



MAPLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

20820 River Road, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 1Z7

Phone 604.467.5551 / Fax 604.467.9825

Principal: Mme Donna Servant

Vice Principal: Mme Chelsea Lendvoy

MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER

February flew by as there were lots of celebrations and activities at MRE. Early in the month we had Vancouver Theatre Sports deliver an engaging interactive performance that kept us all laughing. Field trips were arranged to the bowling alley, the Act, the French Film Festival, and to the skating rink. Thanks to our PAC, we enjoyed another hot lunch and lug-a-mug day, and they are now preparing for a spring book fair which will run March 2 - 4 on the stage. We are also grateful to our teachers and educational assistants who are volunteering their time to lead choir and coach girls and boys basketball. The month wrapped up with a special assembly about kindness where we all wore pink. So many examples of a community that supports one another and sure makes MRE the place to be!

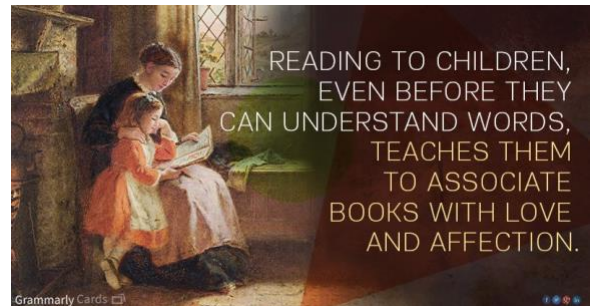
Spring break is only two weeks away and I hope you have time to enjoy the great outdoors with your children. Research shows that playing outside contributes significantly to the development of self-regulation and social skills. Through free play, children learn to compromise, negotiate, problem-solve, communicate, perspective-take, and develop empathy. The link below is a quick read that outlines some of these benefits for children. The clocks do move ahead in March and we are looking forward to the longer days that invite us all to spend more time appreciating nature.

<https://heartmindonline.org/resources/play-outside>

Many students noted that literacy was a goal for them during their last conferences. Spring break might be a great time to visit the Maple Ridge public library to find some really interesting books. Research shows that children who read books for just 20 minutes a day perform better in school. Some ways to get your child reading include

- setting aside a reading time in a comfortable place
- reading together
- asking questions about the story or what they think will happen next

It also helps if you get caught reading yourself!



We have much to look forward to as spring approaches. Hoping your family has opportunities to enjoy playing outside in the daytime and reading some good books in the evenings.

Mme Donna Servant
Principal

Mme Chelsea Lendvoy
Vice Principal

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration for the 2020/21 school year is open to children who are **5 years old on or before December 31, 2020**. Visit the district website at the link below for detailed information. Late registration is now open until June 21 for parents who may have missed previous registration phases.

<http://www.sd42.ca/kindergarten-registration/>

GRADE 8 REGISTRATION

Deadline for Grade 8 online registration has closed. Families that missed this phase must complete a paper registration form at their catchment high school.

Parents will be notified by email before Spring Break about their child's assigned school. All transfer requests are due March 5. Please refer to guidelines at the attached link. Scroll to Attachments - "secondary transfer 2020/2021 guidelines.

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

MOVING?

If you are moving before the next school year, please visit the district website (www.sd42.ca) for information and transfer deadlines.

https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/Elementary-Transfer-Guidelines-2020_21.pdf

STUDENT LEARNING SURVEYS

The Provincial Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents, teachers and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

The Learning Survey is available to parents of all children in grades 4 and 7, February 1 - April 3. The survey is also administered to students in grades 4 and 7, and all school staff. We encourage parents to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included. The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm Please scroll down to the box at the bottom on the right. Follow the box identified as *Direct Access (no logon number required)*. Scroll to district 42 Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows and then scroll to Maple Ridge Elementary.

All responses are anonymous and confidential. The surveys can be completed any time before April 3. We look forward to your input!



Please be sure to let the school office know if your child will be leaving school early for Spring Break. Last day for students is March 13th. We welcome students back on Monday, March 30.

STAFFING UPDATES

Mrs. Hayward announced her retirement earlier in February. Her last day was February 28. Mrs. Hayward has worked as an educational assistant at Maple Ridge Elementary for 22 years! We are grateful for her many years of dedication to supporting our children. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors, and we are delighted that she will continue to direct our choir on a volunteer basis.

INTERMEDIATE SPRING CHOIR

Our spring choir will hold practices on Wednesdays after spring break beginning on April 8. We practice on the stage from 2:20 - 3:00 in preparation for performances at assemblies. Students in grades 4 to 7 are invited to join. Please complete and return the attached permission form to your child's teacher. It is important to note the dates that choir is cancelled so that your child can be picked up on time.

LOST AND FOUND

The contents of our lost and found box is once again overflowing. Items will be on display in the rotunda during parent conferences on March 5 and 6. Please take a look through the collection and claim what is yours. Unclaimed items will be donated to charity on March 9.

FUNDRAISING FOR GRADE 7 LEAVING CEREMONY

The Rebate Program at the Maple Ridge Liquor (20690 Lougheed Hwy) is a wonderful opportunity to raise money for our Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony. Each time you purchase an adult beverage, mention that your child attends Maple Ridge Elementary and there is an account with them for the Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony. Our grade 7 students will then receive a rebate of 5% of the sales; you can purchase now, and the fundraiser will end May 31st. Tell your friends, family, co-workers, neighbors- the larger our network, the bigger rebate we will receive. Thanks for your help!



Get ready to Spring forward on Sunday March 8 at 2 a.m. Clocks are turned forward 1 hour.

PRE-SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Curious Minds Pre-School is now open for Fall 2020 registration. If you are interested or would like more information, please see Ms. Sarah or Ms. Heidi in the Curious Minds Daycare Center (on school grounds) or contact via phone at 604-315-3240

PAC NEWS...

Planning is underway for our first MRE Family Dance on May 1st from 5:30 - 7:30 PM. Doors will open at 5:00. All proceeds will go towards the Carnival this year. Please consider joining our team and volunteering a bit of your time. This is a great way to bring our MRE community together in the spring! There will be dancing, prizes, a disc jockey, concession, and more! Advance tickets will cost \$3.00 or \$4.00 at the door. Tickets must be purchased for each child who attends MRE. Tickets for parents and younger siblings are free. Advance tickets are available for purchase on Munch-a-Lunch and will be available on select days after school, stay tuned for dates posted in the upcoming Friday blasts. More information will be in the April 1 newsletter. This is a family dance so all children must be escorted by a parent/guardian. If you are able to help out, please contact Tanya Houle tanyahoule25@gmail.com

Our next hot lunch is Booster Juice on Thursday March 12. Thank-you Teagan McGeachie for once again running our hot lunch days. The deadline to order has passed. Just a friendly reminder that we now use Munch-a-Lunch for online ordering. Please visit <https://munchalunch.com/schools/MapleRidge/> to set up your account. You may pre-order for several PAC fundraisers all at once. Cash payments are also accepted to your classroom teacher. If cash payment is chosen, it is VERY IMPORTANT that your child's name, division, food order and exact amount of cash be submitted to the teacher in an envelope that is clearly identified as hot lunch. We are not able to process orders that are missing information. Please contact teaganscell@hotmail.com if you can help on hot lunch day.

There will be a Carnival Meeting Tuesday March 10th at 6:00pm. We will be setting the date and planning this exciting community event. We need lots of volunteers to plan and run it so please consider joining us. You can let Nicole Keough know if you are available. She can be reached at nekoalne@hotmail.com.

Our next PAC Meeting is Tuesday March 10th at 7:00pm.



The Bookfair will be coming to *Maple Ridge Elementary*, Monday, March 2 - 4th 8:30 - 3:00pm. Volunteers are needed to help run this event. Please email nekoalne@hotmail.com to let her know your availability!

We hope everyone has a fantastic and safe Spring Break!



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MRE Spring Choir

March, 2020

Dear Parents,

Your son/daughter has expressed an interest in joining the Maple Ridge Elementary choir. We have explained to the prospective choir members that this will require a commitment, both in terms of time and effort. We will be performing at assemblies during third term.

This term practices will take place on Wednesdays on the stage after school, from **2:20 pm to 3:00 pm**. Our first practice will be on Wednesday, April 8. Please note there are **NO** choir practices on the following dates:

June 10

June 17 (This practice is rescheduled to Thursday June 18)

Please sign and return the cut-off portion at the bottom of this permission form and return it with your child to school. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Chandler, Mrs. Hayward
Mme. Servant





Intermediate Choir Permission Form

I _____ give permission for my child, _____, to participate in the MRE Intermediate Choir. I understand that practices will be held on Wednesdays from 2:20 pm to 3:00 pm, beginning April 8. My child will attend as many practices as possible. There is no choir on June 10 and June 17 is rescheduled to June 18.

Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Phone Number: _____

March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Bookfair 8:30 - 3:00 on stage In-Class Water Workshop Div. 6 & 7	3 Bookfair 8:30 - 3:00 on stage ARMS Workshop Division 15 Girls basketball at MRE vs Harry Hooge	4 Bookfair 8:30 - 3:00 on stage Choir Practice 2:20 - 3:00	5 Student-Led Conferences. Early dismissal 11:30	6 Student-Led Conferences. No school for students.	7
8 Daylight Saving Begins	9	10 Fire Safety Presentations Primary Classes PAC Meeting 7:00 in library	11 Bake Sale Div. 4 & 5 Divisions 6, 7, 8 Skating Choir Practice 2:20 - 3:00	12 Fire Safety Presentations Primary Classes PAC Booster Juice Lunch	13 LAST DAY BEFORE SPRING BREAK	14
15	16 <i>SPRING BREAK</i> Schools closed March 16 - 27	17 Saint Patrick's Day	18	19 Spring Begins	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Schools Reopen	31				