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**June 24, 2020 Newsletter**

## **Blue Mountain Elementary**

12153 248 Street, Maple Ridge, BC V4R 1J3

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### **Message from the Principal:**

Well it's hard to believe that today is the last day of school. This year has been an incredible test to our resilience. We have experienced COVID-19 on a global level and managed to adapt to our current environment both at school and in our community. School is not just a place for learning, but a focal point for the community to gather and work towards a common goal of building a better future for our children. The success of any school is measured by the sense of belonging and ownership that its students feel, and the involvement of its families. Our community of students, parents, staff, and neighbours excel in this regard, which makes our school incredibly special. Thank you for an excellent school year at Blue Mountain Elementary! You will be receiving your child's final report card shortly. Please celebrate the successes, discuss the areas of concern, and plan for continued growth. We know that September and another school

year will appear very quickly; thus, some preparation over the summer is highly recommended. Taking time to read with your child, visit the local library, or just going out to visit your community all offer wonderful opportunities for learning.

We would like to take a moment to thank our PAC for all their wonderful support this year. Without their hard work and dedication, we wouldn't have had an opportunity to take buses on field trips, purchase extra items for classrooms, equip our building with water bottle filling stations/fountains, and plan for outdoor learning spaces, equipment

and furniture! Parental involvement is so important to the success of any school and we value both your input and incredible efforts to make BME a special school.

What a wonderful Grade Seven Event yesterday with the 'Tropical theme' that the teachers created. This is a special time for our Grade Sevens and their families, and we wish them much success as they continue their education at secondary school. On behalf of all the staff at Blue Mountain Elementary, we wish you a safe, happy and relaxing summer!



Mrs. Hickey :)

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I would also deem our June 'Stage 3' as done well, I am sure many of you are wondering what September will bring. With that in mind, please look for further announcements on the SD42 website and social media by the third week of August.

We certainly hope that all of next year will be at Stage One, but if we are realistic there is the likely possibility that the province may cycle through the various stages during the year. Our BME teachers have demonstrated tremendous flexibility and innovation during the last three months, and I know this will continue next year as necessary. Students and staff have already demonstrated how remarkable and resilient they are, and I am confident we can all adjust next year as needed.

We look forward to welcoming your children and you back to our school community in the fall. In the meantime, I hope all of you have a wonderful and positive summer with your children and focus on all the good that we can see in the world. You can email me anytime with your questions [laureen.hickey@sd42.ca](mailto:laureen.hickey@sd42.ca). Please stay healthy and stay safe.

Mrs. Hickey



**Returning of Devices:** We do have a few more devices and/or chargers still out. All devices need to be returned from families who borrowed a device for remote learning. Please call the office or contact Mrs. Hickey if you have any questions.

Staff Welcomes and Farewells

We are pleased to announce the arrival of the following new staff members to Blue Mountain Elementary;

Penny Morgan – Primary Teacher

Michele Smith – Support Teacher

Chrystie Walker – EA

Tina Rutledge – EA

Analyn Osborne – Custodian

Becci Olsen – Child Care Worker



We wish to express our sincere thanks to the following staff members who have served Blue Mountain so well. We will miss you. Good luck in your future endeavours.

Areal Lutsch- Teacher  
Lyrae Perkin - Teacher  
Amanda Vergara - Teacher  
Ashley Radomski - Teacher  
Veronica Martin - EA  
Olga Rousseau - EA



### **Library Books?**

1. There is a "book bin" on our blue bench outside our front doors during regular school hours (8:30-2:20) so parents can just drop off the books. If these times don't work for you, please call the school office to arrange a drop off.

**School Supplies For Next Year** - You can order your school supplies online if you wish@ <https://creativepacks.ca/collections/packs/blue-mountain-elementary+>

If you need to pick up your child's school supplies from this year please email your child's teacher regarding a date and time for pickup.



# Summer Hours 2020

## **Summer Hours of Operation**

Fri., June 26 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Mon., June 29 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Tues., June 30 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Wed., July 1 Canada Day – Closed

Thurs., July 2 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Fri., July 3 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

*(closed for lunch each day 12:00 – 12:30 p.m.)*

\*Closed for summer maintenance and holidays July 6 – August 28

## **School Office Reopens for Registration and General Inquiries**

Mon. Aug. 31 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Tues. Sept. 1 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 2 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Thurs. Sept. 3 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Fri. Sept. 4 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

*(closed for lunch each day 12:00 – 12:30 p.m.)*

## **First Day of School for 2020-2021**

Students return to school on Tues., September 8th from 8:30 – 11:00 am

## **Are you Moving?**

**If you know you will be moving** or transferring from Blue Mt. (either this year or during the summer), please remember it is very important to let the office know ASAP. Staffing for next year is based on enrollment numbers estimated next month. The more accurate our numbers are the more efficient our staffing will be. Thank you.

## **Has Someone Moved Into The Neighbourhood:**



**If you know of any families who need to register** to Blue Mountain (either this year or during the summer), tell them to call the office at 604-463-6414. Thank you.

**2020 – 2021 School Calendar** Please refer to the last page of this newsletter for next year's school and district calendar. It summarizes all of



the district and provincial non-instructional days, all holidays our Student Led Conferences.



### **School Opening Day for Students**

**Tuesday, September 8th at 8:30am** is the first day back for students going into Grades 1 through 7 for the 2020-2021 school year. On the first day back to school, students return to their previous classrooms. In classes where the existing teacher is no longer at our school, we will have another replacement. New students in Grades 1 to 7 need to report to the Library. Students come for attendance, registration if necessary, and receive important information. **Dismissal is at 11:00am.**

We need an accurate count for our enrollment, organization, and staffing. Please let us know if your child will not be present that day. For several reasons, we may not be able to organize students into “final” classes until the second week of school. Many factors make it more challenging to fine tune class composition, and we may require extra time. During our first week back, if needed, grade teams will do activities and assessments with students. This will allow us to welcome students back, generate some good school spirit, and make stronger decisions about class composition. New Kindergarten students will receive a letter of instruction via the parent portal regarding their first day of school.

**FVRL Summer Reading Club 2020 Explore our universe!** Discover the great unknown this summer when you join FVRL's 2020 Summer Reading Club. There is a club for everyone! Sign up starts June 12th and continues throughout the summer. Visit your favourite FVRL location to join. Check out the fun at [http://www.fvrl.bc.ca/summer\\_reading\\_clubs.php](http://www.fvrl.bc.ca/summer_reading_clubs.php).



**Summer Arts Learning Classes and Camps at the ACT** This summer the ACT is offering a wide range of in person and virtual learning programs for children of all ages. Visit the ACT website at <https://theactmapleridge.org/arts-programs> for more details on camps, courses, dates, and age ranges. Registration online begins June 16th at <https://www.mapleridge.ca/1484/Registration> Registration by phone begins June 18th: 604-467-7422. There is no in person registration. There are many wonderful summer educational opportunities at The ACT for students!

**The Family Education & Support Centre “I Am Awesome” Summer Day Camp** The Family Education & Support Center is thrilled to present “I am Awesome”. This course is designed to help young individuals with communication styles, triggers, “I” statements, looking at their special inner qualities, how to deal with stress and how to be a friend. The Centre believes that if young people today have the knowledge and skills to believe in themselves then their capabilities are endless. Price: \$86 Dates: TBA, check their website Location: The Family Education and Support Centre; <https://www.familyed.bc.ca/> 22554 Lougheed Hwy Maple Ridge, BC. V2X 2V1 Telephone: (604)467-6055

**Final Term Reporting and Information about Report Cards;**

The final report is a requirement for each student's permanent record. However, it should not necessarily be the focus of your conversations with your child. All children

develop and acquire skills at different rates and have different areas of strengths. Please remember that it is important to focus on the successes and the growth that your child has had over the entire school year. As always, if you would like to discuss your child's progress, please contact the classroom teacher.

On the final report, you will notice some differences between our final term report and our previous (term 1 and term 2) reports. In our previous terms, students were involved in a "three way" conference with parents and teachers to celebrate their successes and establish goals for the next term. In this process, students showcased a portfolio of work, and engaged in conversations regarding their strengths and areas of improvement. In our final term, there will be no formal conference. Instead, teachers will be sending home a one page final report. Teachers will report on Language Arts, Math, and other subject areas based on the BC Performance Standards. The BC Performance Standards describe and illustrate the levels of student performance in terms of prescribed learning outcomes using the following descriptors:

**NOT YET WITHIN EXPECTATIONS**

- the work does not meet grade-level expectations
- there is little evidence of progress toward the relevant prescribed learning outcomes

**MINIMALLY MEETS EXPECTATIONS**

- the situation needs intervention
  - the work may be inconsistent, but meets grade-level expectations at a minimal level
  - there is evidence of progress toward relevant prescribed learning outcomes
  - the student requires support in some areas
- FULLY MEETS EXPECTATIONS**
- the work meets grade-level expectations
  - there is evidence that relevant prescribed learning outcomes have been accomplished

**EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS**

- the work exceeds grade-level expectations in significant ways
  - the student may benefit from extra challenge
- If you would like to further explore the Performance Standards in relation to your child's grade level, you can find them on the ministry website: [https://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/perf\\_stands/](https://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/perf_stands/)



## 2020-2021 Blue Mountain Calendar



**ELEMENTARY (K-7) DAILY SCHEDULE:** 8:30am to 2:20pm. 295 instructional minutes per day; 179 days of instruction.

Schools opening day for students 11:00 Dismissal	Tuesday, September 8, 2020
<i>Non-instructional day (School Growth Planning Day)</i>	<i>Monday, September 28, 2020</i>
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 12, 2020
<i>Non-instructional day (province-wide)</i>	<i>Friday, October 23, 2020</i>
Remembrance Day	Wednesday, November 11, 2020
<i>Non-instructional day (school-based)</i>	<i>Thursday, November 12, 2020</i>
Parent/Teacher/Student Conference 11:30 Dismissal	Wednesday November 25, 2020
Parent/Teacher/Student Conference	Thursday, November 26, 2020
Schools close for break	Friday, December 18, 2020
Winter break	Monday, December 21, 2020 to Friday, January 1, 2021
Schools reopen after break	Monday, January 4, 2021
<i>Non-instructional day (district-based)</i>	<i>Monday, January 25, 2021</i>
Family Day	Monday, February 15, 2021
<i>Non-instructional day (school-based)</i>	<i>Tuesday, February 16, 2021</i>
Parent/Teacher/Conference 11:30 Dismissal	Thursday, March 11, 2021
Parent/Teacher/Conference	Friday, March 12, 2021
Schools close for break	Friday, March 12, 2021
Spring break	Monday, March 15, 2021 to Friday, March 19, 2021
<i>Schools not in Session</i>	<i>Monday, March 22, 2021 to Friday, March 26, 2021</i>
Schools reopen after break	Monday, March 29, 2021
Good Friday	Friday, April 2, 2021
Easter Monday	Monday, April 5, 2021
<i>Non-instructional day (district-based)</i>	<i>Wednesday, May 12, 2021</i>
Victoria Day	Monday, May 24, 2021
Last day for students	Tuesday, June 29, 2021
Year-end administrative day	Wednesday, June 30, 2021
Schools closed for Summer vacation	Thursday, July 1, 2021

Kindergarten gradual entry the first 2 weeks of September.

**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

