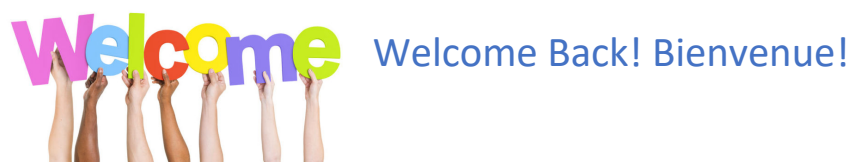


MAPLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY
20820 River Road, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 1Z7
Phone 604.467.5551 / Fax 604.467.9825
<http://schools.sd42.ca/mre>
Reception email:
mre_reception@sd42.ca
School website: <http://elementary.sd42.ca/mapleridge>

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

Newsletter #1 September 7, 2021



We are excited to welcome you to another great year at Maple Ridge Elementary. We hope you had a wonderful summer break and are rested and ready for a safe, successful, and inspiring return to school.

As well as welcoming returning students, we want to welcome new kindergarteners and students who have joined us from other schools. You will soon learn how amazing MRE is!

Mme Lendvoy and I are delighted to be your administration team again this year and we look forward to working with you and your family. As always, if you have questions/concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Staffing Updates

Mme Kaley Wells is leaving MRE to take a teaching position closer to her home — she will be sorely missed. We wish her all the very best in her new school.

Joining us on staff:

Ms. Szilagy — teaching grade 1/2 (English) while Ms Kingman continues her parental leave.

Ms. Yin Tsia — teaching grade 2/3 (English)

Ms. Maria Angotti — our new ELL teacher

Ms. Cora Lindgren — our new Child and Youth Care Worker (CCW)

Ms Holland — has (re)joined us as an Education Assistant

Ms Degenova — will be our Kindergarten Transition EA until November



A Message From the PAC CHair – Welcome Back and First meeting

Welcome back MRE !!!

MRE PAC is excited to welcome all new and returning families to MRE as well as all our amazing staff members. We're looking forward to working with you all this year. We hope everyone has had a relaxing and memorable summer break. As we move into a new school year with many exciting events our team has been planning, we have high hopes to start implementing these events by next month, with of course the go ahead from our administration team and health and safety protocols. Please note any event can be postponed at any time and we thank you for your patience.

We are looking forward to an exciting year. For more PAC information and calendar events we ask you to join our Facebook page (MRE parents association).

The first meeting is on Monday, Sept. 20th at on Zoom. The budget portion begins at 6:00 p.m. and the regular meeting starts at 7:00. We hope to see you there! Here's the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81723678481?pwd=SS9rK0dFYVJrUm1SZ3pRSFNFWXQ2dz09>

Meeting ID: 817 2367 8481

Passcode: 499270

All parents and guardians of students registered at MRE can participate and are automatically members of the PAC.

The executive members for the 2021-22 school year are:

Chair: Nicole Keough

Vice Chair: Tanya Houle

Treasurer: Jeannie Harmon

Secretary: Leanne McMaster

Member at Large: Janna Mauch

Member at Large: Christine Willman

Staying in the Loop – Communication at MRE

Teachers will have their own methods of communicating directly with families of their students. This may happen through messages in student agenda/planners, websites, emails, phone calls or in-person conversations. Staff email addresses will be available on the school website: <http://elementary.sd42.ca/mapleridge> You can find the school Facebook page by searching: Maple Ridge Elementary SD42.



Every Friday, you will receive a “Friday Blast” on the parent portal. This short “news blast” is full of timely information and events for the upcoming week. If you need help accessing the portal, please contact our friendly office staff for assistance at mre_reception@sd42.ca. Once a month, you will receive an email message to alert you that a newsletter like this one is available on the portal. The newsletter contains all kinds of school, school district and community information.

New Bell Schedule

Please note: End of day dismissal for *this year* is at 2:25 p.m.

8:25	Welcome bell- students line up
8:30	Classes begin
10:20 - 10:35	Recess
11:50 - 12:15	Outside play before lunch
12:15 – 12:30	Lunch eating time
12:30	Classes resume
2:25	Dismissal



The First Days

New class placements will be finalized once the district has verified enrolment numbers. This usually takes place on the Friday or the Monday after the first week.

There will be signs posted and lots of staff on hand to be sure that everyone gets to the right place.

Attendance and Late Arrivals



Attendance

For safety reasons, it is very important for us to know if your child will be away from school. Please, contact the office by calling 604 467-5551 or by emailing: mre_reception@sd42.ca to let us know if your child(ren) will be absent or late.

It is important for students to be on time. As part of safety protocols, school doors will be kept locked. If students do arrive a few minutes late, they knock and enter through their outside classroom door. If they are in a class with no outside door, they will go to the main entrance where staff will let them in.

Parking and Crossing River Road

Our school is on a very busy road and student safety is vital.

- DO NOT pull into the parking lots. These are for staff and for vehicles with a valid SPARC (handicap) permit. Before and after school, there is limited parking for Curious Minds Daycare patrons in the east parking lot.
- We suggest parking on a nearby street and walking (or cycling, scootering, etc.) the rest of the way to school. This is something that families have really come to enjoy.
- Pedestrians must use designated crosswalks.
- Students may be dropped off in drive-thru at the front of the school, but there is no waiting or parking in this area (except for daycare buses, taxis, and vehicles displaying the SPARC tag in their windshield).
- Students may NOT BE PICKED UP from the drive through area after school.



School Supplies

Students do not bring school supplies until notified by their new teachers.

Kindergarten to Grade 3

Supplies are bulk-ordered for students in Kindergarten - Grade 3. There is a flat fee that covers all school supplies for the year. Please submit payment on the portal (after students have been transitioned to their new classes) or by cheque payable to Maple Ridge Elementary.

Kindergarten \$50.00

Grades 1 - 3 \$55.00

Intermediate students (Grades 4 - 7)

You can find supply lists for grades 4-7 at:

<https://elementary.sd42.ca/mapleridge/school-supplies-lists/>

Students who pre-ordered supplies from Creative Packs will have their kits delivered to their classrooms once classes are finalized. You can contact Creative Packs www.creativepacks.ca if you are still interested in ordering through this company, but there will be a late delivery fee. Many classes will also be using school planners (agendas) which cost \$10.00. You will be notified if your child needs a planner.

Photos – Smile 😊



School photos will be taken early again this year. Our date is September 22nd. Photographers will follow strict COVID safety protocols and all ordering will take place online. More information will follow.

Pack It In & Pack It Out – Lunch

Please consider using reusable containers as much as possible. We ask that whatever is left from your child's lunch goes home in their lunch bag, including empty juice boxes and food wrappers. In this way, waste at school will be reduced and you will have a better idea of what your child is finishing for lunch.



Medical Intervention Forms

If your child has any health care needs that require support at school, including, but not limited to, administration of any medication or a life-threatening condition including anaphylaxis, diabetes and seizure disorders, new medical forms must be completed *every year*. The school cannot assist with any medical intervention unless these forms are completed. Please contact the school as soon as possible to complete a form. Please note, the medical forms for anaphylaxis and diabetes require a physician's signature. This procedure complies with the school district policy regarding the health care needs of children at school. If there are any questions, please contact the school.

We are a Nut Aware School



As it is the start of another school year, it is important to remind everyone we have several students with SEVERE LIFE-THREATENING allergies to a variety of nuts, including tree nuts and peanuts. If this applies to your child, please make certain that you have notified the office and the classroom teacher and that you have provided the appropriate medical information and necessary medication. Students with life-threatening allergies should wear a waist pouch containing an Epi-pen. A second Epi-pen should be stored in the office. This is school district policy.



Parent Portal Permissions

Please login to the parent portal and submit permissions for all items listed as soon as possible. It is critical that we receive photo permissions for your children's class photos to be published in our yearbook. These books create treasured memories for all. If your child is in Grade 7, we need permission for their photos to be displayed at the June ceremony. Permissions must be completed annually for each child.

June 2021 Report Card

If you missed your child's year-end report card, you can still access it. Log on to the portal and click on 'History.' From there, scroll to 'Assessment History' and click on your child's name. Please contact the office if you need assistance.



Keeping
everyone
safe

Our COVID-19 Measures

COVID Health and Safety Measures in Our School District

COVID updates can be found on the district website at:

<https://www.sd42.ca/coronavirus-district-response/>

The [*Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 Settings*](#) document guides our protocols in School District 42. Key measures include the following:

- **COHORTS:** Cohorts, also known as learning groups, are no longer recommended by public health as a COVID-19 mitigation measure and will not be used.
- **MASKS:** All K-12 staff, visitors, and students in grades 4 to 12 will be required to wear non-medical masks in all indoor areas of the school and on school buses. Students in kindergarten to Grade 3 are encouraged to wear masks. **Exceptions** to the mask requirements are outlined on [page 20 of the provincial guidelines](#).

- **DAILY HEALTH CHECKS:** Daily health checks are required before students/staff come to school. A daily health check list (soon to be updated) is posted to the [school district website](#) and all school websites.
- **HAND HYGIENE:** Diligent hand hygiene will continue to be emphasized, with handwashing encouraged upon school entry, before/after breaks, before/after eating, after using washrooms, and after touching shared equipment.
- **PHYSICAL DISTANCING:** Although public health no longer recommends strict physical distancing of two metres, schools will use strategies to help with respecting personal space, including using available learning spaces and making use of outdoor space as appropriate.
- **CLEANING:** General cleaning, as well as cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces, will occur at least once in a 24-hour period and when visibly dirty.
- **VENTILATION:** Ventilation systems in all school district facilities meet WorkSafeBC requirements and requirements as set out in the provincial guidelines with all air filters continuing to be replaced on a regular basis. Improvements to SD42 ventilation systems [are listed here](#).
- **VACCINATIONS:** According to public health, vaccines are the most effective way to reduce the risk of COVID-19 in schools and communities. Public health strongly encourages all eligible students (12+) and staff to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Registration is available:
 - Online through the [Get Vaccinated portal](#)
 - By calling 1-833-838-2323
 - In person at any [Service BC location](#)
 - People can also be immunized at [drop-in vaccine clinics](#) throughout the province
- **TARGETED MEASURES:** Local public health orders may be put in place for entire regions or communities, including schools, as determined by the Medical Health Officer.
- **VISITORS:** We will be continuing to carefully manage and document visitors in our schools in alignment with current provincial guidelines. If you need to visit your child's class, please call the school or email staff to make appropriate arrangements. School doors may be locked when staff are not available to greet prospective visitors. All prospective visitors will need to complete a daily health check and sign in with their contact information.

Calendar (updated Aug. 2021)



MAPLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY

2021-22 Calendar



School opening day for students (12:30 – 2:25 p.m.)	Tuesday, September 7, 2021
Photo Day (Individual photos)	Wednesday, September 22, 2021
MRE Terry Fox Run	Friday, September 24, 2021
National Day For Truth and Reconciliation (school not in session)	Thursday, September 30, 2021
Non-instructional day (School Growth Planning Day)	Friday, October 1, 2021
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 11, 2021
Non-instructional day (province-wide)	Friday, October 22, 2021
Remembrance Day	Thursday, November 11, 2021
Non-instructional day (district-based)	Friday, November 12, 2021
Student Inclusive Conferences – (dismissal at 11:30)	Thursday, December 2, 2021
Student Inclusive Conferences – (classes not in session)	Friday, December 3, 2021
Christmas Concert (proposed dates) Families choose one concert to attend	Wednesday, December 15, 9:00 a.m. Thursday, December 16, 1:00 p.m.
Schools close for break	Friday, December 17, 2021
Winter break	Monday, December 20, 2021 to Friday, December 31, 2021
Schools reopen after break	Monday, January 3, 2022
Non-instructional day (school-based)	Monday, January 24, 2022
Family Day	Monday, February 21, 2022
Non-instructional day (school-based)	Tuesday, February 22, 2022
Student Inclusive Conferences – (dismissal at 11:30)	Thursday, March 3, 2022 11:30 dismissal
Student Inclusive Conferences – (classes not in session)	Friday, March 4, 2022
Schools close for break	Friday, March 11, 2022
Schools not in Session	Monday, March 14, 2022 to Friday, March 18, 2022
Spring break	Monday, March 21, 2022 to Friday, March 25, 2022
Schools reopen after break	Monday, March 28, 2022

Good Friday	Friday, April 15, 2022
Easter Monday	Monday, April 18, 2022
Non-instructional day (district-based)	Wednesday, May 11, 2022
Victoria Day	Monday, May 23, 2022
Last day for students – (dismissal at Noon)	Thursday, June 23, 2022
Year-end administrative day	Friday, June 24, 2022
Schools closed for summer vacation	Monday, June 27, 2022
