

Alouette Elementary School

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Mrs. D. Servant, Principal Mrs. J. Clarke, Vice-Principal

NOVEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER



Recently I enjoyed a conversation with a former student's parent. She talked about leading with love. She believed her children learned so much from teachers and administrators showing so much kindness to her children through the ups and downs of life. She attributed her children's success to having a whole caring village positively impacting her children. Consistent values between home and school certainly help raise

happy, contributing citizens. This conversation resonated with me and seems to have special significance as we approach Remembrance Day.

What if everyone in the school community believed in helping each other? What if problems were seen as opportunities to learn? What if there was no gossip but discussion of how we could work together to support all learners (even the adults!) to feel connected to a caring community? Imagine a school community that understood how some learners struggle with math, some with reading, some with managing their emotions, and some with having appropriate social interactions. Imagine this special place where you were forgiven for a bad day and every day offered a fresh, new start? I wonder what this kind of community could look like if we learned to talk about our problems and trusted that all the adults were committed to all of the children. I wonder how the children would feel knowing that so many adults cared about them and were working together in an ethic of love?

We could call this school *Alouette!* It would be known as the best place to be because acceptance, inclusion, kindness and respect would matter every day. We could have diverse learning opportunities that included Music, Cyber programs, Wheelhouse field studies and more. And other schools could learn from us! Our school could teach children how to develop friendships, how to manage powerful emotions, how to have a voice, how compassion leads to happiness, and how to have empathy for others. In spite of living through a pandemic, we would all recognize how important it is to be kind, be calm and be safe. Children would feel safe to take risks, learn from mistakes, and discover their passions. Social conflicts could be framed as an opportunity to learn how to problem-solve peacefully. Rather than being framed as *bullying*. Acceptance would be the air that we breathe and diversity, our strength.

Education is so much more than learning to read, write, and do math. We are in the business of building relationships. These relationships form the core that allows everyone to feel safe and connected, so they can learn and reach their full potential. Schools lay the foundation for creating tomorrow's society. If children learn that we lead with love, they will one day be able to lead our towns, provinces, and country with love. Maybe this could lead to world peace. And it all started at Alouette, where together we all led our beautiful children in love.

Wishing you all a peaceful November.

Mrs. Donna Servant Principal

Mrs. Julie Clarke Vice Principal

COVID SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Please ensure you are maintaining physical distancing when dropping off and picking up children. We have noticed some crowding taking place. Please stand a distance from the exit doors and show your children the meeting place. Many thanks! The health and safety of all is our priority.

STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS

It is very important that the office have up-to-date information about your children. This form is used to contact parents if a child is ill, not at school, or in case of an emergency. Thanks to all who have signed and returned the form. <u>If you haven't, please be sure to update the information and submit to the office.</u>

WHO IS AN ABORIGINAL STUDENT?

Aboriginal Ancestry is determined on a voluntary basis through self-identification. This includes First Nations (status or non-status), Métis or Inuit Ancestry. No documentation is required, and the ancestry can go back several generations. Ministry of Education funding is provided to support the success of all Aboriginal students through culturally appropriate educational programs and services.

We encourage all students of First Nations, Metis, or Inuit Ancestry to complete a self-identification form as this allows you to access various supports and programs during the school year if you wish. If you have any questions about this process please do not hesitate to contact Kirsten Urdahl-Serr Principal, Aboriginal Education Phone: 604-466-6271. Email: kirsten_urdahl-serr@sd42.



Daylight Savings.....clocks fall back one hour!

Sunday, November 1st, our clocks are set back. To remember which way to set your watch, keep in mind "spring forward, fall back"

THANK-YOU!!

We are so thankful for the continued support of our Alouette community at our annual Terry Fox Run. It was great to see so many volunteers come and join us on a beautiful fall day to honour the legacy of Terry Fox and raise money for cancer research. Thank-you to all who donated, participated, and to Mrs. Rupert and Mrs. Wilson for organizing our run.

REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY

Our ceremony will be held on **Tuesday**, **November 10th** at 11:00 am. It will be held via Zoom for all classes at Alouette. Teachers will submit donations received for the veterans to the office for processing.



PARENT AND STUDENT CONFERENCES

Given the provincial health guidelines for educational settings, our term 1 reporting process will look slightly different this year. The conference will still occur with the teacher, the parent(s)/guardian(s), and the student. The main difference is that this conference will occur **over zoom** and will be a bit shorter than usual (10 - 15 minutes) instead of the usual (10 - 30 minutes).

Students will still create a portfolio of work and self-assess on the core competencies. This portfolio will be used to create a draft reporting document before the conference. This draft document and the student's portfolio will be sent home. The decrease in length of the conference is due to the fact that parents and students will be expected to review the portfolio and reporting document before the conference. Then, at the conference, parents can ask any questions they have and collaboratively create learning goals for the student for term 2. Once completed, teachers will print the reporting document, ensure that there are signatures on it by teachers, students, and the principal, and send it home. There will be no need for a parent signature on the reporting document this term.

Conferences will be taking place on November 26 and November 27. Students dismiss at 11:30 on November 26 so that conferences can be scheduled that afternoon. There is no school November 27 as the day is set aside for these conferences. Teachers will send home information about scheduling time frames.

Remembrance Day Wednesday, November 11th No School for Students

School based Non-Instructional Day Thursday November 12th

LOST AND FOUND

Racks with clothing will be rolled out to the front of the school on the first 3 days of each month. Please have a look if you are missing anything.

PLEASE LIMIT INTERRUPTIONS DURING SCHOOL HOURS

We appreciate everyone ensuring that children have all they will need for the day when they arrive at school. Forgotten lunches and jackets cause many interruptions that impact the learning in classrooms and work in the office. Thank-you for all your effort in assisting us.

PAC INFORMATION

The PAC is currently raising funds to update some of the playground equipment and purchase trees to create shaded spaces for outdoor learning. We are very excited to work with the teachers and Admins to purchase new items that will be beneficial to all students at Alouette.

Created by Kids Fundraiser

- -Teachers will be sending completed artwork home by Nov 3rd.
- -All orders will be placed online—NO CASH OR CHEQUES accepted
- -Only those ordering will need to return their Artwork by November 10th
- -Product should arrive by middle of December

Global Coffee Fundraiser

Online Store:

Our link to our online store: www.globalcoffeefundraising.ca/alouette

You can share this link with family and friends (and online with social media). Supporters can purchase coffee online. They can choose to pay to have their coffee shipped directly to them (via Canada Post), or they can opt to have it shipped with the group order to the school for distribution, which is free!

We will be running this fundraiser monthly and have selected the following order deadlines for November and December 2020.

Orders to be placed by November 15th with a delivery date of November 23rd, 2020 Orders to be placed by December 6th with a delivery date of December 14th, 2020

Purdy's

-Launching in November and orders are due Nov 22 and product will be delivered to students December 12. Ordering link will be sent out in a separate parent portal

Meridian Meats Gift Cards

-Orders due Nov 22nd and gift cards will be delivered to students by Nov 26th. More details on how to order coming soon

Poinsettia Fundraiser

Details coming soon!

November 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Clocks go back 1 hour.	Lost and found on display at front of school	Lost and found on display at front of school	Lost and found on display at front of school	5	6	7
8	9	10 Remembrance Day Ceremony 11:00 Created by Kids artwork and orders to school	Remembrance Day Holiday	12 District N.I.D. No school for students	13	14
Coffee orders due	16	17	18	19	20	21
Purdy's orders and Meridian Gift card orders due.	Coffee delivered	24	25	26 Student-led conferences. Early dismissal at 11:30 Meridian gift cards delivered	27 Student-led conferences. No school all day.	28
29	30					