



Whonnock Elementary

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

Principal: Ms. Megan Olynyk T: 604 462 7612

Website: schools.sd42.ca/Whonnock

Message from the Principal:

I am thrilled to be joining the staff here at Whonnock Elementary. In my career at SD42, I have worked as a vice principal, classroom teacher, and school psychologist. In my first few weeks as a principal, I have learned a lot! I'm grateful to our staff and students for being so welcoming. I am eager to get to know students and families, so please say hello if you see me outside or in the hallways.

Now that the school year is underway, we look forward to sharing information with you, including updates from the district, upcoming dates, and any school news and events.

Megan Olynyk

Upcoming Events

September 27 – Hot Lunch

September 29 – Orange Shirt Day

October 2 – National Day for Truth & Reconciliation NO SCHOOL

October 3 – Pro D Day NO SCHOOL

October 4 – Hot Lunch

October 5 – World Teacher Day

October 9 – Thanksgiving NO SCHOOL

October 17 – Picture Day!

October 20 – Pro D Day NO SCHOOL

October 25 – Hot Lunch

October 26 – Grade 6 Immunizations



PORTAL NEWS

District consent forms have been sent out through the portal. Please complete them ASAP. Remember to click on each individual form to complete and sign, this indicates to the district that you have read the forms. If you have any issues, please come and see Ms. Olynyk or Ms. Lorrie

Important School News

WELCOME NEW STAFF: We are happy to have the following new staff member join us this year:

- Mrs. Lindgren, grade 2/3 teacher
- Ms. Roche, support teacher
- Ms. Hough, prep and 6/7 teacher
- Ms. Grubb, 4/5 teacher
- Ms. Lindert, K/1 teacher
- Mrs. Jordan, counsellor
- Ms. Nieman, AbEd support worker
- Mrs. Currie, EA
- Ms. Fathi, EA
- Ms. Hakkinen, EA
- Ms. MacDonald, EA
- Ms. Roberge, EA
- Ms. Wentz, SLP
- Mr. Martin, AbEd teacher
- Ms. Stroup – K Transition EA

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 and brought into the office. 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. If you have an existing form on file, please let us know if anything that needs to be updated. This procedure complies with the policy regarding the health care needs of children at school.



WESTCOAST RECESS: We strive to have 'West Coast' Recess/lunches (students outside on rainy days); please send your student with boots, rain-gear, hats, gloves, is necessary. 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. The office cannot supply cups to students all year, please remember to bring a water bottle.

STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS: We will be sending **PURPLE** Student Verification Forms home with each student this week. These forms are kept in the office and used for emergency situations. Please review ALL the information and make any corrections on the sheet and return to your child's teacher as soon as possible. ***DON'T FORGET TO SIGN THE BACK OF THE FORM.**

LOST AND FOUND: Our Lost & Found location is changing to wall hooks near the gym doors. Please remind your child to check our Lost & Found regularly so that we are not inundated with clothing and other items.

PARKING LOT:

Our parking lot is a busy place at the beginning and end of the school day. We ask for your patience and courtesy as drivers make their way through the roundabout. Although it is busy, and it may take an extra minute or two, everyone will get to where they need to go. Please do not leave your vehicle unattended in the roundabout, and take extra care to enter/exit the through lane safely. Another option is to park further away on the street, and walk to the classroom together. Thank you for support to keep everyone safe!

ATTENDANCE: Please remember to log on the parent portal, email (teacher and Ms. Lorrie), or phone the school if your child is going to absent or late. For the safety of your child we will be phoning home if we do not know your child is going to be absent. Thank you for your help!

VISITORS: All Visitors/Volunteers must check in at the office. We need to be able to account for all staff and visitors to our school.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: A reminder that last Spring teachers agreed to do a mass purchase of school supplies for their classrooms. It is \$60 per student, please deliver a cheque or cash to your students teacher by September 22nd.

ORANGE SHIRT DAY – Recognition of Truth and Reconciliation Day - Orange shirt day will take place on Friday, September 29, 2023. We encourage all to wear orange in recognition of the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

PAC NEWS: The PAC have a lovely bulletin board located in the front foyer of the school entrance. Please take a moment to have a peek at all the information they have available for you.

First Meeting Date: September 28th @ 7pm in Library

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:

Kirsten Urdahl-Serr
Principal, Aboriginal Education
604-466-6271



School Safety Notification System

The Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District has updated its *School Safety Notification System* in collaboration with the Ridge Meadows RCMP. The revised notification system follows provincial recommendations and covers the six following scenarios:



Drop, Cover, and Hold – Used in the event of an earthquake, explosion, or any event that shakes the school.



Hold and Secure – Used when there is a security concern, such as a police incident, in the neighborhood of the school.



Lockdown – Used to prevent intruders from entering occupied areas of the school, or in times when it is necessary to isolate students and staff from a danger outside or within the building.

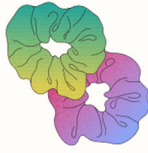


Shelter in Place – Used as a short-term measure to protect students and staff from potential dangers outside the school (e.g. environmental weather-related emergencies, dangerous wild animals on school grounds, or a missing child).



Room Clear – Used to move people away from a hazard contained in one room/area.

You can find more information about the revised *School Safety Notification System* on the district website at <https://www.sd42.ca/school-safety-notification/>



Foundry Ridge Meadows Wellness Drive

SEPTEMBER 18TH
TO OCTOBER 13TH

Drop off at Foundry or
participating SD42 Schools

Foundry Ridge Meadows provides free support for mental health, substance use & more to youth aged 12 – 24 years.

Throughout our center, we offer comforting items to our young people, but our supplies are running critically low. We're thrilled to announce our partnership with SD 42 DPAC to restock these essential items.

We kindly request donations of new and unused comforting items such as drink boxes, treats, toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, deodorant, hair care products, soap, lip balm, makeup, and similar essentials.

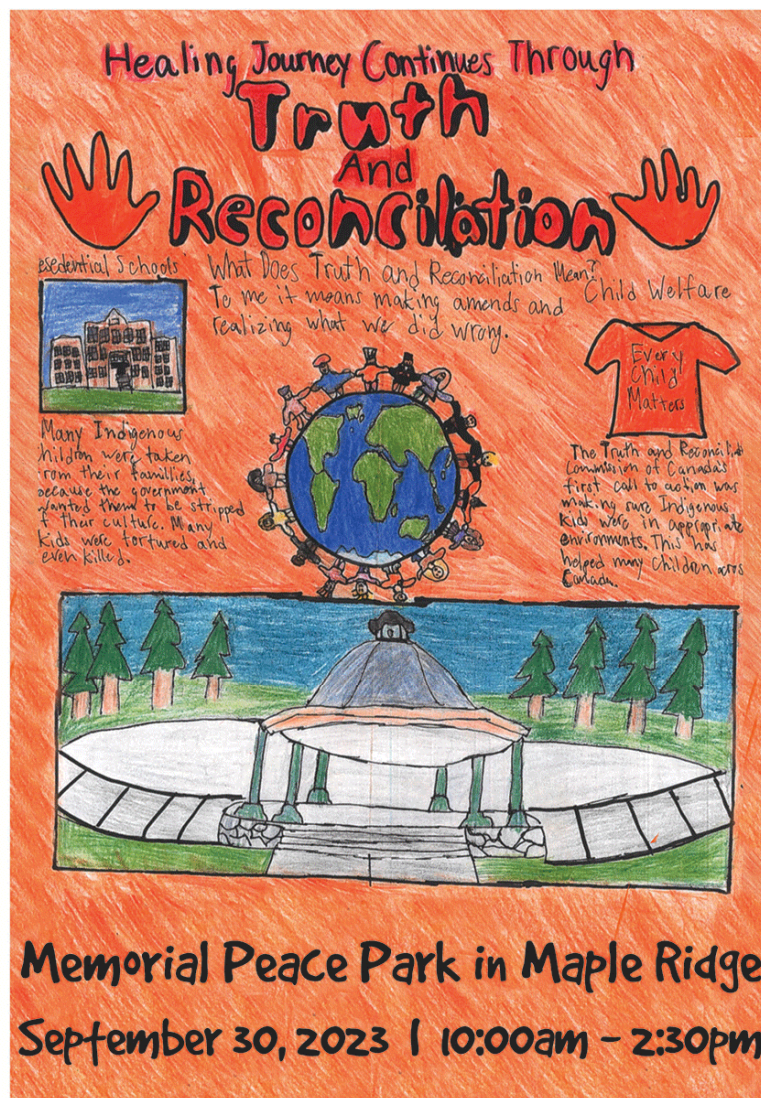
Your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

•FOUNDRY•
RIDGE MEADOWS
A PROGRAM OF HRPPI COMMUNITY SERVICES



Healing Journey Continues Through Truth and Reconciliation

The focus of this year's event is "Healing Through Drumming". Activities include performances by Indigenous drum groups and performers, special guest speakers, a variety of onsite vendors, orange shirt painting, the creation of a community art project, supporting drum circles, sharing information about supports in the community and creating a safe place for those impacted by the residential school system to come together and share and witness through stories.



HOSTS



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Fall 2023 Pitt Meadows Parks, Recreation and Culture Opportunities

Fall Programs Are Here!

Our fall program guide is now available online and is now available in print. Browse the City of Pitt Meadows Parks, Recreation & Culture Guide for a variety of activities and programs for all age groups! **Registration for fall programs opens on August 1 at 8 am.**

Visit pittmeadows.ca/programguide for details.

Low-Cost Activities at Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre:

Parent & Child Playtime

Looking for an indoor activity? PMFRC offers low-cost [Parent & Child Playtime](#) in the gymnasium on Mondays and Wednesdays (10-11:45 am) and Saturdays (9-11 am) for only \$1 per child.

Value Times at the Fitness Centre

Work out at the fitness centre during our value times. It's only \$1 for youth (13-18Y) and seniors (60Y+) and \$2 for adults (19-59Y). Value times are:

Tuesday 10-11:30am, Wednesday 8:30-9:30am, Thursday 6-7am and Saturday from 3-6pm.

Multisport 13Y+

Drop-in for Multisport on Fridays from 3-5pm, it's only \$1 for youth (13-18Y).

Group Fitness 16Y+

Drop-in for a Strength & Stability group fitness class on Thursday mornings from 8:50-9:50am. It's only \$1 for youth 16-18Y and seniors (60Y+) and \$2 for adults (19-59Y).

Youth Lounge at Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre!

This safe place is for youth ages 11-18 years old. For an annual membership of \$10, youth members can access the Youth lounge and enjoy activities such as billiards, foosball, table tennis, PlayStation pods, retro arcade games, Nintendo Switch and special events. For details visit www.pittmeadows.ca/youth.

Free Programs

There is a variety of free programs available. Parent & Child Mother Goose, Let's Play, Storyblanket, and Art Workshops. Visit pittmeadows.ca/programguide and view the guide for full details.

Public Skates & Winter Wonderland Skate

Pitt Meadows arena will offer \$1 Pro-D Day Skates on October 2, 3, 20 & November 13 from 12pm to 2pm. There will be a FREE family skate happening on October 9. The Winter Wonderland Holiday Skate Event is back, on December 22 and 23. [View the fall guide](#) for details or visit pittmeadowsarena.com.

Reminder!

The Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre will be closed for the [Annual Maintenance Shutdown from August 28 through September 10](#). Fall program registration will still be available [online](#). For questions call 604.465.2452.



Ridge Meadows RIVERS DAY

Celebrate BC's heritage river at the
30th annual FREE family event!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

10:30AM - 2:30PM

ALLCO Park, 13255 Alouette Rd, Maple Ridge

 Live Entertainment

 Salmon Cookies

 Honeybees

 Carnival Games

 Face Painting & Balloon Animals

 Taa Daa Lady & Nylon Zoo

 Hot Dogs & Refreshments

 Northern Spotted Owl on site!

.....**AND LOTS MORE!**

Questions? Want to **VOLUNTEER** this year? Contact us!
www.alouetteriver.org | sophie@alouetterover.org | 604-467-6401



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