



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

Vice Principal: Barbara MacKinnon
Email: bmackinnon@sd42.ca

Newsletter #1

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Dear PME Families,

We are off to a great start to the 2019-2020 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: Mr. Shaw, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Watkins, Mme Perry, Mme Sweetnam, Mme Wear, Mr. Locke
- Educational Assistants: Ms. Garavito, Ms. Mukuda
- Child Care Worker: Cora Lindgren
- Office: Carmen Sladeczek & Karen Bateson

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.

Sickness/Vacation/Late Arrivals

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 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.***

Medical Alert Forms

Just a reminder that if you have a child that uses an Epi-pen, 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, Website and Facebook

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, Facebook and through our website. Our website can be found at <https://elementary.sd42.ca/pittmeadows>. Please check these frequently.

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 119th 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 119th.

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

Student Verification Forms

Student Verification forms (pink) have gone 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 8 for Kindergarten – Grade 3 and October 9 for Grades 4-7. Retake day is October 29 for all grades.

Pack it in - Pack it out

PME is committed to a litter free lunch. Litter free lunches at school are the best form of recycling. On average, a school-age child with a disposable lunch generates approximately 30 kg (67 lbs) of waste per school year. That means that if your child has 25 students in his/her class, they are producing 737 kg (1,625 lbs) of waste each year. This is more weight than the average car...just imagine what a whole school produces!

We ask that whatever comes in your child's lunch bag goes home in their lunch bag, including empty juice boxes and food wrappers. In this way, we will create far less garbage at school and you will have a better idea of what your child is finishing for lunch.

Leadership Bake sale Monday, October 7th:

Please help our leadership group raise funds for our school beautification projects. We greatly appreciate any baked goods your family can donate to the cause. No nuts please! Baked goods can be brought to Mme Sweetnam's class on Monday, October 7th. The sale will run at recess and at lunch. Thank you!

Outside Days

Here at PME we try to go outside rain or shine. Please send your children dressed for the weather and have a change of clothes at school.



ORANGE SHIRT DAY

September 30

September 30th has been declared Orange Shirt Day annually, in recognition of the harm the residential school system did to children's sense of self-esteem and well being, and as an affirmation of our commitment to ensure that everyone around us matters. We encourage students to wear orange to show that every student matters.

For more information please visit www.orangeshirtday.org/phyllis-story.html

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 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 require 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. Please attend the meeting on Tuesday, September 24 at 6:30 at PMSS in the Multi-Purpose Room. Classes begin September 30. If you are interested in the wonderful opportunity for your child to learn a musical instrument contact Nicholas Renaud at Pitt Meadows Secondary School. Nicholas_renaud@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 Your community Lunch Lady is Jennifer (604) 460-9015. You can contact her at 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. PAC Movie Night is September 27 at 6:30. They will be showing Secret Life of Pets2!

PAC will be holding a Halloween Dance on October 24. More details to follow.

Spirit Wear is now on sale until Friday, September 20. Orders may be placed on line with MunchaLunch.

Give an Item, Take an Item starting September 30th – October 11, 2019

PAC is looking for gently used children's items for the purpose of helping our fellow PME students. Some examples: inside shoes, clothing, jackets, backpacks & sporting shoes. There is no cost, just bring an item and then feel free to take an item. Please drop all gently used items at the tables set up near the front office. All remaining items will be donated to Friends in Need to help others students in our community.

CPF News

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 2019

Our annual Terry Fox Run is happening October 4, 2019.

More details to follow.



PE News

Welcome back to a new year. Ms. Abdulla and I are super energized to get back into Physical Health Education. As always, all students are expected to wear appropriate footwear and attire in their PHE session.



For primary students, this means supportive non-marking shoes that may also serve as their inside shoes in the classroom, library etc. (we 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 PHE day, primary students wear clothes in which they can move freely and confidently during PHE activities; primary students are NOT given time to change for PHE due to time constraints (there may be possible exceptions in grade 3/4 combined classes).

A gym strip for intermediate students also includes supportive and athletic non-marking shoes that are dedicated for PHE and are NOT worn outside. As with the primaries, re-purposed outside shoes can be cleaned and used for PHE. A full gym-strip also includes a shirt that ideally 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 any time of the year are also excellent. For safety and comfort, pants and shorts should not have zippers or buttons. Water bottles are recommended.

Over the past few years, it has steadily been observed that fewer intermediate students were coming to PHE 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. Our goal is always to get the maximum number of students moving for the maximum amount of time that we see them; therefore, when students are not in proper gym strip they will still participate in our activities. However, sometimes gym activities require footwear, in which case they cannot participate for safety reasons (e.g: hockey when they do not have clean indoor shoes). Luckily for those who forgot to bring their gym shoes, we have extra shoes to lend. We will try a number of strategies to help students come prepared with a gym strip, which may include a note in their planner, a form letter for you to sign, or other possible "assignments." With your help, none of these strategies will be required.

Sometimes, children get colds or 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. If your child has suffered an injury, please indicate how long the healing process may be expected to be. 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're very excited for the coming school year and teaching your children.

Mr. Severud and Ms. Abdulla

PE

Extra-Curricular Activities at PME

There is a variety of extra-curricular activities available at PME. In addition to the traditional school sports events such as volleyball and cross-country, external organizations offer programs such as karate and musical theatre. Most activities take place after school.

With the exception of externally-organized programs, most extra-curricular activities are only open to intermediate students, generally in grades 5 through 7. School sports teams are usually comprised of 6s and 7s with some 5s. Sometimes there is enough interest in a sport that there are different levels of two teams. For instance, a competitive team and a recreational team or a "tier one" team and "tier two/three" team. The competitive teams are usually comprised more of 7s and some 6s, while the recreational teams are made up of 5s and less experienced 6s and 7s. No team is intentionally composed of strictly 7s, though there is a tendency for the competitive teams to have the most experienced, older players. But the final composition of every team is ultimately based on skill level, experience, and interest that season.

It is rare for grade 4s to be involved in team sports outside of track and field and cross-country. For these students, we sometimes offer lunchtime-based drop-in programs for sports such as basketball. In the past we have offered after-school sessions for girls volleyball.

All school-based sports programs are completely voluntary. Teachers volunteer their after-school and lunch time coaching because they have a passion for the sport. Some coaches are parents or community members who are passionate for the sport and who are sponsored and supervised by a teacher. Whether we have coaches for a particular sport and/or team depends on the strengths, schedules and interests of the staff, and can vary year to year. If you are a parent or community member who has a passion for volleyball, basketball, running, etc. let your child's teacher or Mr. Severud or Ms. Abdulla know.

While coaching individual school teams is voluntary, so too is the league organization and scheduling. Every elementary school has a volunteer athletic rep and these reps meet twice annually to plan and organize the athletic calendar for all sports. Volunteers within this group then take on the responsibility of organizing specific schedules. At the high school level, volunteer teachers recruit competent referees to adjudicate game play at the elementary level.

As elementary school athletics is a purely voluntary endeavour, it takes time at the beginning of the year and of each season for information about team formation and league schedules to come out. At PME we will do our very best to get that information out there as quickly as possible. Information can generally be found on the Sports Page bulletin board outside of the gym as well as the school website, newsletter or even the portal.

Athletic Seasons Overview

Fall

Triple-Ball Volleyball – open to grades 5-7. Starts around third week of September and can go from 6-8 games excluding playoffs (competitive/Tier 1 only).

Cross-country – open to grades 1-7. Practices take place at lunch tentatively beginning September 30. Students only need to show up with appropriate footwear on practice days; there is no formal “sign-up.” Permission forms come home later in the month. The intermediate meet is October 22nd at Alouette Lake Day-use Park; the primary meet takes place at the Albion Athletic Fields, October 23rd.

Winter

Rollerblading- open to K-7 as part of PHE. Week of December 9th. No cost. While all equipment including helmets are provided, students are encouraged to bring their own helmets and can bring their own skates as well.

Basketball – open to grades 5-7. Team formation begins in early December. Season starts 2nd or 3rd week of January and can go from 6-8 games excluding playoffs (competitive/Tier 1 only). Some lunch times may be open to newcomers to basketball in grades 4 and 5.

Spring

Ultimate Freezie – team formation begins in late February/early March. Co-ed teams open to grades 5-7

Cross-country – open to grades 1-7. Practices take place at lunch. Meets will be in mid-May at the same locations as in the fall.

Track and Field – open to grades 4-7, top 4 in each category for running events, top 3 in field events. *NEW* Wednesday June 3 for 4/5, Thursday June 4th for 6/7. Training for all intermediate students starts in PHE in the second week after Spring Break. The in-school “track-attack” school meet takes place early May. Practice in individual events starts mid-May, beginning with high jump at lunch.

Colour Run – open to 4-7. Tentatively booked for June 12



Red Cross Babysitting!



Babysitting
1 day- 7 hrs., for Grade 6+
\$60 + GST Online Registration

So you want to be a babysitter? Or, your parents want you to take this course so they feel confident leaving you at home alone?

Different from all other Babysitting courses! Babysitting with First Aid Hero emphasizes first aid and learning through real life scenarios. Active role-play! Interactive and fun! Covered in this course:

- ❖ *Exploring the Business of Babysitting*
- ❖ *Creating Safe Environments*
- ❖ *Safely Caring for ages 0-12*
- ❖ *First Aid Skills*

WHERE: Pitt Meadows Elementary, 11941 Harris Rd, Pitt Meadows, BC V3Y 2B5
WHEN: Friday, November 8, 2019
TIME: 8:30am – 3:30pm
COST: \$60 + \$3GST = **\$63.00 TOTAL**, Register Online and SAVE \$5!
Mail Fee: \$65 + \$3.25 GST = **\$68.25 TOTAL**, extra charge for administration.

HOW TO SIGN UP:

Online- Please follow the Registration Link online <http://www.firstaidhero.com/babysitting-vancouver.html> in the Pitt Meadows row.

Mail- Fill in the Registration Form Online or attached along with your payment written to Marla Rosen, post-dated 7 business days prior to the course and, mail to First Aid Hero, P.O. Box 19111, Vancouver, BC, V6K 4R8. Please write your child's first/last name on the bottom left part of the cheque. **By mail fee is \$68.25 total.**
Registration only accepted once payment is received.

By Mail Deadline: Friday, November 1, 2019.
Online Deadline: Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 7pm.

Late Registration accepted online only.

*About **FIRST AID HERO***

Authorized Red Cross Training Partner, First Aid Hero, specializes in Babysitting and other recognized First Aid courses for children. Marla Rosen, President & CEO, is a Red Cross Instructor, Lifeguard, professional children's performer and Montessori teacher. Instructors of First Aid Hero are paramedics, fire fighters, police officers, lifeguards and other qualified professionals.

For more information contact Marla 778-322-7442 or marla@firstaidhero.com
www.firstaidhero.com



Red Cross Babysitting

Pitt Meadows Registration + Waiver

Form



Welcome to Red Cross Babysitting at Pitt Meadows on Nov. 8th, 8:30am – 3:30pm.

Check <http://www.firstaidhero.com/babysitting-vancouver.html> under Pitt Meadows to ensure there is space available. If it says Online Registration Form, then a spot is available.

Total Cost \$63.00

SAVE \$5.00 and REGISTER ONLINE!

By Mail Fee \$68.25

Registration Options

Online- Please follow the Registration Link online (above) in the Pitt Meadows row.

Mail- Fill in the Registration Form Online or attached along with your payment written to Marla Rosen, post-dated 7 business days prior to the course and, mail to First Aid Hero, P.O. Box 19111, Vancouver, BC, V6K 4R8. Please write your child's first/last name on the bottom left part of the cheque. **By mail fee is \$68.25 total. Registration only accepted once payment is received.**

Payment Method- _____ or _____
(Mail-mark 'X') (Online-Name on Credit Card)

Child Name- _____
(Last) (First)

Address- _____ City- _____ Prov.- BC Postal Code- _____

Telephone- () _____ () _____
(home) (cell)

Email Address- _____

Age- _____ Date of Birth (D/M/Y)- / /

Parent(s) Name(s)- _____

Emergency Contact- _____ + () _____
(Contact Name) (Contact Number)

Comments (allergies, conditions, etc.)- _____

In enrolling my child(ren) in the Red Cross First Aid Hero Babysitting Course at Pitt Meadows, I understand that the Instructors will take all precautions and pay the utmost attention to safety. However, I understand that accidents can occur and I will not hold them responsible.

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____

For full time class, please provide a bag-lunch and two big snacks. For part time class, please provide a snack each time. Children will not be allowed to leave the premises during breaks and lunch. No nuts please.

www.firstaidhero.com

Full refund within 5 business days accepted, afterwards sorry no refunds.



MunchaLunch is now LIVE & ready to go for the year! Here's the information you need, find the scenario that fits you, and the answers below should help.

MUNCH A LUNCH how to:

- A. I'm a newbie to MunchaLunch - how do I create a new account? (please note this is not necessary if you had one in previous years):
1. Go to munchalunch.com/schools/pittmeadows
 2. Click Register Here
 3. Follow along the steps!
- B. My Child is a year older than last year, so how do I assign them to their new teacher?
1. Login to your existing Munchalunch Account. If you have forgotten your password, you can select "forgot password" and they'll email you a reset
 2. Once logged in, it will prompt you to select the teacher & grade for your child. Please select your child's teacher for 2019-2020 school year
 3. Start Ordering!
- C. I only want to do this once for the two month block and not have to think about Wednesday lunches again! How do I order Multiple Lunches at once?
1. Login & select your child and you'll see that there will be a "block" of lunches available in the session. Each Lunch closes 8 days before the delivery date
 2. Select Next—this will bring you to the first date in the block.
 3. Make your selections. If you notice there is already selections in the right hand under "[Your Child's Name] Order" remove them if you'd like a different menu option that week.
 4. Click "Next Menu" - this will bring you along each week. If you choose to opt out of one, select "next menu"
 5. Once at the end of the menus, it will show you which lunches you've ordered from to confirm. If this is correct, click "next" which will bring you to the "Toppings" selection if you chose to order from Subway.
 6. VERIFY. Then submit your order.
This will tell you your total amount owing.

Your Order will not be placed until payment has been received.

D. I just want to start the year off with ordering one lunch, how do I do that?

1. Login & select your child and you'll see that there will be a "block" of lunches available in the session. Each Lunch closes 8 days before the delivery date
2. Move throughout the menus to the date you'd like to participate in.
3. Select "JUMP TO THE LAST MENU"
4. VERIFY. Then submit your order. This will tell you your total amount owing.

Your Order will not be placed until payment has been received.

If you have any questions/comments/concerns, please don't hesitate to contact PAC directly at pmepaclunch@gmail.com

Are you interested in welcoming an International Student
into your home and sharing the experience of being
part of a Canadian family?

We are always looking for great host families!



**Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
School District 42
International Program**

www.inted.sd42.ca
@intedsd42
www.facebook.com/IntEd.SD42

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT:**

International Education
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows School District
20575 Thorne Ave., Maple Ridge,
BC, V2X 9A6, Canada
604-466-6555
<https://inted.sd42.ca/homestay>





2019 – 2020 School Calendar

Schools opening day for students	Tuesday, September 3, 2019
Non-Instructional Day	Monday, September 23, 2019
Hot Lunch Subway	Wednesday, September 25, 2019
PAC Movie Night	Friday, September 27, 2019
Orange Shirt Day	Monday, September 30, 2019
Hot Lunch Pizza	Wednesday, October 2, 2019
Terry Fox Run	Friday, October 4, 2019
Leadership Bake Sale	Monday, October 7, 2019
Photos - Primary	Tuesday, October 8, 2019
PAC Meeting	Tuesday, October 8, 2019
Photos - Intermediate	Wednesday, October 9, 2019
Hot Lunch Subway	Wednesday, October 9, 2019
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 14, 2019
Hot Lunch Pizza	Wednesday, October 16, 2019
Halloween Dance	Thursday, October 24, 2019
Non-Instructional day (province wide)	Friday, October 25, 2019
Photo Retakes (a.m.)	Tuesday, October 29, 2019
Hot Lunch Hot Dog	Wednesday, October 30, 2019
Hot Lunch Pizza	Wednesday, November 6, 2019
Remembrance Day Assembly	Thursday, November 7, 2019
Non-Instructional day	Friday, November 8, 2019
Remembrance Day	Monday, November 11, 2019
PAC Meeting	Tuesday, November 12, 2019
Hot Lunch Subway	Wednesday, November 13, 2019
Student Inclusive Interviews (early dismissal 11:30 am)	Thursday, December 5, 2019
Student Inclusive Interviews (classes not in session)	Friday, December 6, 2019
Last Day before Winter break	Friday, December 20, 2019
Winter Break - Schools not in Session	Monday, December 23, 2019 to Friday, January 3, 2020
First Day back from Winter break	Monday, January 6, 2020
Non-Instructional day	Friday, January 24, 2020
Non-Instructional day	Thursday, February 13, 2020

Schools Not in Session	Friday, February 14, 2020
Family Day	Monday, February 17, 2020
Student Inclusive Interviews (early dismissal 11:30 am)	Thursday, March 5, 2020
Student Inclusive Interviews (classes not in session)	Friday, March 6, 2020
Last Day before Spring break	Friday, March 13, 2020
Spring Break - Schools not in Session	Monday, March 16, 2020 to Friday, March 27, 2020
First Day back from Spring break	Monday, March 30, 2020
Good Friday	Friday, April 10, 2020
Easter Monday	Monday, April 13, 2020
Victoria Day	Monday, May 18, 2020
Non-Instructional day	Tuesday, May 19, 2020
Last Day for students	Wednesday, June 24, 2020
Year-end administrative day	Thursday, June 25, 2020
Schools close for Summer vacation	Friday, June 26, 2020