

Ćusqənelə News

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"Walk Together as One, Learn Together as One"

Newsletter #2 - October



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we move into October, I want to begin by expressing heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in our Truth and Reconciliation Gathering. Your presence, reflections, and thoughtful engagement helped create a meaningful space for learning, healing, and honouring the journey toward reconciliation.

October is always one of my favourite months. Now that routines are well established, I'm pleased to share that our building feels calm, focused, and settled. Students are engaged in their learning and embracing the rhythm of the school year with confidence and joy. It's a pleasure to witness this growth each day. There are many things to look forward to in October including Photo Day, Hot Lunch, Thanksgiving, Cross Country, Volleyball, Halloween, and Backwards Day!

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we're building a school environment where every child feels safe, valued, and inspired to learn. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Breakfast Club: Food is available for those who need from 8:00-8:20am.

Spirit Wear: Spirit wear order forms have been sent home with students, there are hard copies at the office. Ordering is open from October 6-17th. Payments can be made via cash, cheque, or card through Munchalunch.

Photo Day: Individual school photos are October 16th. Get those smiles ready!

Cross Country: See attached flyer for Intermediate and Primary Cross Country.

Backwards Day: October's spirit day is always a favourite, Backwards Day! On October 17th, students are invited to wear their clothes backwards, enjoy reversed routines, and participate in the fun!

PAC: Thanks for your help, we've had a great start to the year! Pancake Day was a big success (thanks to everyone who volunteered!) and our first big fundraiser, Neufeld Farms, made a whopping \$786. More important PAC dates have been added to the Upcoming Events!

Halloween: Many classes will be doing special activities on Halloween. We ask parents to provide their children with guidance around costumes that are appropriate for an elementary school setting. If your costume has a weapon(s), please be sure to leave it (them) at home. Please note, due to our additional division we do not have room for parents to attend.

Upcoming Events

Oct 3-11 Hot lunch ordering open

Oct 6-17 Spirit Wear ordering open

Oct 8 Fire Drill 11:30

Oct 10 Non-Instructional Day
No school for students

Oct 13 School closed
Thanksgiving

Oct 14 PAC Hot Lunch – Fuel
Intermediate Cross Country
PAC Meeting 7:30pm
Via Zoom

Oct 15 Great Shake Out 9:45

Oct 16 **Photo Day**
Primary Cross Country

Oct 17 Spirit Day – Backwards Day

Oct 19-26 Treat Day Ordering Open

Oct 21 Body Science – Parent Info
Session 6:30pm via Zoom

Oct 22-23 Boddy Science Sessions

Oct 23 PAC Movie Night 6pm

Oct 24 Non-Instructional Day
No school for students

Oct 27-Nov3 Hot Lunch ordering open

Oct 29 PAC Hot Lunch –
Masala Boyz

Oct 31 Halloween Parade

Nov 3 Fire Drill 1:45

Nov 4 **Photo re-takes**

Nov 7 Remembrance Day
Gathering 10:45
Treat Day – Frozen Yogurt

SOME FRIENDLY REMINDERS...

Arrival and Departure: Please ensure your child is going in their pod door in the morning and leaving through pod doors in the afternoon. Students must check in at the office after 8:40 am. ***Parents should never be in the building or going to classrooms without first checking in at the office, this includes the portables.***

Parking Lot: Please remember that our parking lot is **one-way with designated lanes for parking, kiss and go drop off/pick-up, and thru traffic**. It typically takes 10-15 minutes for the congestion to dissipate in the morning and afternoon. If we all remain patient and kind this will go much faster. Please see the attached map if you are unsure of the parking lot guidelines.

Litter-less Lunches: To help teach the students how to better take care of the environment ćasqənelə has a litter-less lunch policy. As part of this process students are asked to pack out whatever they don't eat from their lunch each day including wrappers from packaged goods. Please note: There are no utensils, and no microwaves in the school for student use. Please send items that need to be hot in a thermos and send utensils.

Bikes and Scooters: Students have been asked to walk, not ride, scooters and bikes on school property and we request they get locked up on the bike racks found around the school. E-bikes and e-scooters are not allowed on school property. Please note, the school is not liable for any lost or stolen bikes or scooters.

After School Arrangements: To minimize phone calls to the office and class disruption, please ensure that your children are aware of lunch and/or after school arrangements when they arrive to school in the morning. Notes in your child's planner or emails to the teacher are great communication options as well. All teacher emails can be located under the staff tab on the school website. We are pleased to be of assistance when unexpected problems arise, however, we do appreciate your efforts to keep those occurrences minimal. Thank you for understanding.

ćasqənelə Tuesday: Wear your ćasqənelə Spirit Wear, shirts with kind messages, Terry Fox or orange shirts on Tuesdays to help your class win a visit from Spark, our resident eagle.

PAC: ćasqənelə PAC meets on the second Tuesday of each month, with a few exceptions, please come to a meeting, let your voice be heard and help do good things for our students! The PAC also has a Facebook group that is updated frequently, you will need to ask to join and fill out questions prior to approval, this ensures the safety of our staff and students. Email: cusqunelapac@gmail.com
Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2769354153092188>

Parent complaints: If a parent is concerned about a decision made by a teacher, the parent first has an obligation to raise the concern with the teacher directly. If the concern is not resolved, the parent may request a meeting with the teacher and the principal to discuss the issue. If after this meeting, the parent is still dissatisfied with the decision made or action taken, a meeting with the principal and the assistant superintendent may be requested to resolve the matter. This information can be found in your child's planner as well as on the SD42 website: <https://www.sd42.ca/appeal-process/>

Lost and Found: The lost and found boxes are located by the gym doors. Please feel free to come look through the bins to find your child's missing items. Please be sure to label your child's clothing items, especially coats, to help enable these items return to your family!

Medical Alerts: Just a reminder that if you have a child with health-related issues that may need medical intervention while at school, this includes any short-term medication, proper paperwork is required to be updated *each year*. Please drop by the office to complete the necessary forms.

Parent Portal: It is easy to "unsubscribe" from portal communications, if you stop receiving regular messages please check your status.

Dress for the Weather: It is important your child is sent to school dressed appropriately. As well, an extra set of clothes kept at the school will enable your child to change should they get wet or muddy while playing during recess or lunch. We send the students out during these breaks no matter the weather. Please encourage them to dress for the weather.



School District 42 Elementary Cross Country – Fall 2025

Date's & Locations:

Intermediate - Grades 4, 5, 6 & 7 (all schools) Alouette Lake Beach/Picnic Area, Golden Ears Park
Tuesday, October 14th

The race order for our intermediate runners will be as follows: Grade 7 girls

Grade 7 boys
Grade 4 girls
Grade 4 boys
Grade 5 girls
Grade 5 boys
Grade 6 girls
Grade 6 boys

While we are not assigning exact times to each race, we ask that all participants and supervisors arrive at the venue as early as possible to ensure a smooth start.

The first race will begin no later than 3:30pm.

There is a LOT of traffic after school on 232nd near Maple Ridge Park due to after school pick up from Yennadon Elementary. An alternate route that may be less busy could be 132nd but it does still get quite congested at the roundabout by Maple Ridge Park. Please let parents know that if they have a child in grade seven, they will need to leave as soon as possible after school to ensure they are on time for the first race.

Primary – Grades 1, 2, & 3 Albion Sports Complex
Thursday, October 16th

The race order for our primary runners will be as follows:

Grade 1 girls
Grade 1 boys
Grade 2 girls
Grade 2 boys
Grade 3 girls
Grade 3 boys

Again, while we are not assigning exact times to each race, we ask that all participants and supervisors arrive at the venue as early as possible to ensure a smooth start.

The first race will begin no later than 3:15pm

We are aware that traffic leading into Albion Sport's Complex can be congested. To help alleviate delays and ensure a smooth start, we ask that you encourage parents to walk to the venue (if possible) or make use of the Planet Ice parking lot and walk over to the Sport's Complex.