

Alouette Elementary

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<http://schools.sd42.ca/alouette>
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Principal: Mrs. Donna Servant
Vice Principal: Ms. Melissa Ferris



MAY 2023 NEWSLETTER

As we reflect on the past year, we are so grateful that we have been able to enjoy many of our traditions that were put on hold because of the pandemic. It is wonderful meeting in person again, holding assemblies, hearing the choir sing, and being able to get to know each other a little better. The foundation of a caring school community is relationships, and it has been such a privilege to serve the Alouette community. It is when my own children attended here that I was inspired to become a teacher. As a matter of fact, the principal at the time, wrote my letter of recommendation. I could have never imagined where that would lead. Life brings us so many possibilities.

May is generally a month of bright colours, fresh air, and hopefully a lot more sunshine. We have much to look forward to in these final months of school. This month we have several events planned. Our school is pleased to offer an internet safety presentation for parents/guardians by Zoom on the evening of May 9. Please see information that follows for information about registering for this free program. We were receiving many queries about students' social media and felt this workshop by Safer Schools Together would be valuable for all of us. There will also be a session for students in grades 4 – 7 on May 12. Our intermediate classes will be participating in *Track Attack Day* on May 17, and continue to develop their track and field skills for the District Track and Field meet in June. Hub Cycling will be doing workshops with divisions 1 through 7 that will culminate in a bike ride around the neighbourhood. The primaries have an opportunity to participate in the district primary run on May 18. Grade 7's visit their high schools on May 24. And we end the month with our *Ready, Set, Kindergarten* event on May 31. We welcome our new kindergarten students that afternoon, while existing kindergartens dismiss at 11:00.

In closing, we want to extend a warm note of thanks to all our volunteers. You have led important fundraisers, created events for our children, supported us with learning resources, driven on field trips, held hot lunch days, regularly cleaned our grounds, and so much more! We want all of you to know that we are grateful for this support! We hope you can join us at our appreciation coffee on June 6. More details can be found in this newsletter. It has been a pleasure getting to know all of you.



Mrs. Donna Servant
Principal

Ms. Melissa Ferris
Vice Principal

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 12 for students in Grades 4 – 7. (This was originally May 11 but has been rescheduled to May 12.) 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.

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.

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 on your children in case of emergency.** Thank you.

PARKING

Student safety is our top priority. Signs are posted that all parking lots are designated for staff and vehicles displaying the disabled tag in their windshield. **PLEASE DO NOT PULL INTO THE PARKING LOTS.** We recommend parking on a nearby adjacent street and walking your child to school. Ensure all pedestrians use designated crosswalks and approach with caution. The roundabout in front is only for drop off and pick up. Please do not park in the drop off zone and escort your child to class. Also, please remain in your vehicle at pick up if you are waiting for your child in the roundabout. We appreciate your cooperation in this regard as we work together to positively impact our children's school experience and keep everyone safe.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Dress for the Weather

Please remind children to apply their sunscreen, wear a hat and bring a water bottle to school. It's important to ensure they are dressed suitably for the outdoors. Our students are outside for recess and 20 minutes at lunch. We also hold some classes outdoors. There are very few covered areas to get away from the sunshine and we want them to be protected from the strong UV rays at this time of year.

Wheels at School

Please ensure children wear a helmet if they are riding a bike/scooter to school. Their heads are precious, and we care that they are safe. We do ask children to walk their wheels when on school grounds to avoid any accidents due to congestion at arrival and dismissal. Thanks for your support!

School Access

For the safety of our students, all visitors and volunteers are required to sign-in and sign-out at the office and wear a "visitor" tag while in the school. To ensure an uninterrupted learning environment in classrooms, parents or visitors with lunches or messages are reminded to leave them at the office and they will be forwarded at a convenient time. Parents/visitors are to refrain from going directly to classrooms.

Lockdown Drill at Alouette

We will be holding a lockdown drill on May 25 at Alouette. Students will be advised that this is a practice much like our fire drills. Lockdowns may be necessary where there is an internal or external threat to the safety of the school occupants. A "lockdown" is a situation where an announcement is made and staff and students are to remain in a secure location with doors locked and windows closed, and cell phones turned off. As with fire drills and other safety programs, the hope is to familiarize students and staff with a procedure that they will be able to follow quickly, effectively, and safely.

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.

Early dismissal for all current kindergarten students on May 31 at 11:00 a.m. This is due to our Ready, Set, Kindergarten event for our newcomers.

Wednesday, May 10 Non-instructional day
Monday, May 22 Victoria Day Holiday
No School

NEXT YEAR'S CLASS PLACEMENT

We are beginning to create our classes for next year. Please be assured that staff devote considerable time, care, and attention to this process. This very complex and lengthy responsibility occurs over several weeks and continues into September when class placements are finalized.

Throughout the year, there have been many opportunities for parents and teachers to discuss each child. Staff work together to consider the following criteria very carefully: **social emotional skills and relationships**, as well as **learning styles, strengths, and needs**. Our goal is to create safe and engaging inclusive classrooms that balance these factors, as equitably as possible.

If you feel there is further information to consider about your child, you may submit input to the principal and your child's current teacher, in writing by May 31, 2023. **Please refrain from requesting specific teachers or peers by name.**

READING LINK CHALLENGE 2023

We have had another super exciting Reading Link Challenge year! This reading competition is sponsored and organized by the Fraser Valley Regional Library. It is targeted for students in grades 4 and 5 who love reading and enjoy the challenge of testing themselves on details from the books. The students have 10 weeks to read 6 chapter books. Our Alouette teams were:

The Reading Robots from Mrs. Wightman's class
The Wong Express from Mrs. Wong's class
The Literacy Lakers from Mrs. Rupert and Mr. Patterson's class
Reading Rangers from Mrs. Buhler and Mrs. Holt's class
The Reading Wranglers from Mr. Chiu's class

The In-School Challenge was in March with Mrs. Rupert's class winning! Every team did their best and displayed good sportsmanship. Mrs. Rupert and Mr. Patterson's Literacy Lakers went on to represent Alouette at the district level challenge at the Albion Community Center. The Lakers were on fire and showed such amazing teamwork and sportsmanship! Congratulations to all our Alouette readers!

And thank-you Mrs. Waterman for organizing the event for Alouette!

Grade 6 immunizations will be May 8 in the morning. This is NOT a Covid vaccine.



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

We would like to recognize our volunteers who have helped in so many ways this year by hosting a morning coffee on Tuesday, June 6, from 8:30 – 10:00 am. After the bell rings, please sign in and obtain a visitor badge from the front lobby before going to the library. There will be coffee and treats. In order for us to plan accordingly, please RSVP by emailing cathy_wightman@sd42.ca by May 26. Thanks so much for all you have done to support our school this year!

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.

SAY CHEESE! Class & Group Photos



Photo Express will be here on Wednesday, May 3 to take class, group, and team photos.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Alouette's Public Speaking Contest was held at the end of April. Congratulations to all students who made it to the final event. They did an outstanding job! The results were very close.



Grade 4

Winner: **Preston Rogers** My Passion for Art
Runner up: **Kayleigh Beck** Fruits from Around the World

Grade 5

Winner: **Tina Nguyen** Why YouTube is Helpful
Runner up: **Lenore Morale** Syria, the Country I Love

Grade 6

Winner: **Emma-Lee Holt** Drawing
Runner up: **Maya Shylov** Land Pollution

Grade 7

Winner: **Calvin Marcelli** Plastic in the Ocean
Runner up: **Emma Hak** Why my Mom Gets Agitated



Grade 7's Attend High School
Wednesday, May 24th

Students will make their own way to their respective schools.

SUMMER LEARNING

Registration is available on the parent portal April 18 through to May 9. The summer schedule runs July 5 – 21, 9:00 – 12:20 Monday to Friday at Golden Ears Elementary. Information is available via the district website at: <https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/Summer-Learning-Options-2023.pdf>

Notes from PAC

YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST

Get out your crayons, markers, or paints!!

Once again, the PAC is having a yearbook cover contest. Any Alouette student can enter. We are looking for colourful & bright representations of Alouette School.

For your entry to be considered, it must follow these rules:

- Use a regular 8½x11 sheet of white paper
- Make your cover vertical (up-and-down, not side-to-side)
- Include our school's name, Alouette Elementary, and the year, 2022-2023, in the design
- **MUST** be hand drawn. No computer images due to printing issues
- Collaborations will not be considered. One student per yearbook entry

DO NOT put your name on the front of the paper. **YES**, put your name on the back with your division number.

All submissions must be into the office by **Monday, May 8th**. The Winners will be announced the following week. The intermediate winner will receive one FREE yearbook copy and be published on the front cover. The primary winner will receive one FREE yearbook copy and be published on the back cover.

COFFEE FUNDRAISER

Just in time for Mother's Day. Help support our Grade 7's farewell by purchasing roasted coffee. Please visit link below to place your order.

Orders due by May 8th and will be delivered to classrooms on May 11th.

<https://globalcoffeefundraising.ca/alouette/>

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER THAT BENEFITS ALOUETTE

A number of schools are participating in a community fundraiser in partnership with Rotary Club of Haney. Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit students within the SD42 community. You can get your tickets online at <https://haneyrotarysd42dpac.rafflenexus.com/a/dpac>.

Deadline is June 28, 2023, and the draw is June 29, 2023, at 6:00 pm.



ROTARY CLUB OF HANEY – SD42 DPAC ONLINE RAFFLE & 50/50 FUNDRAISER

Rotary Club of Haney ~ SD42 DPAC
Alouette PAC ~ Glenwood PAC ~ Maple Ridge PAC ~ Westview PAC ~ Whonnock PAC ~ Yennadon PAC
PARTICIPATING GROUPS



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



2023-2024 DISTRICT SCHOOL CALENDAR

Schools opening day for students	Tuesday, September 5, 2023
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	Monday, October 2, 2023
<i>Non-instructional day (School Growth Planning Day)</i>	<i>Tuesday, October 3, 2023</i>
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 9, 2023
<i>Non-instructional day (province-wide)</i>	<i>Friday, October 20, 2023</i>
<i>Non-instructional day (school-based)</i>	<i>Friday, November 10, 2023</i>
Remembrance Day	Monday, November 13, 2023
Student-Led Conferences – early dismissal @ 11:30 am	Thursday, December 7, 2023
Student-Led Conferences – all day – students do not attend	Friday, December 8, 2023
Schools close for break	Friday, December 22, 2023
Winter break	Monday, December 25, 2023 to Friday, January 5, 2024
Schools reopen after break	Monday, January 8, 2024
<i>Non-instructional day (district-based)</i>	<i>Wednesday, January 24, 2024</i>
Family Day	Monday, February 19, 2024
<i>Non-instructional day (school-based)</i>	<i>Tuesday, February 20, 2024</i>
Student-Led Conferences – early dismissal @ 11:30 am	Wednesday, March 13, 2024
Student-Led Conferences – all day – students do not attend	Thursday, March 14, 2024
Schools close for break	Friday, March 15, 2024
Spring break	<i>Monday, March 18, 2024 to Friday, March 22, 2024</i>
<i>Schools not in Session</i>	<i>Monday, March 25, 2024 to Thursday, March 28, 2024</i>
Good Friday	Friday, March 29, 2024
Easter Monday	Monday, April 1, 2024
Schools reopen after break	Tuesday, April 2, 2024
<i>Non-instructional day (district-based)</i>	<i>Wednesday, May 15, 2024</i>
Victoria Day	Monday, May 20, 2024
Last day for students	Tuesday, June 25, 2024
Year-end administrative day	Wednesday, June 26, 2024
Schools close for summer break	Wednesday, June 26, 2024

ELEMENTARY (K-7) DAILY

SCHEDULE:
8:30am to 2:20pm.
295 instructional minutes per day;
179 days of instruction.
Kindergarten gradual entry the first 2 weeks of September.

NB: *Kanaka Creek Elementary* will run its year-round calendar separate from this calendar.

SECONDARY (8-12) DAILY

SCHEDULE:
8:30am to 2:45pm.
320 instructional minutes per day;
179 days of instruction.

Minimum number of hours of instruction that must be offered as per *School Act and Calendar Regulation:*

853 hours of instruction for students in kindergarten.
878 hours of instruction for students in grades 1 to 7

952 hours of instruction for students in grades 8 to 12

Community Information

Day Camps

Science Rocks! Summer Camps

The University of Fraser Valley Faculty of Science is offering Science Rocks! Summer camps at Abbotsford and Chilliwack campuses of UFV July 4 - and August 18, 2023, for kids going into **grades 4, 5, 6, and 7** for the upcoming fall. Fun and exciting science activities exploring physics, biology, chemistry, math, and computer science.

Lear more: <https://ufv.ca/science/science-in-the-community/science-rocks/>

Royal Soccer Club Day Camps 2023

Royal Soccer Club is once again offering soccer day camps, including morning and full day sessions. These camps, appropriate for children aged 5-13, have before and after school care available and will run in the months of July and August. Visit <https://royalsoccerclub.com/> to learn more.

Morning session info: <https://royalsoccerclub.com/our-camps/summer-day-camps/morning-sessions/>

Full day session info: <https://royalsoccerclub.com/our-camps/summer-day-camps/full-day-sessions/>



Alouette Elementary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1 I am Awesome Program in MP room after school</p> <p>District public speaking finals grades 4 & 5</p>	<p>2</p> <p>District public speaking finals grade 6 & 7</p>	<p>3 Class, team, and panorama photos</p> <p>Div. 1 - 7 Hub Cycling</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Last day to order crazy bread for May 12</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Div. 1 - 7 Hub Cycling</p>	<p>6</p>
7	<p>8 Grade 6 immunizations</p> <p>Last day to order Global Coffee</p> <p>Last day for submissions to PAC yearbook cover contest</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Parent/Guardian Internet Safety Presentation 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm</p>	<p>10 Non-Instructional Day - No school for students</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Global Coffee delivered</p>	<p>12 Intermediate internet safety presentations</p> <p>Crazy Bread Snack Day at recess</p>	<p>13</p>
14	<p>15</p> <p>Div. 4 - 7 Hub Cycling</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Intermediate Track Attack Day</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Primary cross-country run at Albion sports field</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Div. 1 - 3 Hub Cycling</p>	<p>20</p>
21	<p>22 Victoria Day Holiday</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Grade 7's visit high schools</p>	<p>25 Lockdown Drill</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
28	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Ready, Set, Kindergarten 12:30</p> <p>Current Kindergartens dismiss at 11:00</p>			

