

## MAPLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

20820 River Road, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 1Z7

Phone 604.467.5551 / Fax 604.467.9825

Website: <http://schools.sd42.ca/mre>

Reception email: [mre\\_reception@sd42.ca](mailto:mre_reception@sd42.ca)

Principal: [Barbara MacKinnon](#) Vice Principal: [Chelsea](#)

[Lendvoy](#)



September 2022

## Welcome Back! Bienvenue!

We hope you enjoyed your summer and had the chance to make wonderful memories!

Mme Lendvoy and I are delighted to be your administration team again this year. We look forward to an exciting year with the MRE community. As always, if you have questions/concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

The team at MRE has already been very busy planning, collaborating, and setting up learning spaces. There is a joyful buzz throughout the building. If you are new to MRE, we want to extend a warm welcome! MRE has a reputation for being a caring, inclusive, and friendly community. Each day, the morning announcements remind us of this by concluding with the message, "MRE is the place to be — where kindness and respect matter every day!"

We believe it takes a village to raise a child and together we make a difference. As part of the village, we are grateful to have a thoughtful, energetic, and wonderful Parent Advisory Council (PAC) that works hard to make great things happen for our children. (Please consider attending meetings and volunteering if possible.)

While health awareness and safety remain a priority, we are happy to be able to return to in-person special events, assemblies, field trips, sports events, PAC activities and volunteer opportunities.

Welcome to the new school year!

Barbara MacKinnon  
Principal

Chelsea Lendvoy  
Vice Principal

## Staffing Updates

We are pleased to welcome:

**Ms. Priya Singh**, who is new to our school this year and will be teaching a K/1 class in the English Primary Program

**Mme Andrea Schlacht** who is moving from a part time fine arts role at MRE to teaching a K/1 class in the French Primary Program.



TO OUR NEW STAFF!

**Mrs. Sarah Robinson**, who is returning to MRE. Mrs. Robinson will be working in the library and teaching prep classes on Wednesdays.

## Staying in the Loop – Communication at MRE

Teachers have various methods of communicating directly with families of their students. This may happen through messages on the portal, in student agenda/planners, websites, emails, phone calls or in-person conversations

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. (The first one was sent on Sept. 2nd.) This short “news blast” is full of timely information for the upcoming week. We are trying out a new phone and tablet friendly format called “Sway” for the Friday Blast, however, the Blast can still be downloaded as a PDF if you prefer. If you have feedback, please send an email to the office reception.

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.

If you need help accessing the portal, please contact our friendly office staff for assistance at [mre\\_reception@sd42.ca](mailto:mre_reception@sd42.ca)

## MRE School Schedule

Please note: End of day dismissal is now at 2:20 p.m.

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



## Where to Go on the First Day — Grades 1-7

There will be signs and lots of staff on hand to be sure that everyone gets to the right place. You may wish to arrange a meeting spot with your child(ren) for after school. On the first day, they will be dismissed from the doors by which they enter. If this changes for the following days, you will be notified.

Students in grades 1-7 who are **new** to Maple Ridge Elementary enter at the main front doors where they will be greeted by staff and accompanied to the library. At 2:20, students will exit from the same main doors for pick-up.

**Returning** students go to their classrooms from the 2021-22 school year. There are a few exceptions where classrooms or teachers have changed, but these changes will be communicated clearly with signs at the outside of the school. Pick-up will be from the same place as drop-off.

New class placements will be finalized once enrolment is finalized — usually on the Friday of the first week. You will receive a message, either by email or a note your child would bring home, with the name of the new teacher and their classroom number.

Students **do not need to bring school supplies** until they are in their new classrooms with their new teachers.

Returning students:

- Mrs. Goddard's students → go to last year's classroom doors where Mrs. Halfnights will greet you
- Mme Alliette's students → go to last year's classroom doors where Mr. H will greet you
- Mme Conroy's students → go to last year's classroom doors where Mme Mikes will greet you
- Ms. Mayne's students → go to last year's classroom doors where Mme Alliette will greet you
- Mrs. Tsia's students → go to last year's classroom doors where Mrs. Pajak will greet you
- New students please come to the library

## 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 as well as our amazing staff members and we look forward to working with you this year. We hope everyone had a wonderful summer break and is ready for an amazing year ahead.

As we move into a new school year, our team has already started planning exciting events and we hope to “hit the ground running” in September. We also hope this year continues to allow for in-person events but, as always, we will ensure safety protocols, guidelines and recommendations from administration are followed.

Throughout this exciting year, additional PAC information and calendar events will be shared through our PAC newsletter and on our Facebook page (Maple Ridge Elementary PAC).

Additionally, we hold monthly PAC meetings and all parents and guardians of students registered at MRE are encouraged to participate and attend.

**The first meeting is on Monday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> at the MRE library. The budget portion begins at 6:00 p.m. and the regular meeting starts at 7:00. We hope to see you there!**

### ***Pancake Breakfast (Sept 9<sup>th</sup>) – Volunteers needed***

To kick things off we are holding a Pancake Breakfast on Sept 9<sup>th</sup> and need your help!

Many hands make for lighter work. We need volunteers to prepare and serve breakfast on Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 until around 11:00. We also need volunteers to help with preparation work the day before (Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>). Please contact Leanne McMaster by email

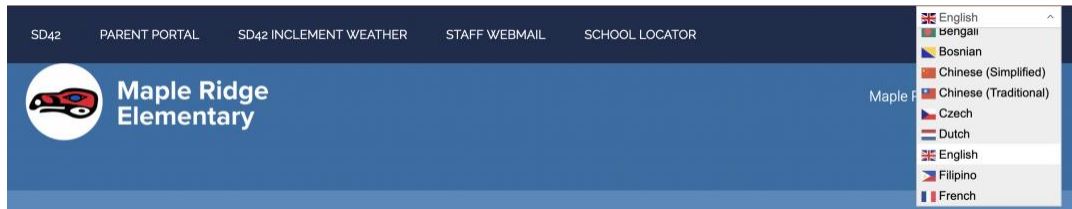
at [mcmasterleanne@gmail.com](mailto:mcmasterleanne@gmail.com) or let the office know if you are able to help out. It's a great opportunity to get to know our community and be part of a terrific *Welcome Back* event for the children!

Translations now available

Do you prefer to read school communications in another language? The district team has added a Google translate plug-in to our district and school websites.

You will find the translation drop-down menu in the top right corner (see screenshot below). Families who prefer a translated version of new content on our website are now able to select their preferred language from the drop-down menu and it will be auto translated in up to 48 languages. At this time, images cannot be included, so you may see two options for notifications on the MRE site – one in English only, with pictures and the translatable version with text only. Our website is at:

<https://elementary.sd42.ca/mapleridge/>



## Upcoming Events

Fri., Sept. 9	PAC sponsored Pancake Breakfast for students
Wed., Sept. 21	Individual Student Photo Day
Fri., Sept. 23	Proposed PAC Family Dance
Week of Sept. 26-30	Orange Shirt Week
Fri., Sept. 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – School is NOT IN SESSION
Mon., Oct. 3	District Non-Instructional Day – NO SCHOOL for students
Fri., Oct. 7	Terry Fox Run – school based

## Road and Sidewalk Construction

You will have noticed the work in progress in front of the school. Crews are working to complete the traffic calming project as soon as possible. Affected areas are marked with cones and tape and there will be a crossing guard on duty on the first day of school. Should you have any construction inquiries relating to this project, please contact: **Crown 24 Hr. Contact Domenic Macera 604-835-1101 Crown Contracting** Details of the project can be viewed at: <https://www.mapleridge.ca/2603/River-Road-Traffic-Calming>

## Parking and Crossing River Road

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



- We suggest parking on a nearby street, or at the lot behind the school near the golf course and walking (or cycling, scootering, etc.) the rest of the way to school. This is something that many families have come to enjoy.
- Please **do not pull into** the parking lots beside the school. These are for staff and for vehicles with a valid SPARC (handicap) permit. There are 2 spaces reserved for Curious Minds Daycare patrons in the east parking lot.
- Pedestrians must use designated crosswalks.

## Using the Drive-Thru Lane for Morning Drop-Off

- 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).
  - Pull to the far **right** and drive as far **ahead** as possible to drop off students
  - Drivers must **stay in their vehicles** and **exit** the drive-thru lane immediately after drop-off. If your child is not yet able to exit independently, please park nearby and walk with them.



## 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 supplies for the year. Please submit payment on the portal (after students have 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 the end of this newsletter as well as at:

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

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](http://www.creativepacks.ca) if you are still interested in ordering through this company, but there will be a late fee.

Many classes will also be using school planners (agendas) which cost \$10.00. You will be notified if your child needs a planner.

## Student Attendance

Your help with notifying the school as soon as possible is greatly appreciated. To make sure that all our students are safely accounted for, we follow up on all absences that have not been reported by phoning contact numbers that you have provided.

If your child will be late or away from school for any reason, please let the office know by:

- entering the absence on the portal
- emailing [mre\\_reception@sd42.ca](mailto:mre_reception@sd42.ca) or
- leaving a message at 604 467 5551 – the answering machine is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for your convenience

## Wondering what to do when sick?

We have transitioned from the “daily health check” to the more general approach of “health awareness.” Health awareness includes checking regularly for any symptoms of illness (including but not limited to COVID-19 symptoms) and staying home when sick, (including if the person is unable to participate fully in regular activities due to symptoms of illness). You can read more about the updates in the message from the Superintendent at: <https://www.sd42.ca/announcement/august-31-2022-letter-for-families-from-superintendent-dhillon/> or at near the end of this newsletter.

## Student and Family Affordability Fund

The provincial government is funding support for children and families who are affected by rising inflation and cost of living challenges. Please contact the [principal](#) if your family would benefit from this support, e.g., with school related fees or meals.

## Photos – Smile 😊



School photos will be taken early again this year. Our date is September 21st. Information about ordering online 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 is reduced and you will have a better idea of what your child is finishing for lunch.





## Medical Intervention Forms

If your child has 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. If you need a form, please contact the school office as soon as possible. The school cannot assist with any medical intervention unless the appropriate forms are completed. Please note that medical forms for anaphylaxis and diabetes require a physician's signature. Students may not be in possession of any medication at school unless specifically authorized by the principal. 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.



## Parent Portal Permissions

Please login to the parent portal and submit permissions for all items listed as soon as possible.

## June 2022 Report Card

If you missed your child's year-end report card, you still have access. 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.



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## 2022-2023 School Calendar

School opening day for students (12:30-2:20pm)..... Tuesday, September 6, 2022  
 Photo day (Individual photos..... Wednesday, September 21, 2022  
 National day for Truth and Reconciliation .....Friday, September 30, 2022  
 Non-instructional day (school growth planning day) ..... Monday, October 3, 2022  
 Thanksgiving Day ..... Monday, October 10, 2022  
 Non-instructional day (province-wide)..... Friday, October 21, 2022  
 Non-instructional day (school-based)..... Thursday, November 10, 2022  
 Remembrance Day..... Friday, November 11, 2022  
 Early Dismissal for Conferencing (11:30)..... Thursday, December 8, 2022  
 Conferencing Day ..... Friday, December 9, 2022  
 Last day before winter break..... Friday, December 16, 2022  
 Winter break..... Monday, December 19 to Friday, December 30, 2022  
 New Year’s Day Holiday ..... Monday, January 2, 2023  
 Schools reopen after break.....Tuesday, January 3, 2023  
 Non-instructional day (district-based) .....Monday, January 23, 2023  
 Family Day ..... Monday, February 20, 2023  
 Non-instructional day (school based) ..... Tuesday, February 21, 2023  
 Early Dismissal for conferencing (11:30) ..... Thursday, March 9, 2023  
 Conferencing day ..... Friday, March 10, 2023  
 Last day before spring break ..... Friday, March 10, 2023  
 Schools not in Session..... Monday, March 13 to Friday March 17, 2023  
 Spring break ..... Monday, March 20 to Friday, March 24, 2023  
 Schools reopen after break ..... Monday, March 27, 2023  
 Good Friday..... Friday, April 7, 2023  
 Easter Monday..... Monday, April 10, 2023  
 Non-instructional day (district based).....Wednesday, May 10, 2023  
 Victoria Day..... Monday, May 22, 2023  
 Last day for students (12:00 pm dismissal)..... Thursday, June 29, 2023  
 Year-end Administrative Day ..... Friday, June 30, 2023  
 Schools close for Summer vacation .....Friday, June 30, 2023

### SCHOOL HOURS & BELL SCHEDULE

Warning Bell:	8:25 am
Classes Begin:	8:30 am
Recess:	10:20 – 10:35 am
Lunch:	11:50 - 12:30 pm
Classes Dismissed:	2:20 pm





## Maple Ridge Elementary Grade 4-7 (Intermediate) School Supply List 2022-2023

This form indicates, by grade level, the supplies your child will need for next year. The number of individual items on the supply list is a recommended minimum.

SUPPLIES	GRADE LEVEL	4	5	6	7	iPad class
Binder - 1 1/2" (d-ring style)						1
Calculator					1	1
Coloured pencils - 24 (pre-sharpened)		1	1	1	1	1
Dictionary, Collins pocket English Canadian)						
Dividers – pkg of 8						1
Duo tangs		10	16	16	15	4
Eraser - white vinyl		6	3	3	4	3
Felt markers - black – fine tip (Sharpie)			1	1	1	2
Felt markers – black – ultrafine thin tip (Sharpie)		1	3	3	2	2
Felt markers 20's - regular		1	1	1	1	1
Fiskar scissors 7" - good point		1		1	1	1
Protractor				1	1	
Glue - Lepage's Bondfast (120 ml bottle)			1	1	1	1
Glue stick - large Uhu 40 gm		4	3	3	4	1
Gym strip** with labelled gym bag			1	1	1	1
Inside shoes (must be gym runners)		1	1	1	1	1
HB pencils-12 pkg pre sharpened (good quality)		2	2	2	1	1
Highlighter pen - yellow chisel tip		1	2	2	1	1
Hilroy exercise book wide ruled 72 pgs.		2				
Intermediate ruler – 30 cm metric (cm/mm)		1		1	1	1
Correction tape					1	1
Oil pastels – pkg of 12		1	1	1	1	
Papermate stick pen - medium blue					3	3
Papermate stick pen - medium blue erasable		2	2	2		
Papermate stick pen - medium red		1	2	2	1	
Pencil box		1	1	1	1	1
Pencil sharpener - self-contained		1			1	1
Scotch tape - transparent					1	
Wax crayons - 24's (Crayola)		1				
Ear buds		1	1	1	1	1
Change of clothes		1	1	1		

## Letter from Superintendent Harry Dhillon

Dear families,

As the summer slowly winds to a close and we prepare to welcome students back to school, I am reaching out to provide information about our start-up for the 2022/23 school year.

### Student and Family Affordability Fund

As you may have heard, the provincial government [announced](#) a one-time fund of \$60 million dollars to support children and families affected by rising inflation and associated cost of living challenges. The money is to be used to support families in need with school supplies, meals, and school-related fees. For the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District, this will result in a one-time allocation of \$1.6 million dollars.

We will be taking the next few weeks to consult with Indigenous rights holders, staff, district and school Parent Advisory Councils (PACs), and other stakeholders to determine how this money can best support the specific needs of families in our community. To ensure we also address any emergent needs associated with school start-up, we are releasing a small portion of the funds to our schools immediately. If your family is experiencing affordability concerns related to school start-up, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's school principal. All requests for assistance are handled confidentially and with care.

I will provide you with a further update once our consultation process is complete and we have determined how the funds can be most equitably applied.

### Updated Communicable Disease Guidelines

Based on the [updated guidelines](#) we will be reopening our schools with similar measures we had in place before summer break. For your convenience, I have highlighted the key considerations below:



#### STAY HOME IF SICK

Students and staff must continue to monitor their health daily to ensure they are not experiencing symptoms of illness (including but not limited to [COVID-19 symptoms](#)) and should stay home if they are sick or unable to participate fully in routine activities. If your child has symptoms that may be COVID-19, use the online [self-assessment tool](#). The BC Centre for Disease Control provides guidance on self-isolation, including when one can end self-isolation after a COVID-19 infection.



#### MASKS AND FACE COVERINGS

Masks are one layer of protection used to prevent the spread of communicable disease. The decision to wear a mask beyond when it is recommended by public health is a personal one, based on individual preference. The individual choice to wear a mask should be respected.



#### HAND HYGIENE

Staff, students and visitors will be encouraged to practice frequent hand hygiene. You can find more information about appropriate hand hygiene on [this BC Centre for Disease Control poster](#)



#### RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

Parents and staff should teach and reinforce good respiratory etiquette practices among students, including coughing or sneezing into one's elbow or tissue; throwing away used tissues and immediately performing hand hygiene; and not touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.

## Community News

### Family Smart –

There are new videos available on the FamilySmart Website. These are available for free access anytime. <https://familysmart.ca/videos/>

- It's Never Too Late: Healing Parent-Child Relational Stress Using EFFT. Presented by Dr Adele Lefrance, author and co-developer of EFT Modalities
- The ABCs of Substance Use And Connecting With Our Kids: With Cindy Andrew, Angela Lawrence and Art Steinmann
- Building Connection with Our Kids When It Feels Impossible: With Parent Peer Support Workers with FamilySmart



Please scroll down for more news...



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NOV 10, 11



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Ages 7-14 · Fresh air and exercise · Values-based learning ·  
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# ARBOR DAY

SEPTEMBER 28 | 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM | FLETCHER PARK



Calling all nature enthusiasts...the Arbor Day celebration is happening on September 28 in Fletcher Park (12260 Fletcher Street) from 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM! The event features a variety of tree-related activities for families to enjoy including games, education on tree health and more. Enjoy a scenic view of the park and surrounding community with a bucket truck ride courtesy of BC Plant Health Care, help us maintain the trees in the park, play games or test your balance on a slack line. Let's celebrate nature!

## HAVE AN IDEA? APPLY FOR A GRANT!

Looking for a way to connect with your community? The Neighbourhood Small Grant program supports projects that bring communities together with **grants up to \$500**. Plan a community clean up, install a community library box and more! The possibilities are endless.

[MAPLERIDGE.CA/1542](https://mapleridge.ca/1542)



This event is part of the City's Happenings program. Scan (right) for more info or visit [mapleridge.ca/2308](https://mapleridge.ca/2308)!

