

Webster's Corners Elementary School NEWSLETTER

Principal: Mr. Ramin Mehrassa Email: rmehrassa@sd42.ca

Home of the
Wildcats



25554 Dewdney Trunk Road Maple Ridge, B.C. V4R 1X9 Tel: 604-462-7595 Fax: 604-462-8746

SEPTEMBER 2018

Welcome back to all of our students and parents. I hope that you were able to spend time with family and friends during the summer months. With September upon us, we've started fast out of the gate. Thank you to our staff for organizing the engaging and exciting rotation stations during the first week of School. During the second week of school, we hosted our annual Open House. We were grateful to have the fire and police department visit our school. A big thanks to the PAC and all of our parent volunteers for running the food booth. I hope you had a chance to say hello to your children's teachers. If not, please try to touch base with them as it is always nice to connect with your children's teacher early on in the year. We also held our Welcome Back Pancake Breakfast on September 19th in our gym. Again, this event would not have been possible without the help of our many parent volunteers and funding from the PAC. Finally, in the last week of September, we'll be having the Kindergarten Hearing and Vision testing, the Terry Fox Run, as well as celebrating Orange Shirt day.

Mr. Mehrassa

WELCOME TO OUR OUTSTANDING STAFF

We have had several changes to our staffing, over the summer and we are pleased to welcome new staff members (in bold print) to our school.

Classroom Teachers:

Ms. S. Urban
Mr. B. Wickham
Ms. C. Bzowy
Ms. L. Neumann
Ms. R. Birch
Ms. L. Lane
Ms. A. Shay
Ms. R. Yip
Ms. S. Sanders
Ms. N. Qually
Ms. L. Medland

Librarian/Prep
Ms. K. Blom

Prep/Learning Assistance
Ms. A. McMeeken

Support Teacher:
Ms. J. Fuller
Ms. J. Oxenbury

Counsellor:
Mr. J. Hooper

Child & Youth Care Worker:

Ms. A. Gauley

ABED Worker:

Ms. L. Jackson

Educational Assistants:

Ms. W. McRae

Ms. S. Pearson

Ms. S. Queen

Ms. M. Goes

Ms. C. Adams

Ms. C. Lilley

Secretary

Ms. J. Ross

Noon Hour Supervisors:

Ms. C. Windsor

Ms. J. Marks

Custodians:

Mr. R. Frier

Ms. R. Bains



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to:

Kavan, Lavina, Mohammad, Jack,
Hailee, Taiya, Asher F. Carolina,
Mehnaz, Natalie, Sienna, Mariam,
Xavier, Ava, Geno, Ian, Autumn,
Cruz and Silas.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

A reminder that school supplies have been purchased by teachers over the summer for all classrooms. If you haven't already done so, please pay the \$47.50 fee online via the portal or by cash/cheque to the office. Please make cheques payable to Webster's Corners Elementary. For those classes using planners, please pay the \$7.50 to your child's teacher.

NUT AWARE

The Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows School District, while not being able to guarantee an allergen-free environment in its schools, will take reasonable steps to provide an allergy-safe and allergy-aware environment for students with life-threatening allergies. As we have several students at Webster's who have life-threatening allergies to nuts (peanuts and tree nuts), we ask your cooperation in keeping the classrooms safe for all students by choosing snack and lunch foods for your children that are nut-free. Thank you in advance for being sensitive to this request.

HEAD LICE

This is the time of year when head lice may show up in your child's hair. To prevent head lice spreading among children at school, we ask that you remind your child not to share personal items such as combs and brushes. We also ask that you check your child's head weekly for the presence of head lice. Early detection and appropriate treatment will significantly reduce the incidence of head lice in our school; your cooperation is very much appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns regarding head lice, or require further information, please contact the school or the Public

Health Nurse at 604-476-7000. You may also click on the links below for further information:

<http://www.fraserhealth.ca/health-info/health-topics/school-health/illness-and-immunizations/head-lice/head-lice>
<http://www.lice911.com/>
<https://www.licesquad.com/>



2018/2019 KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

A big welcome and congratulations to all of our Kindergarten students who started full time school on Monday, September 17th.

ABORIGINAL STUDENTS

Who is an Aboriginal Student?

Aboriginal Ancestry is determined on a voluntary basis through self-identification. The term *Aboriginal* includes people who are First Nations (status or non-status), Métis or Inuit. No documentation is required and the ancestry can go back several generations. Ministry of Education funding is provided to support the success of all Aboriginal students through culturally appropriate educational programs and services.

We encourage all students of First Nations, Metis, or Inuit Ancestry to complete a self-identification form as this allows you to access various supports and programs during the school year. Self-identification forms can be picked up at the school office. Alternatively, you can download a copy of this form at the Aboriginal

Education

website: <http://schools.sd42.ca/abed/general-forms/>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact:

Diane Graves

Principal of Aboriginal Education

604-466-6265

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Please go to www.iapkidsplus.com for information on student accident insurance.

ASSEMBLIES

Our assemblies usually take place on Monday mornings at 10:45am. Parents are always welcome and encouraged to attend school assemblies; please watch for notification for upcoming assemblies. Our next assembly will be on October 22nd.



WEST COAST RECESS

At Webster's Corners, like other schools in the District, we have a West Coast recess. We feel it's important that our students play outside, get fresh air and plenty of exercise. Due to the often wet conditions of our climate, it is important that children have a hooded jacket or umbrella and waterproof footwear. Please also ensure that your child has a complete change of clothes at school. Unless we experience an especially torrential downpour or very cold weather we

will all be enjoying the outdoors at recess and lunch breaks.

ADVISING US OF ABSENT OR LATE STUDENTS

If your child is going to be absent or late for any reason, please remember to inform us via the portal or email the school at wce_reception@sd42.ca. You may also phone in the absence to 604-462-7595. An answering machine is available 24 hours a day, 7 days per week for your convenience. If your child is not well enough to go outside at recess and lunch, he/she is probably not well enough to be at school (when children are sick, they should stay at home in order to get better and to stop the spread of germs).

VOLUNTEERS AND VISITORS

The safety of our students is a major priority, therefore if you are in the school to volunteer or are just visiting, please remember to sign in at the office and get a Visitor Pass. The School District requests that all schools enforce this policy this year. If a staff member or a student sees the Visitor Pass, they will then know that you are officially signed in. We appreciate your help in maintaining a safe environment in our school. Thank you!

BELL SCHEDULE

The welcome bell will ring at 8:25. All students are asked to line up outside their classroom doors, or in the outside zones for their particular classrooms where their teachers will greet them in the morning. We request that students arrive at school, no sooner than 5 - 10 minutes before the 8:25 a.m. bell. This request is made out of concern for your child's safety and security, since there is no supervision available before school starts. Similarly,

at the end of the day, students are dismissed at 2:20 and staff supervision does not extend beyond 2:30. Thank-you for your cooperation!

8:25 AM	Welcome Bell Students line up, doors open
8:30 AM	CLASSES BEGIN
10:10-10:25 AM	Recess
12:00 PM	Students go outside
12:20 PM	Students come inside to eat
12:40 PM	Lunchtime over
2:20 PM	CLASSES DISMISSED

MEDICAL INTERVENTION FORM

If your child requires the administration of medication it is imperative that you come to the office and fill out a "Medical Intervention Form" before any medication can be dispensed. This form is also available on our website. The school cannot assist with any medication unless this form is completed. Children are not permitted to bring any medication of any kind to school to be taken by themselves. Please **DO NOT** send any prescriptions or over-the-counter medication to school with your child without contacting the office first. For safety reasons, all medications must be in their **ORIGINAL CONTAINER** and will be stored in a locked cupboard in the office. A record is kept of all amounts given to any child. This procedure complies with Board policy regarding medications to be taken at school.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Brochures have been sent home in your child's backpack informing you of the Fall selection of After School Programs. Programs are offered three times per year,

Fall, Winter and Spring, running for either 4-6 weeks. Our first set will start Sept. 18th. Registration information can be found in the brochure.

If your child requires extra support in the classroom please contact Drea Owen prior to registration to ensure the program will be a good fit. Children benefit from participating in after school programs both academically and socially, creating opportunities to build on traditional learning outcomes but also through new friendships and experiences. Our After School Programs offer subsidies for any family who requires assistance by contacting Drea Owen at 604-346-9815 or at drea_owen@sd42.ca.

PAC

The PAC at Webster's Corners Elementary is an integral part of our school community and donates their time and effort in order to provide a more positive school experience for our students. Our PAC is in charge of planning and hosting many school events and fundraisers. In the past, the PAC has contributed in part or in whole toward activities such as the school Pancake Breakfasts, our annual Fun Day, the Shoreline Cleanup BBQ, funds for the Water Slides, as well as contributing to the purchase of school resources such as books. PAC meetings will be held the first Tuesday of the month at 8:45 am in the library. Our next PAC meeting of the 2018/19 school year will be on October 2nd. Our PAC is very welcoming and eager to have new members. For more information, please contact the PAC Executive by emailing them at the following email address: websterscornerspac@hotmail.ca

PAC EXECUTIVE (2018/2019)

Chair: Jessica Underwood

Vice-Chair: Sarah Bunten
Treasurer: Ira Javier
Secretary: Laurie Reilly
DPAC Rep.: Paula Blamey

SCHOOL DISTRICT 42

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/>

CATCHMENT AREAS

Board of Education approves revised East Capital Zone elementary catchment areas

Following a public consultation that included an Open House and an online survey, the Board of Education approved at its May 16, 2018 public meeting revised East Capital Zone elementary catchment areas, including the catchment for the new elementary school scheduled to open September 2019 at 104th Avenue just east of 240th Street.

To learn about these changes, including how these changes impact regular student transportation services for the East Capital Zone, visit the district website at <http://www.sd42.ca/announcement/approves-elementary-catchment>

STRONG START CENTRE

This free, early learning drop-in program is held at Garibaldi Secondary School for children birth to 5 years and their parents/care-givers. Play and explore in friendly, safe and inspiring environments. Register with your child's birth certificate the first time you drop in. Up-to-date information on all of the SD 42 Strong Start Centres can be accessed at our school district web site at <http://www.sd42.ca/program/strongstart/>.

HOSPITAL HOMEBOUND SUPPORT

Do you have a son or daughter who is ill or injured and unable to attend school? School District No. 42 provides support to students who are unable to attend school for medical reasons. The Hospital Homebound teacher works with elementary and secondary students who have not been allocated support teacher time through a special needs designation. Students may be absent due to a non-contagious illness or they may be recovering from surgery or an injury. Instruction is provided in Ridge-Meadows Hospital or in the student's home.

How does Hospital Homebound support work?

The Hospital Homebound teacher provides direct instruction and support to students, with the goal of helping them return to class with as little interruption to their education as possible. The teacher also helps students maintain connections with the people and programs at their school. While receiving Hospital Homebound support, students continue to be registered at their school and in their classes. Students work on the core academic subjects. They often use the same materials and complete many of the same assignments as their classmates, although some adaptations may be necessary depending on the child's illness. Students typically receive two to three hours of support each week.

When can a student be referred?
Homebound students qualify for support if they are absent from school for 10 consecutive school days. Students who are hospitalized can be referred upon admittance to Ridge-Meadows Hospital.

How do I refer my son or daughter?
Contact your child's teacher, counsellor, or administrator. He/she will complete the Learning Services referral form. A physician's authorization form is also required (available at the school). For more information contact Marc Beaudet, the Hospital Homebound Teacher, at 467-1101, or by email at mbeaudet@sd42.ca.

B.C. TRAINING & EDUCATION SAVINGS GRANT

Did you know children born in 2009 or later can qualify for a \$1,200 grant when they are signed up for a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP)? No RESP contribution is required. Visit the [British Columbia Training and Education Savings Grant web page](#) for more information or email BCTESG@gov.bc.ca.

UPCOMING DATES

Sept. 24	School not in session - Curriculum Implementation Day
Sept.26	K hearing & vision screening
Sept. 27	Terry Fox Run 12:45pm
Oct. 4	PEAK – silhouettes
Oct. 8	Thanksgiving Day – no school
Oct. 11	Photo Day
Oct. 11	PEAK – soup prep day
Oct. 12	Thanksgiving Feast
Oct. 15	Kindergarten – dental screening
Oct. 18	PEAK in classroom
Oct. 19	Professional Dev. Day – school not in session
Oct. 22	ROAR Assembly 10:45am
Oct. 23	Cross Country – Intermediate
Oct. 24	Cross Country - Primary
Oct. 25	PEAK groups
Oct. 26	Pumpkin Patch Div. 9/10/11
Oct. 30	Photo retakes

The Redesigned Curriculum at *Webster's Corners*

How has the curriculum been redesigned & how does this benefit student learning?

The BC curriculum has been redesigned to support the changing world students are entering. The redesigned curriculum is student-centered and flexible, maintains a focus on literacy and numeracy skills, and includes Aboriginal perspectives.

So how and what will your child be learning? Each month in our school newsletter we will highlight a key feature of the redesigned curriculum and share stories about how this feature is being implemented in your child's classroom. We will also tell you about why these skills and abilities will help your child succeed.

Kindergarten to Grade 10 teachers are now using the new curriculum in all our schools. The redesigned curriculum for Grades 11-12 will be introduced in 2019/20. For more information about the new curriculum, visit <http://www.sd42.ca/new-curriculum>.

Coming in October - Core Competencies



Students at Webster's Corners Elementary participated in several workshops during the first week of school, including an ADST station learning to work with Spheros.



Core Competencies: What are they and why are they in the new curriculum?

The new curriculum centres around the following three core competency areas: **communication**, **personal and social**, **thinking**. They are sets of intellectual, personal, and social and emotional proficiencies that all students need to develop in order to engage in deep learning and life-long learning. Competencies are evident in every area of learning and in every grade, and come into play when students become actively engaged in their learning. During the school year, students will have an opportunity to self-assess their proficiencies in these core competencies.



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2018-2019 School Calendar

School opening day for students – early dismissal at 11:00am	Tuesday, September 4, 2018
Non-instructional day (curriculum implementation)	Monday, September 24, 2018
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 8, 2018
Non-instructional day (province-wide)	Friday, October 19, 2018
Non-instructional day (district)	Friday, November 9, 2018
Remembrance Day	Monday, November 12, 2018
Reporting Conferences – early dismissal at 11:30am	Thursday, November 29, 2018
Reporting Conferences all day – classes not in session	Friday, November 30, 2018
Schools close for break	Friday, December 21, 2018
Winter break	Monday, December 24, 2018 to Friday, January 4, 2019
Schools reopen after break	Monday, January 7, 2019
Non-instructional day (curriculum implementation)	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
Reporting Conferences – early dismissal at 11:30	Thursday, March 7, 2019
Reporting Conferences all day – classes not in session	Friday, March 8, 2019
Schools close for break	Friday, March 15, 2019
Spring break	Monday, March 18, 2019 to Friday, March 22, 2019
Schools not in Session	Monday, March 25, 2019 to Friday, March 29, 2019
Schools reopen after 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 – early dismissal at 12:00pm	Wednesday, June 26, 2019
Year-end administrative day	Thursday, June 27, 2019
Schools close for Summer vacation	Friday, June 28, 2019

ELEMENTARY (K-7) DAILY SCHEDULE: 8:30am to 2:20pm. 295 instructional minutes per day. Kindergarten gradual entry the first 2 weeks of September.

Minimum number of hours of instruction that must be offered as per School Act and Calendar Regulation:

848 hours of instruction for students in kindergarten.

873 hours of instruction for students in grades 1 to 7.