

Alouette Elementary School

22155 Isaac Crescent, Maple Ridge V2X 0V9

<http://schools.sd42.ca/alouette>

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Principal: Mrs. Donna Servant

Vice Principal: Mrs. Julie Clarke

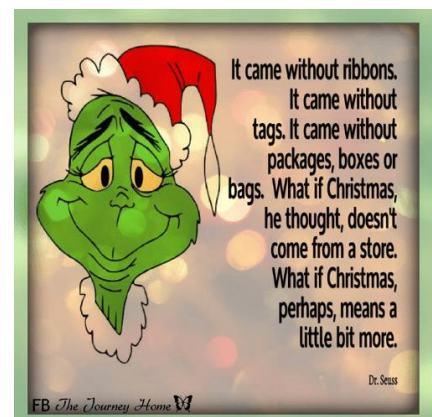


DECEMBER 2020

December is a joyful month as families and communities celebrate many traditions that bring us closer together and instill magic into the season. And yet, this year seems to present challenges. We may have to make some changes, start some new traditions, maybe even postpone some until next year. However, it does offer an opportunity to perhaps slow down and really focus on the most special parts of the season.

Over the years our family has learned to accept changing traditions because of circumstances. This year I've told my boys that our theme will be the Great White North and to think warm hats and mittens. Somehow we are hoping to have a turkey dinner outside on the patio. We've accepted that health & safety must come first, and we might actually have to do a Zoom Christmas get-together. We are creating memories and I'm sure one day we'll look back on this dinner and laugh. It will sure make us grateful for heat and/or technology!

Unfortunately, many school traditions have been put on hold this year. It will be my first year without a school Christmas concert in over twenty-five years! This makes me think about the valuable lesson from *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas*. We know that Christmas will come without ribbons and bows, it will come without caroling, shopping and shows. Just like in *Whoville*, each of us will find a way to celebrate the season and connect (even virtually) with loved ones. However your family enjoys Christmas this year, all of us at Alouette wish you the peace and joy that comes from spending time (in some creative way) with family. Have a wonderful, magical vacation and we look forward to welcoming everyone on January 4.



Mme Donna Servant
Principal

Mrs. Julie Clarke
Vice Principal



THANK-YOU! WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!

We recognize that before and after school is a busy time outside our school. We are grateful to those who are social distancing and wearing masks when weaving their way through the crowded spots. These are two more layers of protection that will keep us all safe.

FIVE DAYS OF GIVING

Alouette has had a long-standing tradition of giving through the '12 days of Christmas' to benefit our local families in need. This year we are adjusting it slightly to reflect our COVID 19 protocols. We would like to celebrate '5 Days of Giving' with an emphasis on cash donations to put into gift cards for those that could most benefit. A warm thank-you to our PAC for making a generous donation and assisting with this initiative.

Monday, December 7: Money Monday
 Tuesday, December 8: Toonie Tuesday
 Wednesday, December 9: Wallet Wednesday
 Thursday, December 10: Gift Card Thursday
 Friday, December 11: Five Dollar Friday.

Please contact the office if a tax receipt is required. A donation must have a value of at least \$25.00 before a tax receipt will be issued. These cheques must be made payable to School District 42. There is a cash donation form that must be completed for submission to the district.

Many thanks for helping to brighten Christmas for a family!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration for the 2021/2022 school year is open to children who are **5 years old on or before December 31, 2021**. Visit the district website for detailed information on the five phases (sibling registration, choice registration, general registration, late registration, open registration) and other important information: <http://www.sd42.ca/kindergarten-registration/>

Registration Phase	Registration Starts on Parent Portal <i>12:00 noon</i>	Registration Ends on Parent Portal for parents <i>11:59 pm</i>	Documentation due at school by parents <i>12:00 noon</i>
Sibling	Jan 06, 2021	Jan 12, 2021	Jan 19, 2021
Choice	Jan 20, 2021	Jan 25, 2021	Feb 5, 2021
General	Feb 3, 2021	Feb 10, 2021	Feb 22, 2021
Late	Feb 24, 2021	July 31, 2021	Sept 3, 2021 (for summer registrations)
Open	August 19, 2021	June 15, 2022	Within 5 business days. (for summer registrations within 5 business days of school opening.)

GRADE 6 IMMUNIZATIONS FOR THE 2020/2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Public Health will commence the School Immunization Program for this year's Grade 6 and 9 students in January 2021. They will also provide catch-up immunizations to students who did not complete their immunizations last school year or over the summer.

SCHOOL CLOSURE DECISION: SNOW

The decision to close schools due to accumulating snowfall is ultimately the responsibility of the superintendent, who must balance the safety of students, staff and parents with the need to provide learning. The decision is not taken lightly and is the result of a carefully thought out process that is reviewed after each experience and refined if necessary.

The decision to close schools is made by 6:15 a.m. Details are:

- Posted on the SD42 Twitter feed (@sd42news);
- Posted on the SD42 Facebook feed (SD42Facebook);
- Shared with News 1130, CKNW, and CBC 690 radio stations;
- Posted on the SD42 Website (www.sd42.ca).

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

Please ensure that your children are aware of lunchtime and afterschool arrangements when they arrive at school in the morning. We are happy to assist when unexpected problems arise, however we do appreciate your efforts in keeping those occurrences to a minimum so as not to disrupt the classroom learning environment.

DROP OFF ZONE

Please do not park or leave your vehicle when dropping off children in the morning. If you must escort your child to class please park on a nearby street and walk. It is important to keep traffic moving in the mornings. Thank-you for your cooperation.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE LIBRARY

I have noticed that there are a number of students with overdue books. It would be greatly appreciated if families could take an extra look around the house for them over the winter break. We wouldn't want Santa to trip over one and get hurt.

Happy New Year and hopefully everyone in your home will have a chance to curl up with a good book over the next few weeks!

Mrs. Waterman
Librarian



READING CORNER

Nightly reading time is critical for your child's long-term reading development so please make reading time a priority in the months ahead. Reading is simply the most important factor in school success.



It is sometimes wrongly assumed that reading skills are due mainly to natural ability; that children are either good readers or they are not. This is simply not the case. While it is true that some children do initially learn to read more easily, the MOST important factor in a student's eventual reading level is the amount of time they spend reading. One study of almost forty thousand fifth graders found that those who read 40 minutes a day acquired almost four times the vocabulary of students who read only 12 minutes a day. It also found that students whose family encouraged reading activities at home had higher reading achievement. Reading research consistently

shows a potent relationship between the volume of reading and reading achievement, so please encourage your child to read every night!

DECEMBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Lost and Found on display out front of school.	2 Lost and Found on display out front of school	3 Lost and Found on display out front of school	4	5
6	7 Money Monday	8 Toonie Tuesday	9 Wallet Wednesday	10 Gift Card Thursday	11 Five Dollar Friday	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 Pajama Day! Last day before Winter Vacation	19
20	21 School closed for Winter Break	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Schools closed for Winter Break	29	30	31	4	5

JANUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Schools closed for Winter Break	2
3 Welcome Back - School re-opens Lost and Found on display out front of school	4	5 Lost and Found on display out front of school	6 Sibling Kindergarten Registration begins on portal 12:00 noon Lost and Found on display out front of school	7	8	9
10	11	12 Sibling Kindergarten registration ends at 11:59 pm	13 Zoom assembly for classes 9:15	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Favourite Movie or Book Character Day Choice Program Kindergarten Registration opens 12:00 noon	21	22	23
24 <hr/> 25	26 Non-Instructional Day No School for Students	27	28	29	30	31 Choice Program Kindergarten Registration closes 11:59 pm