



YENNADON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Telephone: 604-463-8871 Fax: 604-463-0228

Principal: Mrs. L. Lawrance Vice-Principal: Mrs. J. Walker

Website: <https://elementary.sd42.ca/yennadon>

Newsletter #2

October 27, 2020

Principal's Message

Thank you for your ongoing patience during this pandemic. We know that many of the procedures that we need to follow are restrictive and inconvenient, but it is better to be safer than otherwise. For the most part, it seems that staff and students are settling into a routine, but it is certainly a very different kind of schooling. Meanwhile, we are approaching our first major holiday in school time – Hallowe'en. Like everything else this will fall under COVID safety protocols.

Many positive things have occurred since the beginning of the school year. The students are keeping very busy with exciting projects and there exists a clear focus on student learning. They are also working hard at learning the new protocols for staying safe, with lots of handwashing. We are proud of how they are adjusting to school with new limitations. Also, the overall behaviour of the students is very good; a true credit to the collective efforts of staff, supportive parents, and the students themselves.

We are fortunate to have a strong school culture at Yennadon and this is helping us continue to provide a positive school environment. Enjoy these beautiful fall days!

Sincerely,

Mrs. L. Lawrance, Principal



Upcoming Events

October 19 – 30	Yennadon Food Bank Drive
Wed., Oct. 28	Individual Photo Retakes (main building) – morning only
Sun., Nov. 1	Daylight Savings Time
Thurs., Nov. 5	7:00 pm PAC Meeting (via Zoom)
Tues., Nov. 10	10:35 am Remembrance Day Assembly (in school Zoom)
Wed., Nov. 11	Remembrance Day Holiday – No School
Thurs., Nov. 12	School-Based Non-Instructional Day – No School for Students
Thurs., Nov. 26	11:30 am EARLY DISMISSAL for Conferences
Fri., Nov. 27	Three Way Conferences

**students attend with parents at scheduled Zoom time*
**some teachers may schedule conferences prior to these two days*

Halloween Safety

While our school district does not have an official policy on Halloween costumes, we must always be guided by the expectations set out in school codes of conduct and our district [Safe, Caring and Healthy Schools](#) policy. As such, we must always ensure our learning environments remain safe, welcoming, inclusive, and affirming for all students, families, and staff.

The following two essential guidelines should be considered when selecting costumes that will be worn at school:

- **Be kind and consider the school community:** costumes that could be offensive or perpetuate the stereotype of someone's gender identity, culture, race, religion, age, or disability must not be worn.
- **Be thoughtful and safe:** costumes that depict violence, alcohol or drugs are not appropriate. Similarly, replica weapons (e.g. gun, knives, etc.) must not be brought to school.
- **In addition, due to our COVID protocols at Yennadon, we are requesting that students do not bring any costume masks, costume accessories, or treats to school.**

Since health and safety is a concern for all families this year, the *BC Centre for Disease Control (BC CDC)* has published a number of helpful tips for safe Halloween celebrations, from how to do trick-or-treating safely, to being creative in handing out treats.

You can find these tips on the BC CDC website at:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/social-interactions/halloween>.

We appreciate your help to keep our school communities healthy, safe, caring and socially responsible.



Student Planners

Please remember that Student Planners are a required school supply item for most of our students. **The cost for this year's planner is \$5.00.** Students may bring cash or cheque payment for their planner to their classroom. If you are paying by cheque, please make it payable to Yennadon Elementary. **However, we encourage you to use the "Parent Portal" which accepts Master Card and Visa.**



Student planners are a valuable tool for staying organized and for communication between teachers and parents. We encourage parents to check their child's planner nightly to make sure required homework is being done and important information is received in a timely manner.

Dressing for the Fall Weather

We spend all of our **recess and lunch time outside** and with the cooler temperatures and rainy weather upon us, we ask that you ensure your children are dressed appropriately for the weather. If your child has a tendency to get wet and muddy during recess/lunch activities, we suggest that you send an extra set of clothing each day to avoid having to bring dry clothes to the school when such accidents occur. Also, as the rains seem to be increasing, please consider having your child wear boots to school and to bring a dry pair of inside shoes to change into.



Active Kids Program at Yennadon

We are excited to announce the City of Maple Ridge's Active Kids Club afterschool program (AKC) will be commencing on January 4, 2021 under the Provincial Health Authority Guidelines, Worksafe BC Standards, and SD42 strategies.

Registration started on October 20th, so you can visit their website at <https://www.mapleridge.ca/1469/After-School-Programs> and read the details to ensure you don't miss out!



The Active Kids Club (AKC) program is a licensed after school program that operates in partnership with School District 42 in local elementary schools. This program is available at Yennadon Elementary. Children in Kindergarten to Grade 7 are provided with supervision from trained children's employees. AKC is proud of their innovative and experiential programming that focuses on fun, safe, active and inclusive activities. They provide snacks and active play for children after school and encourage and support children with their development in play, fitness, imagination and sense of curiosity in the world around them.

Pack It In & Pack It Out Schoolwide

This year, our students will 'pack in' all their food for snacks and lunch and 'pack out' all the food scraps and waste. There will be no food sharing permitted. Students can use blue bins or garbage cans when disposing of used tissues. Please remind your children to bring their lunch waste and snacks back home with them to recycle, compost, or throw away. Many students are already familiar with the phrase, usually applied to visiting a park or hiking.

Drop Off and Pick Up Reminders

A reminder that in accord with COVID-19 protocols, we ask parents to consider spending as little time as possible on the school grounds. If you do not have to wait with your children, please do not do so. If you need to wait with your children, we need your cooperation to:



- Physically distance from other adults and children who are not your own, as per the Provincial Health Officer's guidelines
- Remain well clear (say, 5 metres or 15 feet) of the school building and where children are lining up
- Stay clear of the outside classroom doors (student only zones) in order to allow students to enter/exit safely
- Not congregate on the school property to socialize
- Leave the property as soon as you have dropped off your child

We have received many phone calls and emails from parents concerned about the lack of physical distancing and congregation of adults on the property. Let's work together to keep everyone safe!

Head Lice

This is the time of year when head lice may show up in your child's hair. To prevent head lice 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. You can contact the Public Health Nurse at 476-7000 with any questions you may have.

Family Education Centre

The Family Education & Support Centre has been supporting families in our community for over 40 years. Please visit their website at www.familyed.bc.ca to find out more about the services they offer.



Yennadon Three Way Conferences, Thurs. and Fri., Nov. 26th and 27th

Yennadon follows the student led conferencing model for reporting. This model of reporting involves the classroom teacher, the parent(s), and the child having an in-depth, meaningful discussion about the child's learning. If you have not had a chance to visit the district website and learn about our student inclusive reporting, please do so at www.sd42.ca and click the PARENTS tab and then Reporting and Assessment. Here you will find that there are questions and answers, videos, report/conference templates, and other information. **Remember that we also dismiss early at 11:30 am on Thursday, November 26th**, for conferences.

Given the provincial health guidelines for educational settings, our Term 1 Reporting process will look slightly different this year. The conference will still occur with the teacher, the parent(s)/guardian(s), and the student. The main difference is that this conference will occur **over zoom** and will be a bit shorter than usual (10 – 15 minutes instead of the usual 20 – 30 minutes).

Grade 5 Active Pass and Grade 6 Stay Active Pass

All students in Grade 5 and 6 are eligible to apply for the Ridge Meadows Parks and Recreation Active Pass. This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to take advantage of the many drop-in programs that our Parks and Leisure has to offer for FREE.

The Maple Ridge Leisure Centre (MRLC) pools reopened September 28th with safety measures in place that align with Public Health Orders, BC's Restart Plan, and industry specific guidelines including the British Columbia Recreation & Parks Association (BCRPA) and Lifesaving Society (LSS). The pool is currently open with registered access to length swimming, group swim, individual swim, aquafit, and water walking. The current pool schedules are in effect starting November 1st.

To receive the Grade 5 Active Pass or Grade 6 Stay Active Pass, follow the instructions listed on the grade appropriate Parks & Leisure Services website links.

<https://www.mapleridge.ca/1474/Grade-5-Active-Pass>

<https://www.mapleridge.ca/1475/Grade-6-Stay-Active-Pass>



Staying in Touch!

For quick reminders and updates, follow us on Twitter @YennadonSD42.



For Yennadon PAC updates follow @yennpac on Twitter @yennadonpac on Instagram and the Yennadon PAC Website at www.yennadonpac.weebly.com

For up-to-date COVID-19 Information relating to School District 42 visit:

<https://www.sd42.ca/information-community-coronavirus/>

