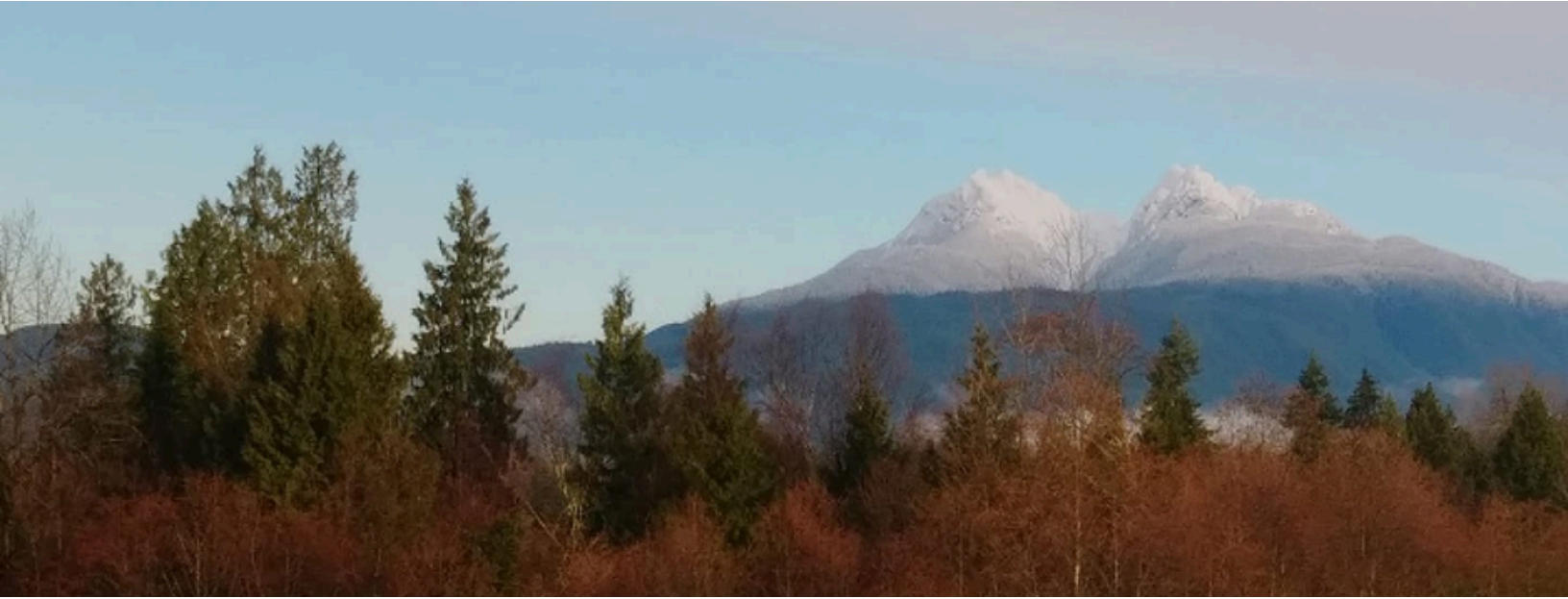


>>> SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER <<<< ÉCOLE GOLDEN EARS ELEMENTARY

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



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

>>> IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Many of us have heard the African proverb, “It takes a village to raise a child.” In a nutshell, this proverb means that it takes many adults to provide a safe, healthy, caring environment so the children can develop and thrive. In our context, “the village” is our community at Golden Ears Elementary and the “villagers” are the parents/guardians, staff, community agencies and volunteers that teach, support and cherish our children. Students need all the adults in their lives to be consistent and stable role models creating safe spaces for children to learn, make mistakes and grow.

Today, despite all the technology and instantaneous information we can send and receive, it is harder than ever for our “village” adults to be on the same page. One thing I know for sure is that when the adults aren’t aligned in their approach to support children, the children are the ones who feel the impact; children need the trusted adults in their lives to work in collaboration with each other.

One of the ways adults can align their approach is with strong avenues of communication. It is imperative that the adults at home and school communicate so that these two large components of our children’s lives are organized and predictable. Sources of communication from school can come in many forms including: notes in your child’s planner (or the communication system your child’s teacher sets up), Parent Portal messages, the monthly newsletter, email and phone

calls. Messages from home can be directed to staff as a note in your child's planner or an email. Sometimes it is better to discuss matters in person so we can share space together. If this is the case, adults need to work together to set up a mutually agreeable time to meet.

Starting a new school year, I want to affirm for parents/guardians that we work together as a team to support your child. My commitment to you is that I will provide the communication necessary for you to know what is going on in our school. This will come in the form of our monthly newsletter, messages through the Parent Portal and the occasional phone call. I am also going to be learning how to update our school's website so that as much information as possible can be found in one centralized location. For your part, I need you to read and follow up on these communications to prepare your child and help set them up for success.

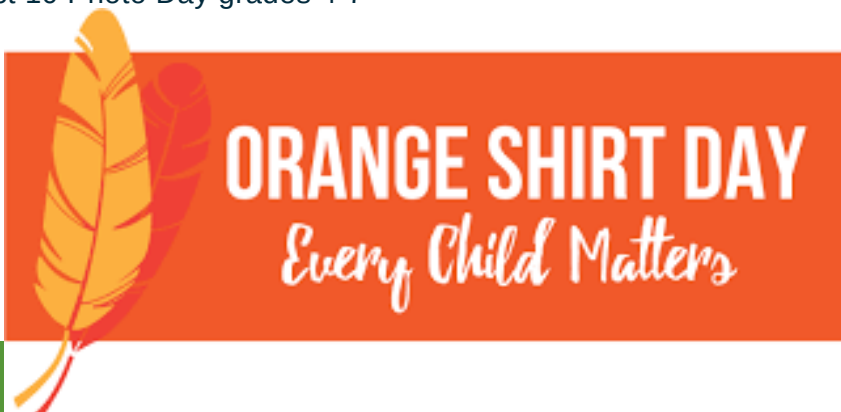
I am looking forward to another great year at Golden Ears Elementary and thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,
Laura Brandon
Prinicpal/Directrice

- Sept 20 Terry Fox Run
- Sept 23-27 Orange Shirt Week
- Sept 24 PAC Meeting (6:30)
- Sept 27 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Assembly
- Sept 27 Orange Shirt Day
- Sept 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Stat.
(No School)
- Oct 1 Non-Instructional Day (No school)
- Oct 5 World Teacher Day
- Oct 9 Photo Day grades K-3/4
- Oct 10 Photo Day grades 4-7



UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS



PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

>>> SCHOOL REMINDERS

- School supply fee payments are set up in the Parent Portal.
- If your child's classroom teacher is using a planner this year, you will also be able to pay for the planner through the Parent Portal.
- All student permission forms have been sent out through the Parent Portal.
- Please label all articles of your child's clothes. We had 11 garbage bags of 'Lost and Found' items by June last year. Misplaced items are hung up outside the office to be reclaimed. After a couple weeks, we wash the items and add them to our "Free Store" for students and families who can use them.



>>> PARKING LOTS

In order to ensure the safety of everyone, the main school parking lot, and the small parking lot by the portables, are closed to all parent vehicles at all times. Only daycare busses/15 passenger vans and drivers with valid Accessible Parking decals will be permitted in the main parking lot during these times. Drivers must adhere to all signage at all times.

>>> WALK YOUR WHEELS

Riding your bike with your child is great exercise and fantastic modelling of sustainable transportation getting to school. We have a carousel inside our courtyard to lock up scooters and bikes. **All students and their accompanying adults are required to "walk your wheels" as soon as you enter school property.**

>>> TERRY FOX RUN

We are excited to announce that Golden Ears Elementary School will be taking part in the 2024 Terry Fox School Run, scheduled to take place on FRIDAY, September 20th!

We hope that we can continue to show the great strength and resiliency of our school community to support one of our greatest Canadian heroes, Terry Fox.

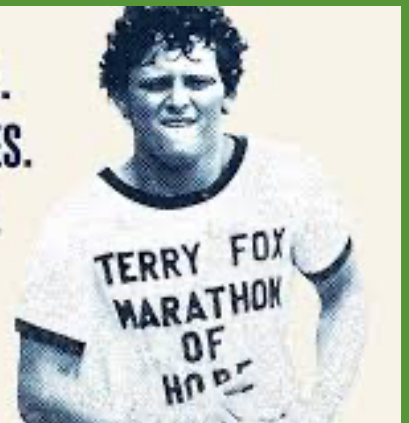
Please visit our school's fundraising website at:

<https://schools.terryfox.ca/GoldenEarsElementary>

We will also be having a "Toonies for Terry" coin drive on September 17.

Thank you for donating to this worthwhile cause.

**NO MATTER THE DISTANCE.
NO MATTER THE OBSTACLES.
NO MATTER THE JOURNEY.
NO MATTER THE ODDS.
NO MATTER WHAT.**



PARENT/GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT

>>> PAC NEWS

On September 24th at 6:30, we will be having our first PAC meeting of the year. The meeting will be both in-person and on Zoom. Here is the link:

<https://sd42.zoom.us/j/66648981061?pwd=IbCX2WYYTHa94a2J1VgIKpAG5EnreY.1>

If you are new to our school, "PAC" stands for "Parent Advisory Council" and the requirement to join is that you are the legal parent or guardian of a current student at Golden Ears Elementary. We look forward to seeing you!

>>> WESTCOAST RECESS

We have "Westcoast Recess" and outside lunch time. Students enjoy the exercise and time outside with peers, so please always send outside clothing appropriate for the weather conditions. Since weather can be unpredictable and accidents or falls can occur, please send a spare set of clothes.

>>> ATTENDANCE

Regular school attendance is a major factor contributing to student success in school. We expect that Golden Ears students will attend school regularly unless ill and will be punctual every day.

If your child will be absent, please advise us via the Parent Portal, emailing ge_reception@sd42.ca or by calling the school prior to 8:30 am. Please advise your child's teacher ahead of time if your child will be absent for an extended period of time. Students who are late need to report to the office upon arrival.

For safety reasons, confirmation of all absences is required unless a phone call, email or Parent Portal message has been received by the office.

>>> FURRY FAMILY MEMBERS

Unfortunately, we have had too many instances where dogs have lunged at people, were growling/barking/fighting with each other and owners not picking up after their dogs when they defecate. For the health and safety of students, visitors and dogs, if your dog walks to school with you, they **must wait off school property.**

VISITOR ACCESS

A reminder that all visitors or volunteers need to enter the building by the main entrance so we can greet you, sign you in and give you a "Visitor" identification tag. Visitors will only have access to areas of the school needed for the purpose of their visit.

If you are not staff or a student, you are a "visitor."

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

TAKE CARE OF OTHERS

TAKE CARE OF OUR SCHOOL