

# HAMMOND NEWS

11520 - 203rd Street, Maple Ridge, B.C. V2X 4T6  
Phone: 604-460-1136 / Fax: 604-40-1137  
Website: (<http://schools.sd42.ca/hammond/>)  
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Principal: Mr. Wes Reamsbottom  
Vice Principal: Ms. Megan Olynyk

Newsletter #1 - October 8, 2020

*At Hammond  
Elementary, students  
and staff work hard to  
build a positive school  
culture. We believe  
that everyone has a  
responsibility to create  
a caring, safe and  
orderly learning  
environment.*

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*It was an interesting start, but things here at Hammond have settled down to something more normal. We would like to welcome both new families and returning families back to our wonderful school community. Ms. Olynyk, Mr. Reamsbottom and I are very excited for the new school year and are looking forward to providing a safe, caring and engaging learning environment.*

*My name is Bruce Grady and I have been a Principal at a number of schools across the district and am looking forward to my time at Hammond. As you know, Mr. Reamsbottom will be away for a short time at the beginning of the year, but Ms. Olynyk and I are working to make sure students, parents, and staff feel safe and supported in their learning and teaching.*

*October is a wonderful month of learning as students are well adjusted in their classes and are well on their way with projects, assignments and extra-curricular activities. There is a wonderful tone to the building this year and I am very excited by the positive attitudes of our students. This is shaping up to be a great year!*

*School newsletters will be sent out via the Parent Portal, and will be posted on our school website, at the end of each month. Remember to check our school website regularly for updates, calendar information, and general information about what's happening at Hammond.*

*Please feel free to say hello to Ms. Olynyk and myself while we are outside supervising students before school, recess, lunch and after school.*

*Wishing all of you a fantastic month at Hammond!*



Upcoming School Events	
Oct 6	Veggie/Milk delivery
Oct 8	Spirit Day - Crazy Socks
Oct 12	Thanksgiving Day No School in session
Oct 22	K-1 Pumpkin Patch in Natural Play Space
Oct 29	Photo Retake Day
Nov 11	Remembrance Day No School in session
Nov 12	Non Instructional Day No School in session
Nov 13	Spirit Day Mr. Rogers Cardigans
Nov 24	Parent/Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal 11:30 am
Nov 25	Parent/Teacher Conferences No School in session
Dec 15	Spirit day Ugly Sweaters and Holiday Headgear
Dec 18	Last Day before Winter Break

### SCHOOL CLOSURE / EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS...

- School will be closed for Thanksgiving Day, **Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>**.
- There is a Non-Instructional Day on **Friday, October 23**.
- There is a Non-Instructional Day on **Thursday, November 12<sup>h</sup>**.
- School will be closed for Remembrance Day, **Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>**.

### HAMMOND WEBSITE CALENDAR OF EVENTS...

Please visit our website: <https://elementary.sd42.ca/hammond/>  
for all current events including fieldtrips, sports and school events. Please click on "View All Events" under Upcoming Events and our school calendar will give you all current information.

## STUDENT ABSENCES AND LATES

We request that you telephone, email [HA\\_reception@sd42.ca](mailto:HA_reception@sd42.ca), or advise via the parent portal to let us know if your child will be late or absent from school. There is an answering machine to take your messages if calling after hours or early in the morning. Late students are asked to go directly to class if arriving prior to our morning announcements at 8:40 am. If arriving after 8:40 am, students must check into the office before going to classrooms.

## DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY RACES...

We will advise the school community if we get direction that any of these events will go forward.



## FIRE PREVENTION ...

Maple Ridge Fire Department's Fire Prevention Week theme is "PLAN and PRACTISE your ESCAPE". Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere". Please spend some time with your child to review your family escape plan and rehearsed it. Visit [www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org) for more information.

## STUDENT PICTURES and RETAKES...

A retake opportunity has been scheduled for the morning of Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. You will need to register for retakes through the Photo Express link herein: <http://www.photoexpressions.ca/retakes>

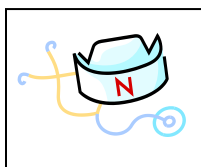
## HALLOWEEN

Many classes will be doing special activities on Halloween, and we will have our Halloween assembly Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. We ask parents to help their children make appropriate decisions around costumes making sure that the costumes are appropriate for elementary school (ie. no weapons, or "adult themed" costumes). We also ask that any snacks or treats sent to school be individually wrapped and store bought only. Thank you.



## LOST AND FOUND...

Lost and Found boxes always seem to be full. This year, we will put all the lost and found items outside the school front doors for viewing by parents every odd date Fridays. The items will be laid out after lunch and put back inside by 3:00 pm. Making sure you label your child's clothing items (especially coats) will help us enable the items get returned! Outdoor clothing is our most frequently found "lost" items as children wear them outside and then discard them during breaks because they get hot running around playing 😊 Putting your child's name will greatly reduce our lost and found and keep your child's items from ending up being donated!



## MEDICAL ALERTS...

Just a reminder that if you have a child with health related issues that may need medical intervention while at school, proper paperwork is required to be updated each year. Please drop by the office to complete the necessary forms. Thank you.

## CONSENT FORMS...

Please take a few moments to fill out the online consent forms found in your parent portal. These consent forms are vital to the school for such things as Ipad use, yearbooks and consent to go on walking fieldtrips. The emergency release forms are required in case of natural disasters. Please see either your classroom teacher or Ms. Fitzpatrick in the office if you are having parent portal issues.

## **IMPORTANT SCHOOL FORMS...**

The student verification forms (blue sheet) either have been or will be coming home shortly. Please review the information on the sheets very carefully and make any necessary changes. It is very important that the school has the correct information! Please sign the back of the form and return it to the school as soon as possible.

Medical Alert forms - If your child uses an EpiPen, or has an existing medical condition that requires medication kept at school, or could require emergency intervention while at school, please make sure you have completed the necessary forms. Proper paperwork is required each September. Thank you.

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## **PAC NEWS...**

Hammond PAC will provide a monthly newsletter. As well Hammond PAC has a Facebook page and frequently updates information there. They can also be reached at [hammondpac@hotmail.com](mailto:hammondpac@hotmail.com)

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## **SOME FRIENDLY REMINDERS...**

### **Bikes and Scooters**

There are a lot more students riding bikes and bringing scooters to school. It is great to see our students being active. Students have been asked not to ride them back across the parking lot nor by the busy front entry of our school in the mornings and after school. We ask that they walk their bikes/scooters to the bike racks to lock up.

### **Lunches**

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 for your children and remember to send utensils.

### **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 your understanding.

## **ENTRANCE TO THE SCHOOL**

During this unprecedented time, we ask that parents and care givers do not enter the building, at this time. If you would like to make an appointment to meet with the Principal or Vice-Principal, please call the office to make an appointment. As well, all questions, inquiries, drop offs and pick ups can be accessed through the office window next to the front doors.

## **DRESS FOR THE WEATHER**

As the weather is about to get rainier, it is important that your child is sent to school dressed appropriately for the weather. As well, an extra set of clothes kept at the school will enable your child to change should he or she get wet or muddy while playing during recess or lunch. We will be sending the students out during these breaks rain or shine. Please encourage them to *dress for the weather*.

## PARKING LOT REMINDER ....

To all new families to Hammond, and a reminder to those families using the parking lot at the end of the day, if everyone follows our procedures and is patient for 10 minutes, things will go smoothly and safely. It is with cooperation, patience, kindness and respect for others and following a few simple guidelines that we can minimize the frustrations and keep the parking lot safe for everyone.

Guidelines:

- When double parked or stopping beside a yellow curb you **MUST** stay in your vehicle so you **can move** it if the person you are blocking needs to exit the lot. Many times we have Staff that need to get to meetings outside of our school.
  - Do not block an open parking space.
  - It is imperative that we leave a **clear path** through the middle of the lot so traffic can keep moving.
  - If you get to the flagpole and your child has not arrived yet, **continue to circle** the lot until they do.
  - Do not park at the entrance that funnels traffic into and out of the lot as it blocks traffic flow.
  - Use the perimeter sidewalks to walk to the overflow lot rather than weaving in and out of the cars.
  - **Travel through the parking lot at idle speed.**
  - Please turn your vehicle off while waiting/parking. We are an idle free zone!
  - Our parking lot is fairly small for the population of our school and during drop off and pick can be quite congested! If you are driving a larger vehicle or towing a trailer, please consider parking on one of the many side streets and walking to the school to pick up your child/children.
  - Please **OBEY** all legal street signs around the school including bus stops and municipal issued no parking signs.
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## SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS...

**HOMESTAY FAMILIES:** Are you interested in becoming a homestay family? The District is always happy to welcome new families to the International Program! Please phone 604-466-6555 or email [homestay42@sd42.ca](mailto:homestay42@sd42.ca)

### CASUAL-ON-CALL LUNCH HOUR SUPERVISORS

The Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows School District (SD42) is looking for qualified Casual-On-Call Lunch Hour Supervisors. For more information, please visit our website: [www.sd42.ca](http://www.sd42.ca) and click on the careers tab)

### CASUAL-ON-CALL CUSTODIANS

The Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows School District (SD42) is looking for qualified Casual-On-Call Custodians. For more information, please visit our website: [www.sd42.ca](http://www.sd42.ca) and click on the careers tab)





# Hammond Elementary

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## 2020-2021 School Calendar

School Opening Day for Students (11:00 am dismissal) .....	Tuesday, September 8, 2020
Non-Instructional Day .....	Monday, September 28, 2020
Thanksgiving Day Stat .....	Monday, October 12, 2020
Non-Instructional Day (province-wide) .....	Friday, October 23, 2020
Remembrance Day Stat .....	Wednesday, November 11, 2020
Non-Instructional Day (school based).....	Thursday, November 12, 2020
Early Dismissal for Conferencing (11:30 am dismissal).....	Tuesday, November 24, 2020
Conferencing Day .....	Wednesday, November 25, 2020
Last day before Winter Vacation .....	Friday, December 18, 2020
Winter Vacation .....	Monday, December 21 to Friday, January 1, 2021
Schools Reopen after Winter Vacation.....	Monday, January 4, 2021
Non-Instructional Day (curriculum implementation day).....	Monday, January 25, 2021
Family Day Stat .....	Monday, February 15, 2021
Non-Instructional Day (school based) .....	Tuesday, February 16, 2021
Early Dismissal for Conferencing (11:30 am).....	Thursday, March 11, 2021
Conferencing Day .....	Friday, March 12, 2021
Spring Break .....	Monday, March 15 to Friday, March 19, 2021
Schools Not in Session.....	Monday, March 22 to Friday, March 26, 2021
Schools Reopen after Spring Break .....	Monday, March 29, 2021
Good Friday .....	Friday, April 2, 2021
Easter Monday .....	Monday, April 5, 2021
Non-Instructional Day (district based) .....	Wednesday, May 12, 2021
Victoria Day Stat .....	Monday, May 24, 2021
Last Day for Students (12:00 pm dismissal).....	Tuesday, June 29, 2021
Year-end Administrative Day .....	Wednesday, June 30, 2021
Schools Close for Summer Vacation .....	Thursday, July 1, 2021

<b>SCHOOL HOURS &amp; BELL SCHEDULE</b>	
Warning Bell:	8:25 am
Classes Begin:	8:30 am
Recess:	10:20 – 10:35 am
Lunch:	11:50 - 12:30 pm
Classes Dismissed:	2:20 pm

