



ECOLE GOLDEN EARS SCHOOL

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<http://elementary.sd42.ca/goldenears>

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 42 (MAPLE RIDGE - PITT MEADOWS)

PRINCIPAL: Mrs. L. Brandon

VICE-PRINCIPAL: Mrs. C. Crump

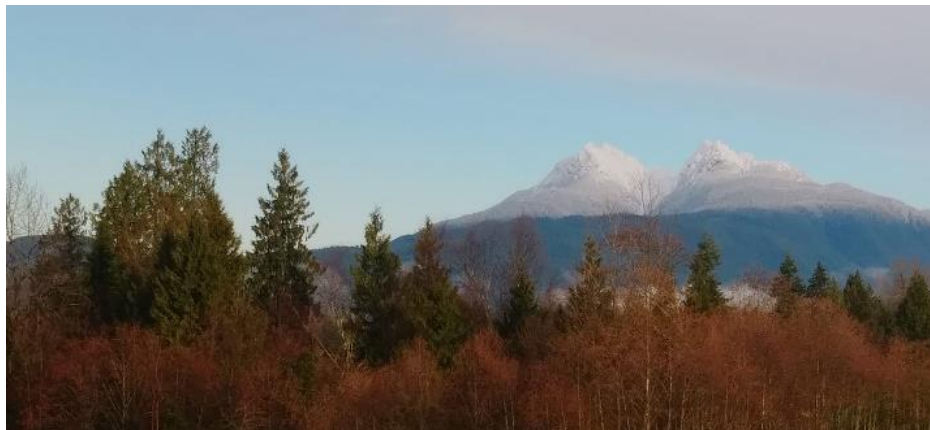


Photo credit: Laura Brandon

February 1, 2022

Dear Families:

In Canada, February is dedicated to the exploration and celebration of Black History. This is a time to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians who have helped make Canada the nation we know today. It is also an opportunity for Canadians of all ages to learn about the experiences of Black Canadians today and as part of our shared history. As we embark in learning about Black History at school, I invite you to learn alongside us. Below are some websites that may provide you with a place to begin.



<https://www.cbc.ca/kidscbc2/the-feed/all-about-black-history-month>

<https://www.rcinet.ca/bhm-en/a-propos-du-mhn/>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month/about.html>

Take care,

Laura Brandon
Principal/Directrice

Mark your Calendars

Feb. 2 General registration phase for kindergarten opens
Feb. 3 Grade 8 registration opens
Feb. 14 Student Led Conference schedules released on Parent Portal
Feb. 14 PAC Meeting
Feb. 21 Family Day Stat
Feb. 22 Non-Instructional Day (school based)
Feb. 23 Pink Shirt Day
March 3 11:30 Dismissal for Student Led Conferences
March 4 Student Led Conferences
March 11 Schools close for Spring Break
March 28 Schools reopen after Spring Break

COVID: What do to when sick and guidelines on international travel

The BC Centre for Disease Control has updated its guidance on when to get a COVID-19 test and when to self-isolate. See the [What to do when sick](#) flowchart for a summary of this guidance.

Families must also continue to follow federal requirements when returning from international travel: <https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/covid-vaccinated-travellers-entering-canada#children>

Pink Shirt Day

Wednesday, February 23rd is Pink Shirt Day, where people across Canada wear pink to show that positive actions make a difference and that the change starts with each one of us. Pink Shirt Day is more than just a symbol of a shared belief in celebrating diversity - it's also a commitment to being open minded, accepting differences and learning to respect each other.

The idea of Pink Shirt Day started with two Nova Scotia high school students in 2007. When a fellow student was being bullied for wearing a pink shirt, they decided to take a stand. They went out and bought pink shirts to give to fellow students to show their support for a boy who was being bullied simply for wearing a pink shirt.

It is important to speak with our children about bullying. Bullying is defined as, "willful, repeated aggressive behaviour with negative intent used by a person to maintain power over another person." Specifically there is:

- *Unequal power* - One person has more power than another person (or it seems this way to the people involved)
- *Hurtful actions* - Physically or psychologically harmful behaviour takes place (such as name-calling, insults, threats, kicking, hitting, punching, etc.)
- *Direct or indirect actions* - The behaviour may be face-to-face or done behind a person's back (such as teasing, exclusion, gossiping spreading rumours). It may also occur online through social media
- *Repetitive behaviour* - The hurtful actions keep happening, so the person being affected finds it increasingly difficult to escape

Whether bullying occurs in-person or online, it is important that we support all students involved. If you are concerned that your child is the focus of bullying behaviour or that they may be exhibiting bullying behaviour, please reach out to your child's teacher or myself so we can work together to address these concerns.

PAC News

Thank you to everyone for supporting the PAC fundraising initiatives before the break.

It is with gratitude that we say farewell to **Bindi Watts** who has served as our PAC Chair. We wish her all the best and thank her for her time, care, and the many contributions she has made to our school community.

For our next meeting, we are encouraging all parents to consider attending or perhaps joining our PAC. If you are interested in the role of the PAC Chair, please contact the PAC at goldenearspac@gmail.com for more information. We are hoping to fill the PAC Chair role at our February meeting and need enough parents to participate in the process.

Our next PAC meeting is February 14th at 7:00 via Zoom. Here is the link:
<https://sd42.zoom.us/j/67833250741?pwd=S0hSdHR3L1B1V0tPSXQ1OTNwd0hvZz09>

Kindergarten and Grade 8 Registration

Kindergarten registration is open for children who will be 5 years old on or before December 31, 2022. **The general phase for kindergarten registration is open February 2-25, 2022. Registration for students moving on to Grade 8 next year is open February 3-18, 2022.** All registration is completed on the Parent Portal. For more information, please go to <https://www.sd42.ca/student-registration/>

Love Your School Library Poster Contest

Students, celebrate your love of books and reading! Draw, colour, cut, or paint. Let your creativity go wild. Make a poster about your favourite book, series, or why you love reading. Ms. Chudy will display all the posters in the library as she receives them. Three winners will be chosen from primary and three winners from intermediate grades for special prizes on Monday, February 14th. Remember to put your first and last name, as well as division on the front. Posters are due by Friday, February 11th.

International Book Giving Day

On Monday, February 14th, Golden Ears Elementary Library will also be celebrating International Book Giving Day. Students may start bringing in gently used books to donate or exchange for different books on International Book Giving Day. Students that would like to participate, are encouraged to ask their parents and bring in any books they would like to donate/exchange to Ms. Chudy in the library. Ms. Chudy will ensure the books are clean. Please bring the books in by Friday, February 11th.

Term 2 Reporting/Conferences:

March 3rd is an early dismissal at 11:30 for conferences and on March 4 conferences are scheduled all day so there is no school for students unless they are participating in their conference. **Teachers will be releasing their conferencing schedules on Monday, February 14th for parents to sign up through the Parent Portal.**

Given the continuing provincial health guidelines for educational settings, our Term 2 reporting process will look the same as Term 1. The conference will still occur with the teacher, the parent(s)/guardian(s), and the student over Zoom. Please ensure you have a device at home with the Zoom app installed for the conference.

Non Instructional Day February 22

A reminder that February 22 is a Non-Instructional Day. We look forward to welcoming students back on Wednesday, February 23rd.

Transfer requests for 2022-2023 School Year:

If you are seeking to transfer to another school for next year, please review the “Student Transfer Guidelines” document by following the link provided. Please take note of the deadlines for each phase. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the school office.

<https://www.sd42.ca/student-registration/>

Westcoast Recess

A reminder that we practice Westcoast Recess. Please ensure your child is prepared to be outside for our winter weather.

Lost and Found

Our “Lost and Found” will continue to be just inside the main doors. Please come have a look through the window and see if you recognize any of your child’s items. A reminder to please put your child’s name on their clothing so they are easily identified and returned. The Lost and Found will be bagged up February 4th and donated to charity.

