

Kanaka Creek Elementary

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

At Kanaka we strive to develop a community of responsible learners who strive to attain their potential in a safe, cooperative and healthy environment.



October Already?

It has been a great first month here at Kanaka. I have been so impressed by the welcome shown here by the entire community. Going into their new classes, our students haven't skipped a beat. Already, there are many exciting things happening. Hopefully you were able to join us for some refreshments in the morning and a chance to meet your child(ren)'s teacher in an informal setting. Please know if you have any questions regarding your child(ren)'s progress, we welcome you to contact the classroom teacher. Often, a quick "check-in" can ensure continued success. As we have begun the first few weeks, teachers and students have already made great strides in learning activities. Our librarian, Ms. Nagy, is co-teaching with many of our classes as they start to explore inquiry learning. Further, our grade 7's are starting to create business models for an entrepreneur fair coming out later in November. The primary classes are well in to literacy programs and, soon, many of our divisions will be exploring place-based learning through field trips. Yes, it has been a busy September.

Upcoming Events

Oct 5 th Oct 6 th	Bake Sale – Rondpre/Beyer Popcorn Day - \$1 – recess Div 3 – Transit Trip Div 4 – Frisbee Golf – 12:30 Div 20,21,5 – Laity Pumpkin Patch Div 18&19 – WillowView Farm
Oct 9 th Oct 10 th	Thanksgiving – No School Ice Cream recess (invites to Entertainment Book sellers will be sent out)
Oct 12 th	Photo Express Retakes Div 4 – Act Theatre – 9am
Oct 13 th	Skating – Stewart/Moran/ Moran Div 22 – The Apple Barn
Oct 16 th Oct 19 th	Div 20/21 – Art Gallery Tour Div 15 – Art Gallery Tour ShakeOutBC Earthquake drill – 10:40am
Oct 20 th Oct 23 rd Oct 24 th	Pro-D Day – No School Int X Country @ Allouette Div 23-26 – Pumpkin Patch Div 9 – Diversity Day Prim X Country @ Albion
Oct 27 th Oct 30 th	PAC Hot Lunch – Pizza Gr 6 Immunization info sessions
Oct 31 st	Hallowe'en Assembly Div 6/7 – Bowling Afternoon

Great Things @Kanaka



Our first ever “Meet Us Morning” was a great success. Parents were encouraged to grab a muffin and a coffee or tea in the library and meet their child(ren)’s teacher. It was a great way for to come together as a community for a morning chat. Remember, “Together We are Better!”

On September 29th many of our students and teachers wore orange to honour the thousands of Canadian aboriginal youth who suffered in residential schools in this country. The day was born out of Phyllis’ story – a young girl who had her new orange shirt taken away on her first day at the residential school.

Our primary classes enjoyed a story from Mr. Raible that reinforces our WITS language. Blue and the other colours wouldn’t stand up to Red until ONE came along. ONE showed the colours how to “talk it out” and make sure that everyone counts. Sometimes, it just takes ONE!

W I T S

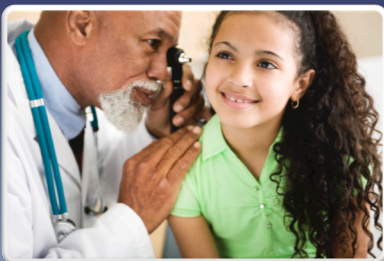
WITS is a pro-active program encouraging children to make safe and positive choices when faced with peer conflict.

The WITS acronym – **Walk Away, Ignore, Talk It Out and Seek Help** provides a common language that children and adults can use in their environment to solve social problems.

Please visit the WITS Program website for more information. <http://www.witsprogram.ca/kids/>

Toonies for Terry

Thank you to all the parent volunteers who assisted with our Terry Fox Run last week. We are proud to say we raised \$790.55 from class donations and \$73.35 raised by Taiya, Seara, and Reece from their Pencil Topper fundraiser, to total **\$863.90**. Congratulations to EVERYONE who participated.



Medical Intervention Forms and Request for Administration of Medication

If your child has an existing medical condition you must yearly complete the appropriate medical forms which are available on-line and in the office.

As per School District #42 Policy, staff may not administer medication to students unless appropriate forms are completed and signed by a parent. These forms should be filled out and returned to the school as soon as possible. If your child has a serious life threatening medical condition it is highly recommended they wear a Medical Alert Bracelet. If you are interested, please enquire at the office for further information regarding this matter.



Student Information Verification Forms

These forms have been sent home. If you haven't already, carefully check the accuracy of the data and note any changes directly on the form. Return to the office as soon as possible.

Parking Procedures

At the expense of being repetitive, please be respectful of others while dropping off and picking up your child(ren). *We all recognize the frustration with the traffic congestion around the school, but everyone needs to be patient and behave in a courteous and considerate manner, not only to be good role models for our children, but to ensure their safety as well.*

MORNING DROP OFF: DO NOT PARK IN THE DROP OFF ZONE AT THE SIDE OF THE SCHOOL AS YOU WAIT FOR THE MORNING BELL.

The morning drop-off time is a very busy time and although it may be more convenient for you to stop, parking in this area impedes the flow of traffic and makes it more difficult for others to drop off children. It is important that if you need to wait with your child before the morning bell, then you need to find a parking spot in the lot, or if none are available, on the roadside. (NOTE: Please have your child organized with all school items – this speeds up the drop off process).

Volunteers are needed to help with the gate from 1:50 to 2:30 daily. Hopefully we will get a few parents so it can be done on a rotation basis. Let the office know if you can help.

KC Kids Choir

Choir starts Thursday, Oct. 5th from 2:30-3:30. All students from grades 1-7 are WELCOME to join. (*Kindergarten students will be practicing for a different concert during class time*).

Please sign up your child for choir on the Portal (*for attendance purposes*).

The concert will take place on **Thursday, December 7th at 7pm** in the gym

- Students need to dress in a **Red** or **Green** T shirt and an Elf Hat.

Need more info? Contact Miss Flanagan.
Dawn.Flanagan@sd42.ca

Volunteers in the School

We greatly appreciate the help we receive from parents and grandparents. However, as volunteers you are in a position of trust and as such, it is essential that privacy and confidentiality are maintained. The children's safety is of prime concern to all of us. We ask that you respect the following guidelines:

- Everything you hear or see regarding students is **confidential and should not be shared**.
- If you cannot make your scheduled time please let the teacher know as soon as possible.
- Please sign in at the office and wear the volunteer tag provided to you. In the event of a fire alarm, please report to the secretary on the upper basketball court near the school gym.
- Treat all members of our school community with respect.
- If you are supervising students on a field trip -- keep a close eye on them, stay off your cell phone, and follow the expectations as established by the teacher at all times. We strongly request that no unofficial stops are made, such as stopping to treat the students to slurpees or ice cream.

Lost and Found Volunteer

We are looking for a parent or two to help keep our Lost and Found items organized and on display (currently located by the front entrance doors). If you are interested helping out please contact the office.

Absent or Late to School?

If you know your child is going to be absent or late to school it is imperative to inform the office. Absences can be reported on the school voice mail, parent portal, or email KC_Reception@sd42.ca.

Safety is important to us and the phone home program is started as soon as possible to account for any missing students. Students who arrive to school *after the morning announcements* must report directly to the office for a late slip, which documents they have arrived safely. This avoids any problems as many teachers have already submitted attendance to the office with the student listed as absent. The last thing we want is to alarm a parent with a phone call saying their child is not at school when in fact they are here but forgot to get a late slip.

Please review the late sign in process with your child. If in doubt as to whether you are late or not, check in with the office.



ShakeOut BC Day

October 19th is **ShakeOut BC Day**, when millions of people worldwide will practice how to Drop, Cover, and Hold On at 10:20 a.m. Kanaka Creek will be joining in on this day. For further information, please visit <http://www.shakeoutbc.ca>

School Fees and Planner Payments

Planners and/or school supplies can be paid online on the parent portal for another few weeks. If you would rather pay by cash or cheque, please send the money to the school as soon as possible.

Dogs at School

Just a reminder to please not bring pets on school grounds. We ask that pet owners leave pets at home due to the large number of student/parents during pick up/drop off time here at Kanaka and the various comfort levels of others.

Library News

Ms. Nagy is looking for parent volunteers to come into the Library Learning Commons (LLC) and help out! Help is needed in organizing/shelving books but other tasks may be added as time goes by. If interested, please contact Ms. Nagy at 604-467-9050. Thanks so much!

It's not too late to join **Bookfest 2017!** So far, over 30 students have signed up and are madly reading through the eight books selected by SD42 teacher-librarians. Students in grades 4 through 7 are eligible to join this extra-curricular club. Events to look forward to include a special movie screening of one of the books, an author visit, and (on November 29) a special "fun and friendly" trivia competition against other school teams. Sign up in the Library Learning Commons (LLC) today and start reading!

Me 2 We News

Me 2 We students met briefly this week and will be organizing over the coming weeks. The students will have an assignment to show their interest in the group. Please contact Ms. Steil or Ms. Tsia for more details.

Students will be collecting non-perishable items for the Friends in Need food bank from October 16th to 31st. Each classroom will have a box to store the food. Donations will be collected by the Me2We group on November 1st.

PAC News

At the PAC AGM, the new executive was voted in. Your new PAC executive include:

Chair: Angela Downey

Vice-Chair: Carla Neiva

Treasurer: Amanda Maliwat

Secretary: Louise Smith

Fundraising Coordinator: Sarah Bratt, Amanda Griffin and Danielle Miller.

Hot lunch Coordinator: Anthea Publow, Crystal Rogers and Sarah Bratt

District PAC Reps: Sonia Baines and Christine Calvert

Members at Large: Angela McFadyen, Jackolynn Wright, Lynsey Pashley, Becky Coote, Kristi Tetzlaff, Deanna Lackey and Laura Kelly

Upcoming Fundraisers:

- **Popcorn Day is Friday October 6th**
- **Subway Hot lunch is Thursday, October 27th**

Have any great ideas for fundraising? Or for spending fundraising dollars? Why not come out to a PAC meeting? Studies have shown children achieve more when parents are engaged with their school!

We also try to keep our webpage updated regularly: www.sd42.ca/kanaka then click the PAC page.

NEXT PAC MEETING IS WEDNESDAY,

OCTOBER 11TH AT 7:00 PM