

Alouette Elementary

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Maple Ridge, BC V2X 0V9
<http://schools.sd42.ca/alouette>
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Principal: Mrs. Donna Servant
Vice Principal: Ms. Melissa Ferris



APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER

A few years ago, it was the year of graduations at our house. Connor's convocation was in October, Justin's in February, and Matt's took place in Australia in June. While my boys developed a passion for learning, I certainly didn't develop a passion for travelling so I missed the Australian one. It seems like yesterday they were all at Alouette Elementary, each one struggling in a different area. Setting goals, arguing about doing the work to achieve them, and then with a lot of hard work, succeeding. I used to tell them that it's easy to set a goal, but you need to work very hard to reach your destination.

Tom Hanks has been quoted for saying, *If it wasn't hard, everyone would do it. It's the hard that makes it great.* Education is such a journey, and we all learn from each other every day. Learning and persevering can be frustrating and disappointing before it feels good. It is hard to read, practice piano, and do homework when you are nine, and could be playing hockey outside. Getting my own boys to work through the hard parts through many years of school, helped us all build resilience. Yet time passes quickly, and it is a proud and heartwarming moment when our children walk down the aisle in their caps and gowns.



As we approach our final term, it is worth considering the goals that were set at our March conferences. Some of these included reading more regularly, writing, memorizing multiplication tables, managing emotions, and being more organized. It's important for our children to know that we sincerely value their goals and that it takes hard work, regular practice, and lots of support and encouragement to accomplish them. Thank-you for helping to keep these alive at home.

Signs of spring are everywhere and there is renewed energy that surrounds us. Looking ahead we look forward to the public speaking forum, several field trips, hot lunch days, and many other classroom events. Let's work together to help our children have a terrific third term.

Mme Donna Servant
Principal

Ms. Melissa Ferris
Vice Principal

STUDENT INFORMATION

Please remember to let the school office know if any of your child's information changes, i.e., home phone number, cell phone number, work phone number, address, emergency contact information, email address, etc. It is very important that the school has updated information about your children in case of emergency. Thank you.

PARENT LEARNING SURVEYS 2022/2023

The Provincial Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size, and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents, teachers and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

The Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 and 7, all school staff as well as **our** parent community. We encourage parents to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included. The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm Please follow the section under *Direct Access* (no logon number is required). Scroll to district 42 Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows and then scroll to Alouette Elementary.

All responses are anonymous and confidential. The surveys can be completed any time before April 28. We look forward to your input!

MOVING AND STUDENT TRANSFER REQUESTS

Although spring has just begun, plans are in full swing for September. If you know that you will be moving and not attending Alouette Elementary for the 2023/2024 school year, please let us know so that we can more accurately plan. Registrations, withdrawals, and transfer requests for students who are currently in Grades Kindergarten – 6 must be completed on the parent portal. Please note that this transfer process does **not** apply to incoming Kindergarten students. Incoming Kindergarten students who are not placed in their first-choice school are waitlisted for this school. If families move or need to request a new placement for their incoming kindergarten child, they email reghelp@sd42.ca.

Information about student transfers and registrations can be found at <https://www.sd42.ca/student-registration/>. The first transfer phase ends April 4. More information about elementary transfer guidelines can be found at <https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/Elementary-Transfer-Guidelines-2023-24.pdf> Please contact the principal, Donna Servant, at 604-463-8730 if you have any questions.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration for the 2023/24 school year is open to children who are **5 years old on or before December 31, 2023**. Visit the district website at the link below for detailed information. Late registration is now open until July 28 for parents who may have missed previous registration phases.

<http://www.sd42.ca/kindergarten-registration/>



The **Ready, Set, Kindergarten Program** brings together families, school, and community agencies to support children as they enter kindergarten. The goal is to share strategies and resources that make early learning through play a priority in the home and support children in a successful transition to school. Alouette will hold its program for new kindergarten registrants and their parents on Wednesday, May 31. More information will be sent via email later this month.

WHEELHOUSE AT ALOUETTE

The Wheelhouse is a classroom where **grade 6 and 7 students** are both challenged and supported in becoming life-long learners and responsible citizens. Some of the highlights of the program include:

- Weekly Field Study Days where students learn outside the regular class setting.
- A classroom of care and discovery that is well supported by staff, parents, and community mentors.
- Leadership activities that improve confidence, citizenship, and social responsibility.
- Wheelhouse students are also part of the school district 1-to-1 program, where each student is assigned an iPad for use throughout the school year.

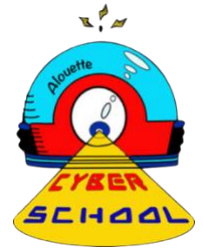
For more information, including a more in-depth look at the program, dates and times for student interviews, and details on how to become a Wheelhouse student, please visit The Wheelhouse online at <https://wheelhouse.sd42.ca/>.

Eligibility

District Wheelhouse is open to all SD42 students who will be in Grade 6 or 7 in September 2023. Students may begin the program in either Grade 6 or 7.

REGISTRATION for the District Wheelhouse Program is currently open on the parent portal and closes at midnight on April 28. All students registering for Wheelhouse must be in Grade 6 or 7 in September 2023. *The Wheelhouse program runs out of Alouette Elementary.*

CYBERSCHOOL PROGRAM 2023/2024 FOR GRADE 6/7 ALOUETTE STUDENTS



Cyberschool offers the traditional school curriculum using technology as a 21st century tool to enhance and extend student learning. Flexibility and choice, collaborative learning, time management, inquiry, and knowledge building are elements of this program. On the cyberday students will interact with other students and their teacher, utilize the resources of the internet, and discuss issues online while still being able to retain the personal contact that traditional face-to-face learning allows. Students in this program will attend school four days a week (Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri) and work from home on Thursdays.

To learn more about our program please visit. <https://cyberschool.sd42.ca>

Eligibility

Cyberschool is open to students who attend Alouette Elementary and will be in Grade 6 or 7 in September 2023.

Registration will begin on April 3rd, limited spots are available and will be based on first come, first serve basis. Please drop off your registration form to the office, and it will be time stamped. Registration form is included at the end of this newsletter.

STAFFING UPDATES

We bid farewell to our childcare worker, Joanne Wilson. Joanne has been at Alouette for 5 years and is moving on to another opportunity. She will certainly be missed by many. We wish her all the best!

LITTERLESS LUNCHESES

Just a gentle reminder to please help us with litter reduction with lunches. We ask students to take home all waste from their lunches. Many schools have implemented this initiative and are recognizing the benefits. Often children do not take the time to clean empty containers and are disposing these contaminated items into recycling. We know that they are simply in hurry to go outside and play. Litterless lunches are having a positive impact on the environment. Thanks for your support!



**Earth Day on Saturday, April 22, 2023 -
End Plastic Pollution!!**

Quick Fact: Earth Day promotes environmental awareness
and calls for the protection of our planet.



READING CORNER

Reading cartoons is still worthwhile reading!

Research has shown that boys often prefer more visual and nonfiction reading that contain facts and information while girls prefer more fictional stories. If your son does not seem as interested in reading, try different types of literature. Bring home some nonfiction books on amazing facts and strange creatures or more visual reading such as comic books (i.e., Garfield or Calvin and Hobbs). Research has shown that comic books really help students to predict and infer. Both are key reading skills that good readers use. Remember, any reading is good reading because it all helps to reinforce the patterns within the English language.



With the warmer weather upon us, please ensure your children are wearing their sunscreen and hat to school.

DRESS CODE

The school district is committed to providing students with learning environments that are safe, responsive, and inclusive. The district recognizes that decisions about dress reflect individual expression of identity, socio-cultural norms, and that they are personal. Students may attend school and school-related functions in dress of their choice provided that their choices:

- Conform with established health and safety requirements for the intended activity;
- Do not represent or promote weapons, gang culture, alcohol or drugs;
- Use respectful language;
- Do not depict or promote violence, racism, sexism, or discrimination; and
- Are not intimidating to others.

Ultimately, the school administration has the responsibility to apply the dress guidelines when necessary. If any person dresses in an inappropriate manner, the student should be advised personally and discretely and given an opportunity to meet school district guidelines.

ALL PHOTO PERMISSIONS REQUIRED FOR YEARBOOK

It is very important to verify that all your permissions are up to date on the portal. We can only insert class photos into our yearbook if we receive permission from every child in the class. If your child does not have a portal permission, then we cannot publish their photo in our annual yearbook. Please avoid disappointment and submit your Elementary Yearbook Permission at your earliest convenience through the parent portal. Our office staff can assist you if you have any questions.

INTERNET SAFETY PRESENTATIONS

Alouette has invited Safer Schools Together (SST) to present workshops to our parents and intermediate students on this important topic. SST is the subject matter expert for the Province of British Columbia, and other jurisdictions throughout North America. They have been recognized by all levels of government for the development of effective and innovative strategies that ensure safe and caring school communities. We are holding a 2-hour session for parents and caregivers by Zoom on Tuesday evening, May 9 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. There will also be sessions during the day on May 11 for students in Grades 4 – 7. Detailed information follows:

Parent/Caregiver Session: Social Media Awareness, Digital Citizenship, and Cyber-Bullying (2-hour session with Q&A) See flyer further in this newsletter.

TO REGISTER FOR THIS PARENT/CAREGIVER SESSION, PLEASE [CLICK HERE](#)

This session is for parents/caregivers of students in Grades 4 - 7. Your child in the intermediate grades has now entered the phase of their digital media lives where cell phone ownership doubles, video game use explodes, and social media use becomes problematic. At this age, children encounter situations that will challenge their independence. A snapshot of current trends and concerning applications will be provided to equip you in your digital parenting strategy. This session will cover recommendations for family rules, parental controls, family tech plans, as well as suggestions for monitoring your tween/teen's digital life. Pre-registration is necessary at the link above.

PAC News...

A hot lunch is scheduled for Friday, April 28. More information coming soon.

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7
EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 10**

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS ON THE DAYS LISTED ABOVE



SAFER
SCHOOLS
TOGETHER

SOCIAL MEDIA AWARENESS, DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP, AND CYBERBULLYING

FOR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS OF SCHOOL-AGED STUDENTS



DATE: Tuesday, May 9th, 2023

TIME: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

ADDRESS: Remote via Zoom. Meeting ID and passcode will be emailed to all registered attendees the morning of the session.

As a parent/caregiver, you lead the charge as a digital role model. Help your child develop a strong digital citizenship foundation while reminding them that their digital tattoo reflects their real and online selves. Parents/Caregivers have an important role to play in providing support and guidance during critical periods. A snapshot of current trends and concerning apps will be provided to equip you in your digital parenting strategy.

DO NOT MISS THIS FREE EVENT!!!

- **Social Media Update** - The most current apps and trends in your children's social media lives
- **Digital Parenting Strategy** - How to have important conversations with your child around social media safety.
- **Digital Footprint and Reputation** - With their future approaching, recruiters and employers are taking note - What will they find?
- **Family Tech Plan** - Recommendations for family guidelines and parental controls
- **TO REGISTER FOR THIS SESSION, PLEASE [CLICK HERE](#)**

Using today for a safer tomorrow

FREE GROUP

CONNECT PARENT GROUP

Supporting parents and caregivers with
concerns about their pre-teens and teens
behavior and emotional health

Date: April 19- June 21 (Wed)

Time: 5-7pm

Cost: Free

Location: The Family Education and
Support Centre

*Please note, there is no childminding for
this group.*



The Family Education and
Support Centre
22554 Lougheed Highway
Maple Ridge, BC

Register through
our website familyed.bc.ca
OR reg@familyed.ca

Cyberschool Program Registration 2023/2024



This program is limited to:

- **Students who will be in Grade 6 or 7 in September 2023.**
- **Students who are currently attending Alouette or assigned to Alouette School for the 23-24 school year.**

Student Surname: _____ First Name: _____

Grade in September 2023: _____

Parent/Guardian (1) Full Name: _____

Cell Number: _____ Home Phone Number: _____

Parent/Guardian (2) Full Name: _____

Cell Number: _____ Home Phone Number: _____

Early registrations will only be accepted from students who are in the program for the 22-23 school year and would like to continue. New enrollment is limited, and acceptance is based on the timestamp and date of this form. You will be notified by May 1st if accepted into the program. Once maximum enrollment is reached, students are placed on a waitlist, and you will be notified as spaces become available. Your child will remain in the regular stream programming at Alouette while on the waitlist.

Once accepted into the Cyber program, it is necessary to complete a transfer request should you wish to return to regular stream. Returning to regular stream will be based on space available.

By signing this registration form, you agree that your child will be supervised by an adult on Thursdays when working from home.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Office Use Only – **New Registrations are Not Accepted Prior to April 3rd.**

Date Received: _____ Time: _____

Accepted: _____ or Waitlist: _____

Administrator Signature: _____



Alouette Elementary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Cyberschool Registration in office I Am Awesome Program in MP Room	4 Div. 3 River Workshop	5 Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony Meeting 6:00 by Zoom	6	7 Good Friday No School	8
9 Happy Easter	10 Easter Monday No School	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 I Am Awesome Program in MP Room	18	19	20	21	22 Earth Day
23	24 Public Speaking in gym Grades 4/5 I Am Awesome Program in MP Room	25 Public Speaking in gym Grades 6/7	26 Secretaries Day	27	28 Hot Lunch Day - More info to come. Last day Parent Learning Surveys Wheelhouse Registration Closes	29
30						