



# Pitt Meadows Elementary

Pitt Meadows Elementary  
Ecole Elementaire Pitt Meadows  
Phone: (604) 465-5828  
Fax: (604) 465-8632  
<http://schools.sd42.ca/pme/>

Principal: Shelley Linton  
Email: [shelley\\_linton@sd42.ca](mailto:shelley_linton@sd42.ca)  
Vice Principal: Barbara MacKinnon  
Email: [bmackinnon@sd42.ca](mailto:bmackinnon@sd42.ca)

Newsletter #1

Friday, September 14, 2018

## Dear PME Families,

We are off to a great start to the 2018-2019 school year. The students are settling very well into their new classrooms and are smiling, eager and working hard already. Everyone has that wonderful new school year energy and on behalf of all of the staff, I want to say how happy we are to be working with your children this year. A special welcome to our new Kindergartens and to students new to our school.

We hope you will soon feel very much at home.

We have had a few staff changes this year and I would like to introduce them to you. We welcome to our school the following staff members:

- Teachers: Ms. Hey, Mme Lebrun, Mme Nielsen, Mme Van Sickle, Mme O'Neill, Ms. Pearce
- EA: Ms. Sharp
- Office: Karen Bateson
- And of course, Mme Shelley Linton, our Principal

There are many important items in this newsletter so please take the time to read it carefully. Happy September, and, as always, our door is open.

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## PME OPEN HOUSE

Please join us at our open house on September 19, 2018. You will have a chance to meet your child(s) teacher and get familiar with the school if you are new to our school. We hope to see you there!

## Welcome Slips

We are excited to see every child every day. Late slips will now be called "Welcome Slips".

"Welcome Slips" are not needed unless your child arrives **after 8:40 a.m.** Before then, your child should go directly to their classroom, where their teacher will mark them late. If you should arrive after 8:40 a.m. please sign in at the office.

## Medical Alert Forms

Just a reminder that if you have a child that uses an EpiPen, or has other health related issues, proper paperwork is required to be **updated each September**. Forms are available to download and print from the portal. If you require a paper copy of these forms, please pick up at the office. **Please complete and return the paperwork with the medication as soon as possible. No medication is to be kept with the child or in the classroom, please send it to the office.**

## Legal Issues

The office **must** have the latest copy of custody/visitation agreements in order to be enforced. Please stop by the office and we will make a copy for our records.

## Portal and Website

We are working hard this year to communicate as much as we can with you, as often as we can, and we are committed to keeping you up to date through the parent portal and through our website. Please check both of these frequently. Unless the portal is down, we will not be sending paper copies home from the office. If you do wish to receive a paper copy of our communication, please pick up a copy at the office.

Teachers will be using a variety of methods for their class level communication, and will be contacting you through paper, email, blogs or class websites very shortly, if they have not already done so.

## Parking Lot Reminders

- Always drive in and out of the parking lot in the correct direction, that is enter through the west entrance and exit through the east entrance.
- Use the drop off lanes for drop off only. Do not leave your car parked in the drop off lanes.
- Please do not block the entrance or exit areas by waiting there for your child. The drop off lanes do not extend around the curve toward the entrance of the parking lot. There is a large lot across from our parking lot that you are able to use if our lot is full when you arrive.
- Drive extremely slowly and with caution and vigilance. Students may be walking in the parking lot at any time.
- Please do not park in staff parking spots. We have many itinerant staff coming and going during the day and they need a place to park. Thank you.
- Most of all please be respectful of your fellow drivers. We are all in a hurry at some point and we need to slow down and remember that student safety is the only thing that is truly important.
- The section of 119<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Harris Rd to the first bus stop is a no stopping zone. Please do not drop off or pick up your children along this stretch of 119<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you so much for your patience and support. Together we can ensure the safety of everyone.

## Sickness/Vacation

If your child is going to be absent from school or late for any reason, please remember to contact the school at (604) 465-5828, email [pme\\_reception@sd42.ca](mailto:pme_reception@sd42.ca) or log the absence on the portal. Voicemail is available 24 hours a day for your convenience. If your child is late after 8:40 a.m., please check in at the office. For the safety of your children, please be sure to advise the office if your child is going to be away. To reduce congestion at the office, ***please do not come for a 'welcome slip' until after 8:40 a.m.***

## Student Verification Forms

Student Verification forms will be going home with all students. It is imperative that all parents fill this form out as accurately as possible and return it to the school promptly. In the event of illness or an emergency, we need accurate information about how to contact you. Your immediate attention to this matter is appreciated. Please ensure you check the complete form, sign and date it.

## Student Photo Day

Photo Express will be taking student photos on October 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>. Further information will be going out on the portal as soon as we receive it so please watch for that important info!

## PE News

Welcome back to a new year. Ms. Abdulla and I are super energized to get back into PE. As always, all students are expected to wear appropriate footwear and attire in their PE session. For primary students, this means supportive non-marking shoes that may also serve as their inside shoes in the classroom, library etc. (I do not recommend flat-bottomed shoes, slip-on shoes, or Crocs).



We emphasize wearing inside shoes in the gym to keep it clean for all classes to use. Shoes your child already has, but may have been worn outside, CAN be cleaned for use in the gym; there is no need to rush out and buy yet more school supplies! It is also recommended that, on their scheduled PE day, primary students wear clothes in which they can move freely and confidently during PE activities; primary students are NOT given time to change for PE due to time constraints (there may be possible exceptions in 3/4 splits).

A PE strip for intermediate students also includes supportive and athletic non-marking shoes that are dedicated for PE and are NOT worn outside. As with the primaries, re-purposed outside shoes can be cleaned and used for PE. A full gym-strip also includes a shirt that covers the shoulders (for girls AND boys) and shorts that we suggest are the same length as your child's finger tips with their arms placed at their sides. Sweat pants for the colder months are also acceptable.

Over the past few years, it has steadily been observed that fewer students were coming to PE prepared with a proper complete strip. Intermediate peers and teachers especially appreciate it when students change out of their sweaty stinky clothes before returning to the classroom. We all appreciate a clean floor. When students are not in proper gym strip they still participate in our activities, but sometimes those activities require footwear, in which case they cannot participate for safety reasons (e.g: hockey when they do not have clean indoor shoes).

Our goal is to get the maximum number of students moving for the maximum amount of time that we see them. Students who frequently struggle with coming prepared with their gym strip may come home with notes in their planner, a form for you to sign, or other possible "assignments" to help remind them to bring their strip. With your help, none of these strategies will be required.

As we know, our children get colds or sometimes suffer injuries, barring them from full participation in PE. Please provide your child with a hand-written note or a note written in their planner. It can be helpful if you give us a sense of their limitations as well as a sense of things they CAN do. Our philosophy is to encourage students to do what they can when they are not at 100%, even if that simply means helping us to observe activities or set up/move equipment. Students who are so ill that they cannot participate in PE should probably not be at school.

We are very excited for the coming school year and teaching your children.

Mr. Severud and Ms. Abdulla

## **Bicycles, Skateboards and Scooters**

We have had several students bringing bikes and scooters to school already. However, some students have **NOT** been observing our rules about use on school grounds. Parents, please reinforce with your child(ren) that if they wish to have the privilege of riding their bike or scooter to school that they **MUST** follow school rules as noted below.

Students are welcome to ride their bicycles, skateboards and scooters to and from school provided they:

- 1) **Wear a helmet**
- 2) **Do NOT ride on school grounds**

Parents, please reinforce these two rules with your children. The safety of all is our utmost concern.

## **Electronics at school**

Please encourage your child to leave his or her device at home. When they come inside at lunch, it is time to eat slowly and talk to their friends, not a time to play an electronic game. Messages can always be passed on to students through the office. WE ask students to keep their devices in their backpacks and turned off. Thank you for your support on this.

## **Elementary Band Program**

The Band Program is looking for students in Grade 6 and 7 that are interested in learning an instrument. No musical history is required, just the desire to learn. The students attend PMSS for classes. Monday 8:30 - 9:30 and Advanced band (students that attended last year that are continuing) will be on Wednesday 8:30 - 9:30. If you are interested in the wonderful opportunity for your child to learn a musical instrument contact Christine Gilmour at Pitt Meadows Secondary School. CGilmour@sd42.ca

## **Lunch Lady News**

Please go online and check out the menu options available. Throughout the fall, they will be randomly selecting students from their network for a FREE LUNCH! No purchase is necessary but you must be registered for an account with the Lunch Lady. Don't have an account? Go to [www.thelunchlady.ca](http://www.thelunchlady.ca) Your community Lunch Lady is Jennifer (604) 460-9015. You can contact her at [jennifer@thelunchlady.ca](mailto:jennifer@thelunchlady.ca)

## **PAC News**

**The Pitt Meadows Elementary PAC now has its own website!** Visit <http://pittmeadowselementarypac.weebly.com/> for the latest information about the PAC including budget spending, upcoming events and fundraisers, meetings and how you can get involved.

## **CPF News**

Join us at our first meeting: Wednesday, Sept. 19 at Laityview Elementary. Support French activities and events in our district by becoming a CPF member! Visit: <https://bc-yk.cpf.ca/> and join us!

Find more French-language events, resources and activities on our website:

- Activities in French – books, music, films, TV shows etc.
- Homework Help – dictionaries, apps, downloadable fact sheets etc.
- Educator Resources – becoming a French teacher, teaching resources etc.
- French courses for parents – in person and online
- Francophone cultural resources – including the Calendrier francophone de la Colombie-Britannique, a wonderful resource for discovering francophone events all over British Columbia!

## Terry Fox Run 2018

Our annual Terry Fox Run is happening Friday September 28th at 12:50 p.m. This is an annual event during which all students from grades 1 to 7 run to support Terry's Marathon of Hope. This year, our goal is simply for each student to donate a Toonie. If students raise at least \$1,200, they will get an extra recess.



As part of our Terry Fox Run and our fundraising event, Student Leadership has decided to kick off the school year with their own Spirit Week:

- Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> is "Toonie Tuesday Terrible Hair Day" - Come to school with your craziest hair do and bring a Toonie in support of Terry.
- Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> is "Winning Wednesday Jersey Day". Show your pride for your favourite team by wearing your own soccer, hockey or football jersey.
- Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup> is Tired Thursday Pajama Day. Come to school in your comfiest PJ's.
- Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup> we will all take part in the Terry Fox Run on "Fantastic Funky Friday". Bring any donations that you wish (bills, cheques or change) and run the race in your funkier outfit. Remember to wear proper running shoes, wear sunscreen, should it be sunny, and drink plenty of water.

### Primary Route

Our primary route remains the same as in previous years. The primary route is as follows: from the Spirit Square, primary students will run south down Harris Road; turn right on 119 Ave west to 189A St., following to the north; turn left on 119B Ave; turn right on 188A St.; turn right on 120B; immediate turn left on 188B St.; turn right on Ford heading east to 190A St.; turn right on 190A street to round-about crosswalk to PME, returning to the route on 119 Ave at the maintenance entrance for a second lap. At all times, students are expected to run on the sidewalk. Kindergarten classes will be doing their own Terry Fox run at a separate time.

### Intermediate Route

Our intermediate route will remain the same as the new one last year. No more Airport Road and ever-increasing traffic.

The intermediate route is as follows: from Spirit Square, students run south down Harris Road, crossing 119 Ave to Mitchell; cross Harris from south side of Mitchell/Hammond, heading east; down the south side of Hammond, crossing 193rd St., Blakely Rd., Bonson Rd., and Wildwood Cres., down the hill; turn right onto the "Hammond-Gold Ears Bridge" recreation/bike trail, heading south; leave trail at Joyner Pl, heading west; turn right on Bonson Rd (we are now just across from the entrance to the Athletic Park and ice rinks), heading north, crossing Wildwood Cres, 116A Ave, 117A Ave; at Hammond, cross Bonson and head west down the south side of Hammond, returning on the same route from which we came.

For both routes, at all turns and crossings, we will have a number of parent and high school volunteers helping us to keep the kids safe. In addition, a water station will be set up at the bottom of Joyner Place for runners to access. All students will be encouraged to run and it is recommended they wear breathable clothing and drink plenty of fluids during the morning and at lunch. Sunblock is recommended (if it's not still raining!), as our afternoons could still be bright and warm.

### Parent Volunteers

Parent volunteers are needed to make the Terry Fox Run as safe and successful as possible. Parents act as marshals for the run to keep the kids going the correct way in the safest way possible. Mme Linton has put the call out for volunteers on the school portal, so please visit the portal or contact Mme Linton via email/phone to let her know that you are interested in helping out with the run. Mr. Severud will organize all parent volunteers (and high school ones too) on the day of the run after the second lunch bell (the eating bell) has rung (approximately 12:25). Parents are always welcome to join us on the run too.

Mr. Severud, Mme Chabot, Ms. Abdulla, and Mrs. White

## After School Programs



AFTER-SCHOOL  
PROGRAMS

"Our vision is for every individual to  
feel valued and for all learners to  
reach their potential."

### École Pitt Meadows Elementary

#### SHOTOKAN KARATE AT PME (GR. 1-7)

Pitt Meadows Shotokan Karate is offering classes at École Pitt Meadows Elementary. Shotokan is designed to teach self-defense, build self-confidence, stimulate a sense of well-being and provide a greater sense of self-awareness when faced with difficult situations. The primary goal of this program is to teach respect for one's self and others, as well as basic self-defense techniques. This program will be taught in French, English and Japanese, giving students the opportunity to develop basic language skills.

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm  
September 18 – December 4 (no class on Dec. 6)  
Location: Pitt Meadows Elementary (stage)  
Registration Fee: \$50 per month payable to Shotokan Karate  
To register: Contact Amy Shaw at 604.314.5852 or  
theninjalady@gmail.com



*\*If you require financial assistance please contact Drea Owen at 604.346.9815 or drea\_owen@sd42.ca*

## Little Caesar's Hot Lunch – Wed., Sept. 26 Online ordering open – Tues., Sept. 11 – Tues., Sept. 18

Hello PME parents! The PAC is again using **MunchaLunch.com** this year for placing lunch orders and for our fundraising programs (as much as possible). You can pay for your orders online by credit card (Visa/Mastercard) or by Visa/MC Debit cards.

#### HOW TO REGISTER:



- 5) Go to: <https://munchalunch.com/schools/pittmeadows>
- 6) Click the "Register Here" button (as shown in Sample). The system will guide you through the steps.
- 7) After adding your children, click the green "Order Lunch!" button to order.
- 8) Next time, just click the "Login Here" button to access your account.

- Online ordering will be open **according to the dates at the top of the page** and on the PME PAC website: [www.pittmeadowselementarypac.weebly.com](http://www.pittmeadowselementarypac.weebly.com)
- If you need assistance with ordering, or do not have access to the internet, please contact us at [pmepaclunch@gmail.com](mailto:pmepaclunch@gmail.com).

Our deadlines are carefully chosen so that we can run the program in an efficient manner. **If you miss the deadline, we cannot add/cancel or change your order - there are no exceptions.**

## 2018-2019 School Calendar

Schools opening day for students	Tuesday, September 4, 2018
Non- Instructional Day	Monday, September 24, 2018
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 8, 2018
Non- Instructional day (province-wide)	Friday, October 19, 2018
Student Inclusive Interviews (early dismissal 11:30 am)	Thursday, December 6, 2018
Student Inclusive Interviews (classes not in session)	Friday, December 7, 2018
Schools close for Winter Break	Friday, December 21, 2018
Winter Break	Monday, December 24, to Friday, January 4, 2019
Schools reopen after Winter Break	Monday, January 7, 2019
Non- Instructional day (curriculum implementation day)	Friday, January 25, 2019
Non- Instructional day (school based)	Thursday, February 14, 2019
Schools not in session	Friday, February 15, 2019
Family Day	Monday, February 18, 2019
Student Inclusive Interviews (early dismissal 11:30 am)	Wednesday, March 13, 2019
Student Inclusive Interviews (classes not in session)	Thursday, March 14, 2019
Schools close for Spring Break	Friday, March 15, 2019
Spring Break	Monday, March 18, to Friday, March 22, 2019
Schools not in session	Monday, March 25, 2019 to Friday, March 29, 2019
Schools reopen after Spring Break	Monday, April 1, 2019
Good Friday	Friday, April 19, 2019
Easter Monday	Monday, April 22, 2019
Non- Instructional day (district)	Monday, April 29, 2019
Victoria Day	Monday, May 20, 2019
Non- Instructional day (school based)	Tuesday, May 21, 2019
Last day for students	Wednesday, June 26, 2019
Year-end Administrative Day	Thursday, June 27, 2019
Schools close for Summer Vacation	Thursday, June 28, 2019