

MAPLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY
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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 #8 April 1, 2022.

Hello MRE Families,

We hope that your Spring Break was happy and relaxing. It's such a beautiful time of year with warmer weather, blossoms, and signs of renewal everywhere.



As we enter the final term, read often with your children, ask them to share an interesting part of their day and have fun together!

Along with many timely news items, you will find information about a fundraising campaign for the Ukraine that is spearheaded by Div. 6.

Happy days,

Barbara MacKinnon
Principal

Chelsea Lendvoy
Vice Principal

Here's a spring riddle for you:
Why is April the cleanest month?



Because April showers.



Upcoming dates for your calendars:

- April 15, 2022 Good Friday – Classes not in session
- April 18, 2022 Easter - Classes not in session
- May 10, 2022 K. Early dismissal - 11:30 a.m. Kindergarten only
- May 11, 2022 Non-Instructional Day - Classes not in session
- May 23, 2022 Victoria Day - Classes not in session

MRE Kids Helping Kids—Fundraising for Children in Ukraine



Dear Parents,

The events in Ukraine over the past month have been devastating. The war that has erupted is affecting millions of people. Suddenly it feels like the peace in Europe, if not the world, is under threat. The news has been filled with shocking images of bombings, of homes turned to rubble, and of people injured or fleeing for their lives. In bordering countries, refugee camps have sprung up, and communities everywhere are joining together wanting to help.

Maple Ridge Elementary is one of those communities. In some small way, we want to help the people of Ukraine. Headed by Mrs. Haavisto's Grade 4 and 5 class, the students are organizing a fundraiser under the banner of "Save the Children". This is an organization that has been involved with helping children in crisis worldwide. The students of Mrs. Haavisto's class hope that through this fundraiser refugee children somewhere in the midst of chaos will get medical attention, receive clean clothes, sleep in a soft bed, and eat a warm meal.

A parent from this class has kindly set up a fundraiser page through the "Save the Children" website. Parents and friends can reach it with this link from now until April 29th, 2022.

<https://savethechildren.akaraisin.com/ui/teamsave?logout=true>

1. Click on "Donate"
2. Click on "Individual" (we are not registered as a team)
3. Search for "Maple Ridge Elem"
4. Follow the steps to donate

*Please note that donations of \$20 or more will receive a tax receipt.

The kids of MRE also want to do their part! Students from Mrs. Haavisto's class are busy making posters and morning announcements to advertise their campaign. Many of the students have found creative ways to earn money for the donations to Ukraine, for example, taking on additional chores at home. Please encourage and support your child in their participation of this fundraiser. The money they raise will be collected at school between April 4th and April 29th.

Together we can make a difference for children in Ukraine whose lives have been profoundly affected.

Thank you for your support!



Lost and Found

We are very happy to report that many items left at the Lost and Found were claimed before the Spring Break. Things labeled with names could easily be returned to their owners. Leftover clothing was donated to charity. We will continue to post photos of Lost and Found items on the MRE Facebook page and in the Friday Blasts.



School Communication

As we continue to reduce 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/>

MRE is currently in need of a Lunch Hour Supervisor for Mondays to Fridays from 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

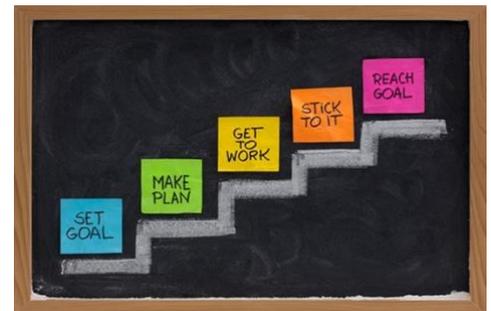
Goals from Reporting Conferences

During the Student Inclusive Reporting conferences, you discussed next steps in your child's learning at school. Writing down the goal was an important part of the process. As we begin the final term of the year, please take a moment to revisit the report card and commit to reaching the goal(s).

It's often said that a goal without a plan is just a wish.

- Discuss the purpose of your child's goal.
- Break a big goal into smaller steps.
- Make a plan for how you will address obstacles.
- Enlist help as needed.
- Celebrate success.

There are many online sites with fun and doable ideas for setting and reaching goals with kids



Student Information



Please remember to let the school office know if any of your child's information changes, e.g., home phone number, cell phone number, work phone number, address, emergency contact information, email address, etc. It is very important that the school has up-to-date information about your children in case of emergency. Thank you.

Student Absences

If your child will be away from school, please let the office know at by entering the absence on the portal, emailing mre_reception@sd42.ca or leaving a message at 604 467 5551.



Learning Survey 2022 - Grades 4 and 7 - and Parents Too

This month, the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 and 7. It is also open to their parents/guardians/caregivers, and all school staff. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers 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. Parents of Grade 4 and 7 students will receive a portal invitation to participate, but all parents are welcome to take the survey.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey. Any computer with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the direct link with or without an anonymous logon code by selecting the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the *Results* section.

The e-survey site will be open until April 29th.

If you have any questions, please contact the school at 604 467 5551.
Thank you for your participation!



PLANNING FOR SEPTEMBER – Are you moving?

Although it may seem early, schools are beginning to make preparations for September 2022.

If you know that you will be moving and not attending MRE for the 2022-23 school year, please visit the school district website <https://www.sd42.ca/student-registration/> for registration and transfer information so that we can plan more accurately.

CLASS PLACEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

We will soon be beginning to create preliminary class lists for next year. Please be assured that staff devote considerable time, care, and attention to this process. This very complex and lengthy responsibility occurs over several weeks and continues into September when class placements are finalized.

Throughout the year, there have been many opportunities for parents and teachers to observe, discuss, and get to know the students. Staff work together to consider social emotional skills and relationships, as well as learning styles, strengths and needs as placements are made. Our goal is to create safe, engaging, and inclusive classrooms that balance these factors as equitably as possible.

If you feel there is further information to consider about your child, you may submit input to the principal by email (Barbara_mackinnon@sd42.ca) by May 31st, 2022. Please refrain from requesting specific teachers or peers by name.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the 2022/2023 school year is open to children who are 5 years old on or before December 31, 2022. Visit the district website at <http://www.sd42.ca/kindergarten-registration/>



Please note that spaces are filling quickly.

Ready, Set, Kindergarten (Formerly “Welcome to Kindergarten”)

The Ready, Set, Kindergarten Event shares strategies and resources that make early learning through

play a priority in the home and support children in a successful transition to school. This will be held on May 10th for students who are registered to *begin* Kindergarten at MRE in the fall. Information will be sent to families through the portal.

Current kindergarten students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. on this day.



Parents' Corner

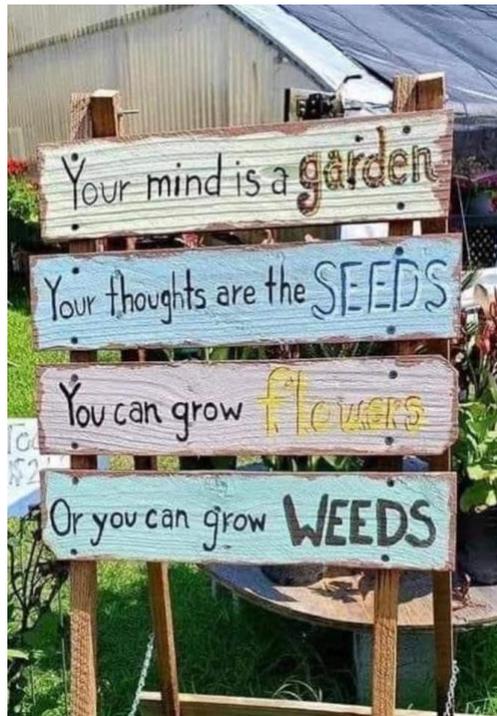
Alternatives to asking your child “How was school today”?

Adapted from: <https://www.bestofparenting.com/10-alternatives-to-how-was-school-today/> and <https://www.idtech.com/blog/after-school-questions-to-ask-kids-instead-of-how-was-your-day>

When children are asked, “How was school today?” their typical answer is “ok”, or “fine” or “good”. If you would like to have a bit more information from them, instead of asking “How was school today”, try asking more specific questions. Once they start talking, be sure to listen without judgement and if they are sharing something that bothered them, try not to immediately reassure them, or give them solutions. Instead use the “Active Listening” technique: repeat what they have told you, try and summarise it or just try and put a name on their feeling. This can lead them to share even more.

Examples of alternatives to “How was school today”

- What made you smile today?
- Who did you help today? Who helped you today?
- When were you the happiest today?
- Tell me about three different times you used your pencil today at school.
- Tell me something you know today that you didn't know yesterday.
- Who were you sitting with at lunch?
- What was the coolest (saddest, funniest, scariest) thing that you saw today?
- If you could change one thing about today, what would it be?
- What part of the day do you look forward to?
- What's something you struggled with at school today?
- What do you need to do to prepare for tomorrow's learning?



Wondering what to do when sick?

✔ WHAT TO DO WHEN SICK

IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS, STAY HOME

Most people don't need testing for COVID-19. Use the BCCDC Self-Assessment Tool or contact 811 or your health care provider to find out if a COVID-19 test is recommended. Symptoms of COVID-19 include:



- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Loss of sense of smell/taste
- Difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Loss of appetite
- Runny nose
- Sneezing
- Extreme tiredness
- Headache
- Body aches
- Nausea/vomiting
- Diarrhea

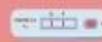


Go to emergency or call 911 if you:

- Find it hard to breathe
- Have chest pain
- Can't drink anything
- Feel very sick
- Feel confused

IF YOU HAVE MILD SYMPTOMS (OR HAVE TESTED NEGATIVE): STAY HOME

- For most people, testing is not recommended.
- Mild symptoms can be managed at home.



IF YOU TEST POSITIVE: SELF ISOLATE

- Complete an online form to report your test result.
- Manage your own symptoms.
- Let your household contacts know.



IF YOU ARE FULLY VACCINATED OR LESS THAN 18 YEARS OLD

You can end isolation and return to school / work when all conditions are met:

- 1 At least 5 days have passed since your symptoms started, or from test date if you did not have symptoms.
- 2 Fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medication, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen.
- 3 Symptoms have improved.

You should avoid non-essential visits to higher risk settings such as long-term care facilities and gatherings for another 5 days after ending isolation

IF YOU ARE 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER AND NOT FULLY VACCINATED

You can end isolation and return to school / work when all conditions are met:

- 1 At least 10 days have passed since your symptoms started, or from test date if you did not have symptoms.
- 2 Fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medication, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen.
- 3 Symptoms have improved.

RETURN TO SCHOOL / WORK

Stay home until you feel well enough to return to your regular activities



IF YOU STILL HAVE SYMPTOMS



Continue to isolate longer if you still have a fever or are not feeling better. If you are unsure or concerned, connect with your health care provider or call 811.

WHAT TO DO IF SOMEONE IS SICK IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD

You can continue to attend school if someone in your household is sick and/or self-isolating as long as you do not have any symptoms of illness and feel well. This includes if they have tested positive for COVID-19. Ensure you closely monitor yourself (or your child) for symptoms of illness and stay home if you feel unwell. The best way to protect yourself and your family from COVID-19 is to get vaccinated. Vaccines are available for anyone ages 5 and up. Register now at: [Getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca](https://getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca)

RAPID TESTS

Every student is entitled to a 5-pack of COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Tests for home use. These can be picked up (no charge) from the school by an adult. If you have not yet picked up the tests, please email "MRE Reception" mre_reception@sd42.ca to make arrangements.



MRE PAC News



Check us out on Facebook –
search
Maple Ridge Elementary PAC

The Maple Ridge Elementary PAC welcomes and encourages our MRE community to join our Facebook page for updated information, upcoming events, and news. We love to hear from all families. If you have any questions, please email our executives at pac.mre@gmail.com. You can find minutes from the meetings under the parent tab on the school's website at: <https://elementary.sd42.ca/mapleridge/> Once a week, there is information in the Friday Blast about current PAC activities.

Upcoming Meetings

The next **regular PAC meeting** is on Monday, April 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the school library. All parents are welcome. We will be voting on the proposed Constitution and Bylaws that were sent to all parents on the portal.

Newsletter

PAC will be sending out a newsletter with PAC events, news and committee information to keep you updated throughout the school year. If you would like to receive these newsletters please sign up with our Munch a Lunch Program" at <https://munchalunch.com/schools/MapleRidge>

Book Fair – April 4-6

The PAC is sponsoring the second Book Fair of the school year. Shopping will be open from April 4 to 6th and proceeds go to the school library. Parents (20 at a time) are able to visit the Fair after school each day until 3:00 p.m. Enter at the back-stage door (near the gym).

Gender Inclusivity Workshop

Maple Ridge Elementary PAC is excited to sponsor our first, but hopefully not last, "Gender Inclusivity Workshop" for parents and guardians of MRE students. Gender inclusivity is important to our school community and the hope is that attendance will be huge! This 2-hour Zoom session will begin with an introduction to the topic given by guest speaker, Lukas Walther, followed by discussion and a Q&A period. Gender inclusivity starts at

home, and we can all play a part in making our school a welcoming and inclusive place. To learn more about how you can help support gender inclusivity, please join us in the MRE library or via Zoom Monday, April 4th at 7:00 p.m. Zoom link TBA on the Maple Ridge Elementary PAC Facebook page

(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1243038762832211>).

If you don't use Facebook, please email pac.mre@gmail.com to be emailed the zoom link.

Executive Positions

We are happy to announce that nominations for PAC executive positions can be made until our May 9th AGM / election meeting. Please email the nominating committee, (nominateMREPAC@gmail.com), to submit a nomination for yourself or someone else you know who is looking to join the executive team.



Positions and duties:

Chair:

- conduct monthly meetings
- may be the spokesperson for the organization
- prepare the agenda for monthly meetings
- appoint committees where authorized to do so by the membership
- liaise with and support healthy relationships with within the school and community partners.

Vice Chair:

- support the chair and assist the council when necessary
- may be appointed to conduct meetings
- all duties of the chair can be conducted by the vice chair

Treasurer:

- prepare monthly finance reports
- report on the bank balances at monthly meetings
- distribute funds as voted on by the membership
- complete deposits at bank when necessary
- maintain proper financial records
- assist in drafting the annual budget

Secretary

- record distribute and file minutes for all PAC meetings
- keep an accurate and up-to date copy of the constitution and bylaws
- assist in filing and record keeping as needed.

DPAC

- attend monthly DPAC meetings representing the council
- liaison between DPAC and council
- provide reports from DPAC to council
- vote on the behalf of the council at DPAC meetings and DPAC executive elections

Member at large:

- Serve in a capacity on projects and events to be determined by the executive throughout their tenure as the needs of the council requires.

FAMILY EDUCATION and OPPORTUNITIES

1. A Conversation for Families About Digital Well Being and Mental Health

April's Family Smart workshop is titled A Conversation for Families About Digital Well Being and Mental Health. Parents and caregivers will find it informative and will walk away with some concrete strategies. (Poster at the end of newsletter)

<http://www.familysmart.ca/workshops>

2. Help for the Hard Times

This Family Smart workshop is for parents with children who have been in APU or CAPSU or even in and out of hospital due to required psychiatric care. This three-part free event will continue to take place online.

<https://familysmart.ca/help-for-the-hard-times-workshop/>

3. Ridge Sports

Ridge Sports' offering fun and affordable sports for everyone regardless of circumstances and opportunities. Here's a link for more information about the sports programs offered:

<https://www.ridgesports.ca>.

Our next season goes from April 30 to June 4, and we will be offering soccer and volleyball for \$30 per child.



April 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Mar 28 School resumes	Mar 29	Mar 30	Mar 31	Apr 1 Wear your House Colours	2
3	4 Book Fair Gender Inclusivity Parent Session PAC - Zoom	5 Book Fair Fruit and Veggie Delivery Apples	6 Book Fair	7 PAC Hot Lunch	8 Wear your House Colours	9
10	11 PAC meeting 7:00 p.m. Library	12	13	14	15 Good Friday School not in session	16
17	18 Easter Monday School not in session	19	20	21	22 Wear your House Colours Assembly	23
24	25 Grade 6 routine Immunizations	26	27 Administrative Professionals' Day	28	29 Wear your House Colours	30

Please note that May 10th is an early dismissal day for current Kindergarten students to allow for the "Ready, Set, ..."

'intheknow'

Information and Support

For families and caring adults who
are parenting a child or youth with
mental health and/or substance
use challenges.

**EVERY MONTH, WE HOST EVENTS FOR FAMILIES CALLED 'IN THE KNOW'.
WE WATCH A VIDEO AND SHARE EXPERIENCES AND STRATEGIES THAT
HELP IN THE HARD MOMENTS. WE HELP FOCUS ON STRENGTHENING OUR
UNDERSTANDING AND CONNECTION WITH OUR KIDS.**

A Conversation for Families About Digital Wellbeing and Mental Health

As parents, we struggle with balancing our children's time spent in the digital world and what we consider the real world. It's not easy to know how much time on technology is too much and how to set boundaries that don't create conflict. Join us for a conversation with a digital wellbeing expert to learn some practical solutions to our everyday concerns and challenges around our kids' use of screens and their mental health.

Come together with other families for a facilitated discussion by Parent Peer Support Workers.

Dates (BC Time):

April 4, 2022 at 6:30pm
April 12, 2022 at 5:00pm
April 20, 2022 at 12:00pm
April 26, 2022 at 6:30pm
April 28, 2022 at 5:00pm

Cost: Free of Charge

Registration Required: www.familysmart.ca/events

familysmart.ca



Weekly School Schedule

		JOURNÉE FRANCOFUN				
		Tues May 31	Wed June 1	Thurs June 2	Fri June 3	Sun June 12
ONLINE SCHEDULE						
9:30	Anansi the Spider Re-Spun Spirit and Tradition Project Element The Girl Who Forgot to Sing Badly	Available from Tuesday, May 31st at 9:30am until Sunday, June 12th at 8pm				
IN-PERSON SHOWS						
10:30	Won'Ma Africa Crisis on Planet Z! Spirit and Tradition	The Cat Came Back <i>Africa Oyé</i> Spirit and Tradition	Won'Ma Africa <i>Africa Oyé</i> Spirit and Tradition A Story of a House	Won'Ma Africa <i>Africa Oyé (BI)</i> Living With A Story of a House		
12:30	The Cat Came Back Crisis on Planet Z! Spirit and Tradition	Won'Ma Africa Crisis on Planet Z! Spirit and Tradition	Won'Ma Africa <i>Africa Oyé</i> Living With A Story of a House One of a Kind	The Cat Came Back Crisis on Planet Z! Spirit and Tradition A Story of a House One of a Kind		

Spectacles en français (Shows in French) (BI) Spectacles bilingues (Shows in both French and English)

School tickets NOW ON SALE Book your class today!

In-person

- \$11 + GST for one show day pass
- \$20 + GST for two show day pass
- Early Bird School Prices increase to \$12 and \$22 + GST after April 14
- Get **one free ticket** for every 20 tickets purchased
- Festival passes include access to **all site activities**

Online

- \$120 + GST per class, per show
- Includes access to 2 Online Arts Workshops.
- Receive unlimited streaming from the comfort of your classroom (until June 12, 2022)

Please note, a \$10 per order handling fee + GST will be added to all school ticket orders

BUY TICKETS

Online ChildrensFestival.ca ✨ By phone 604.708.5655 ✨ Email boxoffice@ChildrensFestival.ca

Our School Services team will help you select the right shows for your class and can help to arrange school bus service for your field trip. Contact us today!

VANCOUVER
INTERNATIONAL

SCHOOL TICKETS ON SALE NOW

FESTIVAL
ChildrensFestival.ca

MAY 31 - JUNE 12, 2022 | ONLINE
MAY 31 - JUNE 5, 2022 | IN-PERSON
On Granville Island, Vancouver