

Alouette Elementary

22155 Isaac Crescent,
Maple Ridge, BC V2X 0V9
<http://schools.sd42.ca/alouette>
T: 604-463-8730 F: 604-463-3281

Principal: Mrs. Donna Servant
Vice Principal: Ms. Melissa Ferris



SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2023

Dear families of this wonderful Alouette community,

As I begin packing up my office, I think about how grateful I am to have spent much of my career working with children. They have taught me so much about living and laughing, teaching, and learning. And now it is time to write my last newsletter to all of you. It feels like yesterday that I arrived as a stranger, trying to meet people through masks and with many restrictions! And now I am leaving, knowing so many of you very well. We have journeyed through a pandemic and now returned to enjoying many traditions from the past that make schools special. What a ride this has been! Thanks to all of you for your acceptance, support, and daily kindness. This incredible community has left its footprint on my heart. I have always felt at home here because of such a caring and dedicated staff and parent community.

I am also hopeful for the future. I do look forward to spending more time with my husband and three sons. Two of them even want me to teach them piano again!

I wish you all a wonderful summer. These precious times with our children pass quickly so enjoy. I remember years ago someone mentioned how much dust there was in my house. I replied that if they sat in a different spot then it wasn't so visible and that I planned to get to the dusting once my children were grown up. I will finally have time for this! Now it's time to turn off the alarms and spend more time doing the things that build memories. In closing, please remember to be kind to yourself, enjoy living in the moment, and keep making the world a better place every day.

Au revoir!

Sincerely,
Mme Donna Servant



"How lucky I am to
have something that
makes saying
goodbye so hard."

LOOKING AHEAD:

**First day back to school for students is Tuesday, September 5th
Hours are 12:30 – 2:20 on the first day. Regular school hours
are effective Wednesday, September 6, 8:30 - 2:20. All
returning students go to their current classrooms. All
Wheelhouse students go to the portable at the back of the
school. New students (except for Wheelhouse) go to the library.
Please do not bring school supplies until students are placed in
their new classes.**

New Kindergarten Students

**Intake interviews take place on Tuesday, September 5 or
Wednesday, September 6. Teachers notified parents in June.
If uncertain, please contact the office.**

**Kindergarten students follow a gradual entry plan as advised
from the teachers.**

**National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Holiday Oct. 2
Non – Instructional Day Tuesday, Oct. 3
(School not in session for students)**

PRIMARY CROSS-COUNTRY



It was a great spring primary cross country event! Thank-you to all the teachers who took their students out for Run Club to help develop their running stamina and thank you to all our staff and parents who came out to support our primary children!



INTERMEDIATE TRACK

Thanks to all the intermediate team who led Track Attack Day. And congratulations to all the students who represented Alouette at the district meet in June! It was an exciting event and we are grateful to all the parents who came out to support the event and cheer on our students.

FINAL REPORTS:

These will be posted to the parent portal on June 29.

Last day for students is June 29

Dismissal is at 12:00 noon.

Kindergarten

Information was sent to our new families before the end of June containing their intake interview time. Specifics about gradual entry will be communicated in September at the intake meeting, from the kindergarten team. The office reopens August 28 if you have any questions or concerns.

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. Kindergarten registration will reopen on August 21.

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

MOVING, STUDENT WITHDRAWALS, 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 were in Grades Kindergarten – 6 (in 22-23) 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, withdrawals, and registrations can be found at <https://www.sd42.ca/student-registration/>. If you are moving out of district it is important to complete a withdrawal on the parent portal. We are currently in the third transfer phase which closes August 24. More information about elementary transfer guidelines can be found at <https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/Elementary-Transfer-Guidelines-2023-24.pdf>



School Supplies for September

Lists for respective grades have been posted to our website at <https://elementary.sd42.ca/alouette/school-supplies/>

Please do not bring supplies to school until students have transitioned to their new classes in September.

SCHOOL HOURS 2023-2024

Please note that school hours are **8:30 - 2:20** for this year. Recess will be 10:20 - 10:35 and lunch 12:00 - 12:40.

STAFFING UPDATES:

We sadly bid farewell to the following staff members this year:

Mrs. Buhler	Ms. Macphail
Ms. J. Gill	Ms. Vanhulsen
Mrs. Lonthie	Mrs. Carmichael
Mrs. Davies	Mrs. McEvoy
Mme Servant	Mrs. Hakkinen

We appreciate their dedication and hard work and wish them all continued success in future endeavors!

In September, we welcome:

Mrs. Gallop (Principal)
Mrs. McCristall (Teacher)
Mrs. Pedersen (Teacher)
Mr. Caffuta (Teacher)
Mrs. Higgins (Education Assistant)
Mrs. Wood (Education Assistant)
Mrs. Sager (Teacher)

STUDENT MEDICATIONS



If you have left any medication to be kept at school for your child, we ask that you pick it up before summer break. Any unclaimed medication will be disposed of.

From the Library....

Thank you to all students and families who have returned or paid for overdue and lost books. If you have any outstanding books, please return them ASAP. Thursday, June 29th is the last day of school, otherwise, keep an eye out for any lost books that may turn up over the summer and return them to Mrs. Waterman in the fall.



I want to thank all our families and staff for their support with the library. It has been so rewarding connecting the students of Alouette with great books and working with them throughout the year. Keep reading over the summer and check out the free **Summer Reading Program** at the **FVRL (Public Library)**.

See you in September,
Mrs. Jenny Waterman
Teacher-Librarian

RESOURCE FOR PARENTS

SD42 has a resource for parents <https://success.sd42.ca>

This website provides brief and concise information on a variety of issues that indirectly and directly impact a child's educational success. Some topics currently on the website include:

- Healthy Use of Technology and Screen Time
- Developing Healthy Habits
- Age-Appropriate Expectations
- Positive Social Media Use
- Healthy Study Space
- App-Use Guide
- Internet Safety: cyberbullying, sexting, privacy awareness and finding information
- Math Tips
- Reading Tips

FROM THE PAC

Thank-you to the following members who have taken on executive roles for next year:

- **PAC Chair** - Jasmin Schuss
- **Treasurer** - Talia Braun
- **Secretary** - Erin Stewart
- **DPAC** – Vacant
- **Hot Lunch** – Karen Robins, Alicia Skorepa
- **Members-at-Large:** - Sarah Sparks, Crystal Tippe

Our Alouette PAC can be reached at Alouettepac@gmail.com if you have any questions. The email is checked over the summer. We will have our first meeting on September 22 at 8:30 in the library. All are welcome!



2023-2024 ALOUETTE SCHOOL CALENDAR

Schools opening day for students – Late start: 12:30 – 2:20	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

Burns Bog Conservation Society

Kids Summer Day Camps, July, and August

Children ages 6-12 will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of scientific experiments, hands-on crafts, and entertaining games led by our experienced team of camp counsellors. Camp Curriculum each week will follow one of the five unique themes we have: Animal Mania, Wilderness Survival, Destination Imagination, Junior Scientists, and Bog Detectives. With the aim to educate children on the importance of peatland ecosystems, we will provide a positive learning environment and enriching educational experience for all participants.

Register at <https://burnsbog.org>

Environmental Leadership Camps, July 31 – August 25, 2023

This year we are hosting a brand-new camp! Our Environmental leadership day camps will give teens ages 13 to 15 the opportunity to explore environmental careers, conduct fun outdoor experiments, and share ideas on how we should tackle environmental issues such as climate change. Throughout the week, campers will dig into ten fields of environmental careers, from wildlife conservation to environmental engineering. Campers will be taking part in outdoor activities such as invasive species pulls, team debates, and fun outdoor games. If you are interested in pursuing a career within environmental science and love being outdoors and exploring diverse ecosystems such as Burns Bog, this camp is for you!

More information at <https://burnsbog.org>

Summer 2023 Pitt Meadows Parks, Recreation and Culture Opportunities

Hello Summer Programs!

Our summer program guide is now available online and is now available in print. Browse the City of Pitt Meadows Parks, Recreation & Culture Guide for a variety of activities and programs for all age groups! **Registration for summer programs opens on May 30 at 8 am.**

Visit pittmeadows.ca/programguide for details.

Youth Lounge at Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre!

This safe place is for youth ages 11-18 years old. For an annual membership of \$10, youth members can access the Youth lounge and enjoy activities such as billiards, foosball, table tennis, PlayStation pods, retro arcade games, Nintendo Switch, and special events. For details visit www.pittmeadows.ca/youth.

Low-Cost Activities at Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre:

Parent & Child Playtime

Looking for an indoor activity? PMFRC offers low-cost [Parent & Child Playtime](#) in the gymnasium on Mondays and Wednesdays (10-11:45 am) and Saturdays (9-11 am) for only \$1 per child.

Value Times at the Fitness Centre

Work out at the fitness centre during our value times. It's only \$1 for youth (13-18Y) and seniors (60Y+) and \$2 for adults (19-59Y). Value times are:

Tuesday 10-11:30am, Wednesday 8:30-9:30am, Thursday 6-7am and Saturday from 3-6pm.

Multisport 13Y+

Drop-in for Multisport on Fridays from 3-5pm, it's only \$1 for youth (13-18Y).

Splash into Summer!

Keep cool this summer at the Harris Road Pool and the Spray Park. Harris Road Pool is open from July 1 to September 4 and the Spray Park season runs from June to September, weather permitting. For full details visit pittmeadows.ca/parks-recreation/drop-schedules-hours-rates/outdoor-public-swimming-spray-park

FREE Summer Registered Programs:

Feature Artist Workshops – Outdoor Sketching – Join us in August for two outdoor sketching workshops with avid sketcher, Wendy Mould. The workshops will be held outside at Waterfront Commons Park, weather permitting. To register and see full details visit pittmeadows.ca/programguide and see page 27 in the Summer Program guide.

Upcoming Pitt Meadows FREE Family Events and Activities

The City of Pitt Meadows proudly hosts several signature and community events and activities throughout the year. Upcoming summer events and activities include:

- Farmers Market – Every Tuesday, June 13 to September 26
- Pride Concert – June 14
- Canada Day – July 1
- Summer Serenade Concert Series – Wednesday nights July 5 to August 23
- Bard on the Bandstand July 13-15

For full details on these events and activities visit pittmeadows.ca/our-community/events/special-events