



Whonnock Elementary

27471 112th Avenue, Maple Ridge, B.C. V2W 1P9

Principal: Mr. Stuart Richardson T: 604 462 7612

Website: schools.sd42.ca/Whonnock Stuart_Richardson@sd42.ca

Message from the Principal:

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What an amazing school we have! From the first time I arrived I have been greeted by families and staff in a very kind and welcoming way—I feel very lucky to be working with you all! I hope you and your child//children have begun to settle into the routine of school and you are as excited about the possibilities this new school year has to offer as we are.

Fall is a time of change and we have seen quite a marked one here at school with the arrival of our brand new portable. Ms. Pennell and her class of grade 5/6's have been patiently working out of the library for the last three weeks but will finally be able to move in on Wednesday or Thursday.

I look forward to getting to know you all better and sharing the many fantastic learning experiences your children will be having at our school. To that end, please remember that you are encouraged to connect with your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child.

I too am available to you at any time should you wish to connect about our school.

Respectfully,

Stuart Richardson

604 626 1772, srichardson@sd42.ca

Upcoming Events

October 3

Skating - Div. 5,7

October 4

Individual Photo Day

October 5

Hot Lunch Day

October 6

Skating – Div. 9,10

Thanksgiving Feast- 10:30

October 9

Thanksgiving Stat.

October 10

Pumpkin Patch – Div. 5,7,8

October 12

Hot Lunch Day

Pumpkin Patch – Div. 4,9,10,12

October 16

PAC Meeting – 7pm

Pumpkin Patch – Div. 1,2,3,6,11

October 18

WE Day

October 19

Skating – Div. 1,3,6

BooHooVille, 5-9pm

October 20

Non-Instructional Day

October 21

Intermediate Cross Country, Alouette Lake

October 22

Primary Cross Country, Albion

October 24

Photo Retake Day

October 26

Skating – Div. 11,8,2

Pumpkin Patch – Div. 13

Hot Lunch Day

October 30

Hubs Bikes – Gr. 5,6,7

October 31

Assembly – 1:30

Halloween

Important Announcement

Planners have been distributed to the classrooms. If you have not yet paid for your planner please do so on the portal or bring money into your teacher.

NOTE: READ newsletter carefully and keep as a reference as there are numerous important school information items. Many of these items will not be repeated in future newsletters.



Be Kind

PORTAL News

District forms have been sent out through the portal. Please complete them ASAP. Remember to scroll down in each box as this indicates to the district that you have read the forms. If you have any issues, please come and see Mr. Richardson.

Important School News

WELCOME NEW STAFF: We are happy to have the following new staff members join us this year: Mrs. Kieneker (Job share in Div. 4) with Ms. Long, Ms. McGreevy (Prep), Ms. Gill (Job share in Div.11/Support), Ms. Nelson (Div. 2), Ms. Pennell (Div. 5), Mrs. Jennings (Secretary).

MEDICAL FORMS: If your child has any health care needs that require support at school, including the administration of any medications, medical forms must be completed. The school cannot assist with any medical intervention unless these forms are completed. Please contact the school as soon as possible to complete a form. This procedure complies with the policy regarding the health care needs of children at school. If there are any questions, please contact the school. Thanks.

NOTE: Forms have been sent home for students that we already had marked as having a medical condition (allergies, asthma, etc.). If you are new to the school or your child has a recently diagnosed medical condition, please inform your child's teacher and we will send forms home.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE: Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance reimburses for accident-related medical and dental expenses not covered by provincial, extended health or dental plans. If interested please visit web site at www.iapkidsplus.com. Forms are available in the office as well.

Westcoast Recess: We strive to have 'West Coast' Recess/lunches (students outside on rainy days); therefore sending your child with boots, rain-gear, hats, gloves, is necessary and appreciated. Please ensure your child has a pair of dry indoor shoes and an extra change of clothes –just in case your child falls down and gets wet. By sending an extra change of clothes, this alleviates office pile up at the phone to call home and wasted learning time. Thanks for your assistance.

Bring your Water Bottle: Students are reminded to bring their water bottles every day. Some Primary classes have alternate arrangements with individual cups. However, it is solely at the discretion of the teacher. In past years the office had given out small disposable cups to students who had forgotten their cup for the day. This is now no longer the practice since the same students were leaving class to get cups every day. Thus, teachers are now the ones who determine whether or not they'll give out the small cups.

At Whonnock we CARE

At Whonnock, we CARE about ourselves, each other and our school. We use our **Common Sense**, have a positive **Attitude**, **Respect** ourselves, others and the environment, and put forth our best **Effort**. We would like to thank the following students for demonstrating our Code of Conduct for the Month of September 2017.

Div. 1 Brandon
Div. 2 Sam
Div.2 Truman
Div. 2 Sara W
Div. 3 Deston
Div. 3 Eva
Div. 3 Erin
Div. 6 Stave
Div. 6 Tristan
Div. 6 Loghan
Div. 7 Taylor M
Div. 8 MacKenzie
Div. 8 Kayel
Div. 8 Jackson
Div. 8 Brynn
Div. 11 Dylan
Div. 11 Cameron
Div. 11 Kai

Library News: We are in need of parent volunteers to help out from 8:30 to 9:00am each morning in the library for home reading book exchange. If you are able to help out, please contact Mrs. Jennings. Thank you for your support!

We still have \$900+ in outstanding from last year. It would be appreciated if everyone could take another look at home. Thanks!

Bookfest is well underway. We have 37 students involved! Parents please keep watching for event updates and permission slips. It's going to be fun!

Cross-Country: Intermediate Cross Country is coming October 21. Primary Cross Country coming October 22. More information to follow.

More Important News

INDOOR SHOES are mandatory. ALL students need to have a clean pair of shoes left at school so they can change into daily. These shoes should be either lace up or Velcro shoes as they will be wearing them to gym and playing active games. To keep our school clean and for your child's safety, indoors shoes are a must.

STUDENT EMERGENCY CONTACTS: We have sent Student Emergency Information sheets with *each* child. These forms were due back to class teachers by September 30th. If you have not done so, please return the forms. Thank you those parents/guardians who have returned the forms. These forms are kept in a file in the office to be used in emergency situations. Please read ALL INFORMATION and make any corrections on the sheet. Then, please return to your teacher. REMEMBER TO SIGN ON THE BACK!

BC SCHOOL and Fruity and Vegetable Program: We will once again be participating in this program. Students get an opportunity to eat fresh fruits and vegetables produced in BC and learn about BC agriculture. This program delivers food 13 times over the school year. These items are meant to be an addition to regular snacks. If you do not wish for your child to participate, please inform your child's teacher.

DROP OFF/ PICK UP: Please remember that there is no formal supervision before the warning bell rings or after classes. Students should not be dropped off to school excessively early as there is no supervision at this time of day. To help us keep our students safe, we'd ask parents to spend some times reviewing the traffic and bus safety rules with your child. Please obey the traffic arrows at the school's entry. Parents, remember that we have a "Kiss and Go" practice so cars are not left unattended in the roundabout. When cars stop at random spots it does not allow for the maximum number of cars to drop off. **DO NOT PULL UP AND GET OUT AND LEAVE YOUR CAR.** If you need to leave your car, you need to park on the street. By all of us working together, it can make drop off less stressful for all.

Children riding bikes should wear a helmet at all times and are not permitted to ride on school grounds. Let's keep everyone safe!

STAFF PARKING/RESERVED PARKING: Since our school is growing, we have more staff, there are no longer spots available for parents in the parking lot during school hours. The parking lot is needed for our staff to park during their work hours. Please honour these spots by refraining from parking in the spots marked "Staff". Often staff need to leave during the school day (field trips), their spots remain 'Reserved'. Please do not park as teachers need to park and return quickly to their classroom to receive their students back into the classroom. Thanks for your assistance.



WHO IS AN ABORIGINAL STUDENT?

Aboriginal Ancestry is determined on a voluntary basis through self-identification. This includes First Nations (status or non-status), Metis or Inuit Ancestry. 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 a various supports and programs during the school year if you wish. If you have any questions about this process please do not hesitate to contact:

Diane Grave
Principal, Aboriginal Education
604-466-6271
Email: Diane_Graves@sd42.ca



PHONING IN: Thank you for remembering to phone in when your child is going to be late or absent. As you know, an answering machine is available 24 hours a day for your convenience. For the safety of your children, we have a Phone Home Program. If we do not know the reason why your child is absent, we will contact all emergency numbers available until we can be sure that your child is safe. Please continue to phone or send us a message via the parent portal if your child is going to be absent or late for any reason. Thank you for helping us to keep your children safe!

PLAY DATES: There have been a number of children arranging last minutes play dates. Unless these are pre-arranged before school time, we cannot have children suddenly going home with other parents, especially since their own parents do not know of this arrangement. The office phone is only for emergency use, ie children not feeling well needing to phone home, not for arranging play dates. Thank you for your assistance.

HEAD LICE: Reminder, please check your child's/children's hair for head lice as it is head lice season. If you notice any of the following, please contact the office. This will be kept confidential and a standard letter will be sent out to the relevant classes informing parents of the presence of lice. Evidence of Head Lice may be as follows:

- nits found on the hair
- live or dead lice seen on the scalp
- nit shells from hatched lice or dead eggs found in the hair

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES: Students are to leave cell phones, iPods or iPads in their backpacks, if they bring them to school. They are not to be brought outside during recess and lunch. In the classroom, devices can be used if the teacher gives permission. The school is not responsible for any lost or stolen items or any breakage that occurs on school property. Students are only allowed to use cell phones before school or after school to phone home. **If students need to contact home, they need to ask the teacher for permission and use the school phone.**

VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS: All visitors/volunteers must sign in at the front desk. We need to be able to account for all staff and visitors to our school/site.

Pack It In Pack It Out: We are continuing with our Pack It In Pack It Out program to help alleviate dealing with compost. Please review attached information sheet.

CAREERS: 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/>

P.A.C. News

P.A.C. Meetings: Our P.A.C. meetings are generally held on the second Monday of every month (with a few exceptions due to holidays/events). This is your opportunity to find out what's happening at the school, meet other parents, address any concerns regarding the school community and, if you choose, participate in our fundraising activities, by volunteering. Everyone is always welcome. We look forward to meeting you.

NEXT MEETING: October 16, 7:00pm.

P.A.C. Fundraisers: We acknowledge there are a number of items we've asked you to fundraise/donate to. This time of the year we have a variety of fundraisers because we know different families have different traditions. Please remember all support is greatly appreciated, but don't feel obligated to participate in every fundraiser.



P.A.C.

October 16

PAC MEETING – 7:00pm in library

PAC MEETING DATES:

HOT LUNCH PROGRAM: Our lunch program is up and running in full swing this October. This year we are moving to an online ordering system, information has been sent home. Volunteers are always welcome on lunch delivery days to help get the lunches to the kids. Please contact Beeuwke Dangerfield, (beeuwke@me.com or text at 604-897-5543) if you are interested. Lunch Lady will be available for order on-line. Up to 2 days before delivery date!!!!

BOOHOOVILLE, our biggest scariest fundraiser of the year! Mark your calendars – OCTOBER 19, 5-9PM.

Beeuwke Dangerfield	President	Lisa Groeneveld	Vice-President
Amy Bontron	Secretary	Tanya Grange	Treasurer



Welcome back!

A message from your local Police

Do you remember our Candy Cane or Pink Shirt school visits we did last year? The positive impact between police, students and teachers is a model we would like to build on in the 2017-18 school year. Often youth's only contact with the police is related to an incident or organized event and we want to change that by building healthy relationships throughout the whole school year by impromptu visits at the schools as part of our regular police business.



What this means is police would attend schools, check in with the administrators and spend some time at recess, lunch, or during assemblies or sports events to just be present as part of this school community. If you see a police car parked out front or uniformed members in the hallways we're not always attending to a crime, we just might be stopping by to say hi!