

Pitt Meadows Secondary School

Ecole Secondaire Pitt Meadows



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Good afternoon Pitt Meadows,

November 10, 2021

It's hard to believe, but we are at the quarter way mark for the 2021/2022 academic year and the half-way mark for Semester One. Hopefully your student(s) has been sharing with you what they are learning and how the year is going. Every day as I "walk the beat" I am reminded of the cool stuff that happens in the classroom. While the November dreariness is setting in, exciting things are happening in classes day in and day out. As a reminder, our first progress report will be available on MyClass on Monday, November 15th. If you are having difficulties accessing MyClass, please be sure to email myclass@sd42.ca

With the seasonal change, comes a change in weather. While turning back the clocks will allow us some light in the morning, we know this is only temporary. Soon we will be arriving in the dark and leaving in the dark. With this change in weather, I want to remind people, drivers, and pedestrians, to be careful, especially as they navigate school entrance and exit. Our main parking lot is not the easiest to maneuver through, as such, I recommend that drivers do not enter in order to pick a student up or drop a student off. Please pick or drop your student(s) from a nearby sidewalk and avoid the congestion. Moreover, please be sure to watch your speed and scan for students crossing the street. The dark and dreary weather can make it difficult to see students and sometimes pedestrians are not paying full attention. For our students that walk, avoid ear buds in both ears and never assume that a driver can see you. Look both ways before you cross and make eye contact with the driver to ensure they see you. Stay safe out there!

Tomorrow, November 10th, our school community will come together virtually to commemorate the contributions of Canada's service men & women and remember those that made the ultimate sacrifice in WWI, WWII, the Korean Conflict, Afghanistan, as well as the many other military missions and peace-keeping operations we as a country have participated in. While most of us never have nor will experience the horrors of war, we owe it to those who have served, to learn, to understand, and to appreciate the task they have undertaken. I encourage all families to engage in conversations around remembrance and to mark a moment of silence at 11:00 am on Thursday, November 11th.

A huge congratulations to our fall athletes on a fantastic season! PMSS has a long and proud athletic tradition and our student athletes who participated this season added to our positive history. A special shoutout to our coaches and teacher sponsors for the countless hours of volunteering, mentorship, and positive reinforcement. Your efforts do not go un-noticed. With the return of play, things almost felt normal. Though we are not at the point where we can have 100% full spectatorship, it is my hope that we will get there in time. Good luck, as well, to our students trying out for our winter season. There are many opportunities for participation, be sure to pop down to the gym and listen to announcements for times and locations.

This past week, many of our Gr. 10 students completed the Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment and Grade 10 Literacy Assessment. As part of the updated grad requirements, students in the BC Graduation Program will complete three provincial assessments: two at the Grade 10 level and one at the Grade 12 level. Recently, UBC announced new entrance requirements related to the Grade 12 Literacy Assessment. All PMSS Gr. 12 students will complete the GLA 12 assessment during the January sitting. Students are reminded to check in with Ms. Penny Griffin, our Grade 12 Academic Advisor, in relation to post-secondary requirements. For more information on Provincial Assessments, please see <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/assessment>

As we persist through yet another COVID school year, I'd like to remind families to continue to practice strong hand hygiene habits as well as pack multiple masks in backpacks to wear and change throughout the day. We are finding that as a school, we are having to provide more and more masks to students. Please be sure to provide your student(s) with multiple masks.

Finally, I'd like to draw everybody's attention to mental health. As a school community, we are seeing a dramatic rise in mental health concerns. The challenges that students & staff have faced over the last 20 months have been significant. While I applaud the resiliency that we have seen, I am reminded daily of the struggles that community members are still feeling and experiencing. As a school and as a district, we are working to connect kids with the skills and supports they need to navigate this current context. For more information related to school counselling and community resources, please be sure to visit our district [School Counselling](#) Page.

Thank you again for your continued support, patience and understanding as we make our way through this academic year. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the grade administrator or grade counsellor, as well as individual teachers if you have specific questions or concerns.

Be well and take care, Colin Sharpe



Administrative Assignments:

Mr. Colin Sharpe – Principal
Mr. Gary Lozinski – Vice Principal
Mr. Denis Drapeau – Vice Principal

Grade 12
Grades 8, 10
Grades 9, 11

colin_sharpe@sd42.ca
gary_lozinski@sd42.ca
denis_drapeau@sd42.ca

Thanks for continuing to Mask



Counselling Department:

Ms. Alisha Price – Grades 8, 10, 12 Counselling
Mr. Simon Edwards – Grades 9, 11, International
Ms. Penny Griffin – Grade 12 Academic Advisor

alisha_price@sd42.ca
simon_edwards@sd42.ca
penny_griffin@sd42.ca

Ms. Tory Flavin – Youth Care Worker

victoria_flavin@sd42.ca

STUDENT FEES \$28.00

Have you signed up on the Parent Portal? Preferred payment for all fees is through the Parent Portal.

For cash payments, please contact our accounts clerk

Tammy_Tucker@sd42.ca

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!



You are still able to purchase your yearbook.
Nov 1 price is now \$55.
Extra cost of \$5 for personalized.

Preferred payment for all fees is through the Parent Portal. For cash payments, please contact our accounts clerk

Tammy_Tucker@sd42.ca

PITT Stop Café

Lunch Card \$21.00 is available to purchase on the [Parent Portal](#).

If you wish to have your student pay for the Lunch Card with cash, please have them come to the school office.

STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS

These forms are now on your students MyClass Account. Please review to ensure we have the correct information for your student. If you need to update any information, please print off a copy, make the changes on the form, and have your child drop it to the office.

November happenings

Nov 11 – Stat Holiday – Remembrance Day

Nov 12 – No Classes in Session – Non-Instructional Day

Nov 15 – Report Cards Published – Sem 1/Term 1

Nov 24 – Late Start – 9:50am



Check out the sites listed below to help you connect with what's happening at Pitt Meadows Secondary.

❖ **PMSS Website:** pmss.sd42.ca

❖ **PMSS School App:** This app is an important communication tool that parents & students can access easily on their phones. This technology provides daily updates to the calendar and schedule, your timetable, homework notifications, etc., can all be accessed using 'the app' Check it out by going to the App Store or Google Play <https://myschoolday.app/download>

❖ **Parent Portal:** <http://parents.sd42.ca>
This website features District & School announcements; Consent & Policy forms; Field trip forms; Pay School Fees (\$28.00); Pay Yearbook Fees (\$55.00); Grad Fees (cost to be advised); Purchase Pitt Stop Café Lunch Cards \$21.00

❖ **MyClass:** <https://myedbc.sd42.ca/MyClass>
(Student Attendance/Reporting Card Information/Classroom resources and Communicate with Teachers)

❖ **Find us on Twitter:** @Pittsecondary



In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
between the crosses, row on row.
That mark our place; and in the sky the
larks, still bravely singling, fly, scarce
heard amidst the guns below.

We are the dead.
Short days ago, we lived, felt dawn, saw
sunset glow. Loved and were loved, and
now we lie in Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe,
to you from falling hands we throw the
torch. Be yours to hold it high. If ye
break faith with us who die, we shall
not sleep, though poppies grow in
Flanders Fields.

By Lt. Col. John McCrae of Montreal whose body lies in Flanders Fields.