

MAPLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY
20820 River Road, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 1Z7
Phone 604.467.5551 / Fax 604.467.9825
<http://schools.sd42.ca/mre>



Principal: Barbara MacKinnon
Barbara_Mackinnon@sd42.ca
Vice Principal: Chelsea Lendvoy
Chelsea_Lendvoy@sd42.ca

Newsletter #6 February 2021

Happy February!

We've heard lots of people expressing pleasure at seeing young plants starting to emerge from the ground. Do we dare hope for an early spring?



Family Day is coming up on February 15th and this makes us think of the “family” that is created within our school community. The limitations placed on us by the pandemic have led us to find different ways to connect. One of these ways is “MRE TV,” a biweekly video production created by student leaders. The ten-minute “variety” program is shown on Friday afternoons and showcases classroom learning, jokes, tricks, challenges, art, sports, etc. It also includes a message around social emotional learning and kindness. It's such a pleasure to have students of all ages come forward with their ideas and talents.

February is a month where we give extra attention to friendship and kindness. We acknowledge Valentine's day, Family Day and Kindness Counts (Pink Shirt) day. We are so proud and grateful to see kindness and respect displayed every day at MRE.

Wishing you happiness and health,

Barbara MacKinnon
Principal

Chelsea Lendvoy
Vice Principal



Here's a riddle (we have one every day on the announcements):

Q. What should you do when you see a green alien?
A. Wait until it's ripe!

Playground

There is a great deal of excitement and anticipation around the new playground. You can see model “mock-ups” on the windows of Mme Zepeski's and Mrs. Kingman's classrooms. The playground is scheduled for completion by March 31.

Valentine's Safety

If your child is bringing Valentines Treats, the School District 42 Health and Safety Team directives must be followed:



Valentine Cards

Valentine card exchange is permitted as long as the cards are basic paper cards (cards with pens, stickers or candies are NOT permitted at this time). The virus is not transmitted on paper, but it can be transmitted on the attached items such as pens, stickers, and candies.

Homemade Baked Goods

Only individually prepared and packaged commercial items are acceptable. If parents wish to contribute goodies, they must come in an unopened box to the classroom teacher for distribution. Classroom teacher will wash hands and distribute to each child if they are participating in such an activity.

Health

Please continue to check your child/ren daily for symptoms of illness. Refer to the School District No.42 website for reference: <https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/Daily-Health-Assessment-Checklist-Updated.pdf>.



MRE PAC News

The next PAC meeting is on Monday, February 8th on Zoom, at 7:00 p.m. All parents are welcome. The link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88594786398?pwd=QINGWHdQRlgybERhTE4wNIE1Tk9zUT09>

We are looking for parent volunteers to help with:

- Meridian Meats Fundraiser
- Townhall Fundraiser
- Grade 7 Bottle Depot Fundraiser

Please email mre.pac@gmail.com if you are able to help out



No School

Monday, February 15 – Family Day – school is not in session

Tuesday, February 16 – Professional Day – students do not attend



Pink Shirt Day February 24th

The idea for Pink Shirt Day originated in Nova Scotia in 2007. Two students took a stand against the bullying experiences by a boy who chose to wear a pink shirt. One of our school slogans is, “MRE, where kindness and respect matter every day.” On pink shirt day, this takes on special significance. Students are encouraged to wear pink on Feb. 24th. Our virtual assembly on February 17th, will be centered around the theme of kindness.

Student Inclusive Conferences – Term Two Reports

Information about scheduling student inclusive conferences will be sent by classroom teachers later in February. This is a chance for students, parents and teachers to discuss student growth, celebrate accomplishments and set goals.

As with last term, conferences will take place on Zoom. Dates are:

March 4th — early dismissal at 11:30 a.m.

March 5th — no school for students



*Parents, Student, & Teacher
Conferences*

Just in Case – Inclement Weather Policy

From time to time it may be necessary to temporarily close the school when extreme weather conditions exist that may endanger the health and safety of students/staff. School closures due to inclement weather will be at the discretion of the Superintendent in consultation with the Secretary Treasurer and Director of Maintenance. Decisions for closure will be made by 6:00 a.m. Details will be posted on the School District website (www.sd42.ca) immediately, and shared with the media outlets in the Lower Mainland. Monitor the following radio stations and district social media feeds for the most reliable reporting of school closure information.

News 1130 CKNW 980 CBC 690

SD42 Twitter feed (@sd42news)

SD42 Facebook feed (SD42Facebook)

If school is closed, please do not send your child to school.



Active Travel to School

The concept of “Active Transportation,” is gaining prominence and we see many people leaving their cars at home. Please have a look at the information below from public health:

<http://www.vch.ca/public-health/children-youth-schools/school-health/active-travel-to-school>

Active kids are healthy kids. Children who are more physically active are happier, have better academic achievement, have fewer depression and anxiety related symptoms, sleep better, and have better overall health. Active travel (walking, biking, etc.) is a great way for kids to be physically active. Using active modes of travel to and from school and other destinations in the community has a host of benefits for kids' well-being and development. It also has effects that benefit the broader community such as more socially cohesive neighbourhoods, safer streets and cleaner air.

How much physical activity do children need?

The Canadian 24-hour movement guidelines recommend that children and youth aged 5-17 get at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity and several hours of a variety of structured and unstructured light physical activity per day.

ACTIVE KIDS ARE HEALTHY KIDS

Choose active travel to and from school.

Introduce active travel into your routine. Even one day per week can help.

WALK, BIKE, AND ROLL
Get your kids to walk, bike, skateboard, or take public transit to and from school. They'll get some fresh air, exercise, and a feeling of independence.

DRIVE TO 5
Try parking just a few blocks away (5 minutes) and walk with your kids. You'll free up space in the school zone, get some fresh air, and have a chance to hear about your child's day.

WALKING SCHOOL BUS
Organize your own Walking School Bus program which allows children to walk to school together accompanied by adult volunteers.

THE CANADIAN 24 HOUR MOVEMENT GUIDELINES recommends for ages 5-17

Activity	Duration
SWEAT	60 minutes daily
STEP	1-2 hours daily
SLEEP	9-11 hours daily
SIT/SCREEN	less than 2 hours daily

Find out more: csepguidelines.ca

BIG BENEFITS

HEALTH

- Good for Heart & Bones
- Improved School Performance
- Better Sleep
- Less Anxiety & Depression
- Increased Alertness & Attention

COMMUNITY

- Fostered Friendships
- Better Understanding of the Local Area
- Increased Sense of Belonging

SAFETY

- Reduced Traffic Volume Around Schools
- Lower Risk of Collision & Injury

AIR QUALITY

- Reduced Vehicle Emissions
- Improved Air Quality
- Lower Risk of Lung & Cardiovascular Diseases

CROSS SMART

- Always cross at designated crosswalks and follow pedestrian signs and traffic signals.
- Watch for drivers turning left or right through the crosswalk.

For more tips and resources visit the schools tab at: translink.ca/travelsmart

Supported by:

Vancouver Coastal Health, Fraser Health, ICBC, BCAA, TRANS LINK

District Information

Kindergarten Registration

Children who turn 5 years old in 2021 (born in 2016) are eligible to register in kindergarten for the 2021/22 school year. The next registration dates for the 2021/22 school year are below:

General Registration February 3 – 10, 2021
Late Registration February 24 – July 31, 2021
Open Registration August 19 and on

All registration periods open at 12 pm (noon)- Parents will be notified of their child's placement by email shortly after the last day of their registration phase.

For more information, download the kindergarten registration brochure at <https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/2021-22-Kindergarten-Registration-Brochure-online.pdf> or visit the school district kindergarten registration page at <https://www.sd42.ca/kindergarten-registration/>

Grade 8 Registration – Secondary School - September 2021

Registration for grade 8 for the 2021-22 school year is done on the parent portal. Online registration begins on **February 4, 2021** at 12:00pm (noon). The online registration form will automatically populate with your child's secondary catchment school. This is determined by your address. Please take a moment to ensure your parent portal account has your current address.

Transfers

For further details on transfer criteria and important dates for the 2021/22 school year, you will find the appropriate guidelines provided below:

[Student Transfer Guidelines: Elementary \(2021/22\)](#)

Online information nights for District Programs of Choice:

DISTRICT CYBERSCHOOL

Online Information Night:

Tuesday, February 2, 2021 (6:30 p.m.)

Preregistration

required: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZIpdeirpzgsGtN4ZwTrh7x7I2koHH-RHCUj>

CyberSchool allows SD42 students in grades 6 and 7 to work at school three days a week, and from home (online) the other two days while still interacting with the class. Benefits of this program include the application of technology, collaboration in both online and face-to-face environments, and the development of independent working skills.

CyberSchool students are also part of the school district 1-to-1 program, in which each student is assigned an iPad for the school year. This option is open to all Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District students who will be going into grades 6 and 7 in September 2021.

REGISTRATION for Cyberschool opens online at noon, February 10, 2021. Registration link:

<https://letstalksd42.ca/sd42-cyberschool-2021-2022>

The district CyberSchool program runs out of Alouette Elementary (22155 Isaac Crescent, Maple Ridge). For more information about the district CyberSchool program, visit

<https://www.sd42.ca/program/cyberschool>.

LATE FRENCH IMMERSION

Online Information Night:

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 (7:00 p.m.)

Preregistration required:

https://sd42.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5UqfuCqqjsvE9NcrXDmi_L-HMmuKoST9J17

The SD42 Late French Immersion Program is an excellent opportunity for students who want to learn a second language or are looking for a challenge. Students who are currently in Grade 5 are eligible to begin Late French Immersion in September 2021 at Golden Ears Elementary. This two-year elementary program continues at Maple Ridge Secondary School.

To learn more about Late French Immersion, participate in our online information meeting on February 3, 2021.

For more information about our French Immersion programs, please contact Shelley Linton at 604.463.7108 or shelley_linton@sd42.ca

REGISTRATION for Late French Immersion opens online at noon, February 10, 2021.

Registration link: <https://letstalksd42.ca/sd42-late-french-immersion-2021-22>

The Late French Immersion Program runs out of Golden Ears Elementary school, 23124 – 118 Avenue, Maple Ridge.

Communication

As we continue to reduce handling of materials and the consumption of paper, most school-based publications, including the *Friday Blast* and this monthly newsletter will be sent home via the parent portal. Pertinent information will be updated on our school website: <http://mre.sd42.ca>. You can check the website at <https://www.sd42.ca> for district information. We also have a school-based Facebook page called Maple Ridge Elementary SD 42. Teachers will be using a variety of methods for their class level communications.

Have you thought about a career with our school district?

To see the opportunities we have available, visit us at <http://www.sd42.ca/careers/>

FEB 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	01	02	03	04	05	06
		Cyberschool information 6:30 p.m. Pre- registration required	General Registration for Kindergarten Late French Immersion info. Pre-registration required	Grade 8 High School Registration begins - noon	Wear your House Team Colours or Spirit Wear	
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
	PAC meeting on Zoom, 7:00 p.m. Link is embedded				Wear your House Team Colours or Spirit Wear	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Valentine's Day	Family Day No School	Pro D Day Students do not attend	Virtual Assembly		Crazy Hair/Hat/ Headband Day	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		Late Registration for Kindergarten opens Pink Shirt Day			Wear your House Team Colours or Spirit Wear	
28						

Upcoming—Student Inclusive Conferences: March 4th — early dismissal at 11:30 a.m.
March 5th — no school for students