Summer vacation	Friday, June 30, 2023



ALEXANDER ROBINSON ELEMENTARY

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BELL SCHEDULE 2022-2023

MONDAY – FRIDAY

8:25AM	Line Up Bell
8:30AM	Classes Begin
10:20AM	Recess Begins
10:33AM	Line Up Bell
10:35AM	Classes Begin
11:50PM	Lunchtime Begins
12:05PM	Students go outside to play
12:27PM	Line Up Bell
12:30PM	Classes Begin
2:20PM	Classes Dismissed

