



October 2019

Chuck Bloch, Principal | chuck_bloch@sd33.bc.ca | <http://promontory.sd33.bc.ca>
Lisa vanDalfsen, Vice Principal | lisa_vandalfsen@sd33.bc.ca | Tel 604.824.4885 | Fax 604.824.4891

Promontory Motto - Strong Learners, Kind Hearts

BENEVOLENT FUND

From time to time, many families find themselves in dire circumstances and need a little help. We like to be able to help children with breakfast, lunch, school supplies, etc. when a family needs our help.

You can play a role in this by supporting our Benevolent Fund, which is a trust account managed by our office and accessed as needed. We will happily receive personal or business donations to this good cause. If you would like to help, please contact Kelsey Elderton at our front desk. Thank you for your generous support of our school community.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We will be offering an after-school Girls Club to focus on friendships. It is starting on Monday, October 11th. For Term 1, the program will only be available to Grade 3 girls, and space is limited to 10 girls. The club will meet after school until 3:15pm on Mondays and Fridays. It will be facilitated by Mrs. Feldes, one of our EAs, under the supervision of our administrative staff. Please register as soon as possible using the attached form. There is no cost to this club.

HOMEWORK CLUB

Mrs. Feldes will also be offering a Homework Club after school every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday until 3:15pm. This is for students who want some extra help or who are just looking for a quiet place to read or work (it is NOT a detention hall!). Students can come on a drop-in basis to the "Maker Space" Room after school.

COUNSELOR'S DROP-IN CONSULTATION SERVICES

Mrs. Lewis is our new school counsellor this year and she will be offering a free drop-in time to consult and connect with parents regarding any concerns you may have or any community resources you are looking to try to connect with.

Drop in times: Tuesdays & Wednesdays 8:30-9:00am

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It seems like September flew by in the blink of an eye. It was a pleasure to get to know many of you and to learn about the Promontory Community. What a great place to be! The September virtue was cooperation, and I am so impressed with how the Promontory staff demonstrates this every day.

It is now approaching Thanksgiving season, and this is a key opportunity to demonstrate gratefulness in our own lives. Whether times are tough or things are great, we all have so many things to be thankful for. And the evidence is in: living with a grateful mindset enhances your life and your health! With that in mind, I will say thank you for allowing me to share in your child's growth. It is my pleasure to team with you and this amazing staff.



NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK IS OCTOBER 6-12, 2019

We regularly practice fire drills and safety at school, but we also need to be fire aware and prepared in our homes. For information on National Fire Prevention Week, check out this link: <https://burnfund.org/prevention-and-education/burn-awareness-week/>.

Chilliwack Fire Department encourages us each to take part in the Community Fire Drill on Wednesday, October 9th at 6:30pm.

For details, check out:

<https://www.chilliwack.com/government/fire/>.

EARLY DISMISSAL OCTOBER 24TH @ 11:30AM

There will be three early dismissals this year, one for each term, for the purpose of reporting and conferencing on student achievement. The first early dismissal is just 3 weeks away. Teachers will be communicating with you about when they will be available to have you and your child come in for a conference, and they will describe the format for the conference. These connections are very important, and we strongly encourage you to find a time to connect with your child's teacher.

Classes will be dismissed early at 11:30am on October 24th, and the buses will run their regular routes at that time.

COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

Sometimes you may have a concern with something you may have observed, something your child comes home and tells you, or perhaps something you hear other parents talking about. In our school district the first step is to speak to the person you have a concern with. If it's the classroom teacher, go to the teacher, let them know what your concern is and give them an opportunity to explain. This is a respectful process, and 99% of the time the situation is cleared up at that level. If it is not resolved, then you are welcome to come and speak to Mr. Bloch or Ms. vanDalfsen.

If you have general concerns about the school, please feel free to come and chat with Mr. Bloch or Ms. vanDalfsen. Parents may have some concerns or need some clarification, and they may have some good ideas and solutions too. We welcome the opportunity to chat. You can set up a meeting time by emailing chuck_bloch@sd33.bc.ca or lisa_vandalfsen@sd33.bc.ca.

***ALLERGIES – PROMONTORY IS A PEANUT AWARE SCHOOL



Please ensure that you have made your child's classroom teacher and the office **aware of any life-threatening allergies**. **Students that require Epi-pens must wear a fanny pack at all times** with their Epi-pen and other medication in case it is needed. This will ensure that the Epi-pen is immediately available in the event it is needed.

We have a number of students with **nut allergies**. We ask that families help us keep these students safe. If you send peanut butter, peanuts or peanut products to school, your child may be asked to eat outside of the classroom.

PLEASE NOTE IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT PARENTS MAKE THEIR CHILDREN RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN SAFETY; THE FIRST LINE OF SAFETY LIES WITH THE CHILD AND THE KNOWLEDGE THEY HAVE TO KEEP THEMSELVES SAFE.

STARS

Promoting socially responsible behaviour is an important aspect of our daily routine at Promontory Elementary. The planner has a section on Social Responsibility and our Code of Conduct. Our Website has information for you to refer to as well. The following outlines our definitions for STARS.

SAFETY IS:

WORKING, PLAYING AND MOVING CAREFULLY

TEAMWORK IS:

WORKING AND PLAYING WELL TOGETHER



ATTITUDE/RESPECT IS:

BEING POSITIVE, POLITE AND DOING YOUR BEST

RESPONSIBILITY IS:

MAKING SMART CHOICES

SUCCESS IS:

SHOWING STAR BEHAVIOUR

VOLUNTEERS (CRIMINAL RECORD SEARCH)

It is very important that parents who wish to volunteer at our school, in any capacity, complete a **Criminal Record Search form**. Attendance on field trips, driving students on field trips or to team games, assisting with coaching, working with students in class, or any volunteer service at the school all require that you **complete and turn this form into the RCMP office**. These forms are available at the school office. School Board Policy makes this process a necessity. The positive service parents provide is valued and we encourage you to complete this process in order to enable your involvement.



PARENT DRIVERS

If you wish to be a volunteer driver you will require a Driver's Abstract. This must be completed annually. Please call ICBC at **1-800-950-1498**. ICBC will ask where you would like the paperwork faxed to, please have it sent to the school at **604-824-4891**.

CHILD CUSTODY/COURT ORDERS

Please make the classroom teacher and the office staff aware of any concerns of this nature that impact upon your child's family situation. **The office must have current copies of court orders, custody access documents, and/or documents that limit or restrict access**, in order for the school staff to support enforcement.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL



All Visitors and Volunteers at our school must stop at the office to check in. Volunteers are asked to wear a Volunteer Badge.

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL

Supervision of students begins at 8:10 am. Students are expected to wait outside until the 8:18 entry bell. We ask that students do not arrive at school before 8:10am. At dismissal, please put into place a routine that will allow your children to meet you outside. Staff are on duty until 2:30 pm. Our students are asked to not use the front door as an entry (only if arriving late) or exit door. The front lobby is too busy to have this used in this fashion. As our hallways are very

crowded at the start and the end of the day, we ask that parents wait outside in their prearranged meeting area to meet their child.

REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES

For the safety and security of the children, **if your child is going to absent or late, please call or email the school to let us know.** If you are **calling outside our office hours (7:30 – 3:30), please leave a message on the answering machine indicating the following information: Date, Late or Absent, Child's Name, the length of absence, and the Teacher's Name.** You can email the classroom teacher or Mrs. Thiessen diane.thiessen@sd33.bc.ca In the event that we have not been previously informed of your child's absence via a phone call or note, you will receive an email or phone call to confirm your child's absence.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Classroom instructional time is very valuable! **In order to successfully learn, students must attend regularly and be on time!** We inform our students that school is their job, and like adults, they are expected to be at work and be there on time. **Please make every effort to reinforce regular and prompt arrival to school.** Patterns of regular nonattendance, or lateness, will impact learning and parents will be contacted by phone or letter seeking support in promoting regular, prompt attendance. School starts at 8:23. **If your child arrives late they will require a late slip from the office, which will then be given to the teacher.**

SIGNING YOUR CHILD OUT

If, during the day, you wish to take your child out of school (i.e., Doctor/Dentist or other appointments), **please come to the office and sign your child out.** The office will then call your child's class to have your child come down. It is very important for us to know when a child has left the building/grounds. **Upon returning the same day, please come to the office and sign your child back in.**

MESSAGES FOR STUDENTS



During class time we make it a practice to minimize classroom disruptions to teachers and students. Learning time is important. **If you have a message for your child during instructional time, please leave a message with our secretaries. We will be sure they receive it.** Students are not to use our school phone for personal reasons (i.e., to arrange play dates). These types of arrangements are the students' responsibility and are to be made at home prior to coming to school.

PLEASE DO NOT EMAIL OR TEXT YOUR CHILDREN DURING SCHOOL/CLASS TIME. OUR STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO TURN OFF and PUT AWAY PHONES UNLESS DIRECTED BY TEACHERS TO USE AS AN INSTRUCTIONAL TOOL AND UNDER THEIR DIRECT SUPERVISION.

LUNCHES

If you drop off lunch for your child, please bring it to the office with their name on it. We will arrange for your child to receive the lunch so as to not interrupt class time.

CELL PHONES



There are a number of students who, for purposes of family safety, have cell phones. Students may call home when they arrive at school and when they are leaving. After that, cell phones are expected to be turned off and put away in a backpack. Students are not to use the cell phone camera/video option unless there is an educational purpose, and may only be used with consent, and under the direction of the classroom teacher. There are district policies that apply to the use of both school and personal devices when used for educational purposes at the school. These practices will be adhered to. It is expected that the use of Social Media at school adheres to these policies. Students will be expected to have completed the Acceptable Use Agreement prior to any use of technology for educational purposes at the school. These forms were sent home electronically last June and we will be sending out reminders again soon.

ELECTRONIC TOYS AND GADGETS

We ask that students **leave their electronic toys and gadgets at home. We expect that students do not use them at school** (electronic games, etc.) On occasion, things can get damaged and/or go missing and it is difficult for us to be responsible for following up on these incidents.



DOGS AT SCHOOL

We love your pets, but any dog at the school must be on a leash and controlled by an adult. Please be very cautious as you are near children, or if students ask to pet your dog. Please keep your pet a safe distance from other dogs. You are asked to not have dogs mixing with children during play times (recess and lunch). During suitable weather, the fields are used by our students. We ask that families with dogs do not use the field during school hours as an area for their pet to play. Please do not bring dogs into the building, unless it is for Show & Tell and is prearranged with the classroom teacher or if it is a trained/licensed service dog.

Once on the school grounds, it is the responsibility of the adult to maintain control of the family pet.

SMOKING ON PREMISES

It has been **district policy to ban smoking (or vaping) on school premises**. Provincial legislation (Bill 10: The Tobacco Sales Amendment Act, 2007, Section 2.2 of the act), **prohibits all persons from smoking or using tobacco, or holding lighted tobacco in, on or school property. This applies to activities on site in the evening as well (PAC Meetings, concerts, team activities, Family Fun night, etc.).** Thank you for your cooperation in respecting this legislation.

BIKES, SCOOTERS & OTHER WAYS OF ROLLING TO SCHOOL

A reminder to our students, that bikes and scooters are meant as a way to get to and from school, and are not to be used on the school grounds. When bringing bikes to school, walk bikes/scooters on the side walk, directly to the bike racks. It is strongly advised that bikes/scooters be locked to reduce the possibility of theft. Students are expected to wear bike helmets when riding bikes/scooters to school. Scooters will not be permitted into the building for storage. Students will be required to store scooters at the bike rack and will be responsible for locking and securing them. Please leave skateboards/long boards at home.

IN/OUT DAYS

WE WILL GO OUTSIDE MOST DAYS. With the fall weather on its way, we can expect more frequent wet, windy weather. Even on days with drizzle or light rain children will be sent out for a period of time to get fresh air. The day is long and children do crave exercise and fresh air. **PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILDREN TO MAKE RESPONSIBLE CHOICES AND ENSURE THEY ARE DRESSED PROPERLY FOR THE WEATHER.**

CHILDREN THAT ARE ILL



Everyone is mindful of how quickly illness can spread through a class or the school. It is important to note that **if your child is ill, keep them home.** Please **do not send a sick child to school** hoping that they may get better. Err on the side of caution, and **keep your child home to help prevent others from becoming sick.**

FRUIT & VEGGIE PROGRAM

Our school is involved in a province-wide healthy living initiative. One of the goals is to encourage healthy eating by providing fresh BC fruits and vegetables to our students during class time. Our students will receive these healthy treats 13 times over the school year at no charge! Free milk or soy milk will also be delivered again. A percentage of +Milk delivery will be fortified soy beverage for people with lactose

sensitivities. We are in need of parents to sort and wash the produce before we deliver it to students. Please contact Ms. vanDalfsen if you are able to help with this. To ensure every student's health and safety please contact the office or email lisa_vandalfsen@sd33.bc.ca **ONLY if you do NOT wish your child to participate AND/OR if you need to alert us to certain FOOD ALLERGIES.**

Dates to Remember

Oct. 8	- Boys Soccer game @ Tyson
Oct. 9	- Girls Soccer game @ Vedder
Oct. 10	-3:30pm Cross Country @ Twin Rinks
Oct. 14	-STAT HOLIDAY – NO SCHOOL
Oct. 15	- Boys Soccer Game @ Watson
Oct 16	- Girls Soccer Game @ Evans
Oct. 18	- Hot Lunch
Oct. 22/23	- Girls/Boys Soccer Tournament @ Townsend Park
Oct. 24	- Early Dismissal (11:23am)
Oct. 25 th	- PRO-D DAY – NO SCHOOL
Oct. 29	-Picture Re-takes
Nov. 1	- NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY – NO SCHOOL
Nov. 8	-Hot Lunch

LIBRARY NEWS

Storybook Pumpkin Patch Characters:

When: October 30 & 31 from 1:25 – 2:30 am

Where: hallways, library and classrooms

How: pumpkin smaller than a basketball – so it is easy to carry!

Materials: acrylic paints or permanent markers & other items to decorate

Stuff to bring: Your decorated pumpkin (no carving / cutting) & a book that has your character in it. Pumpkin Info Sheet – if you need a new one, please see the Promontory Elementary Library OR pick up another one at the office.



Read-a-thon: Our school wide Read-a-thon is on Thursday, October 24 from 9:00am–10:00am. Our students spread out throughout the school to read for 60 minutes (grades 2–6) or 30 minutes with a big buddy for K & Grade 1. Last year we fundraised enough money to build a Lego wall. This year we will be raising money to help buy iPads

to use in our school's library and Makerspace. Our goal is to raise \$3 per student.

Family Reading & Book Exchange:

Did you know that families on Promontory Hill (includes Busy Bees & preschool) are able to sign up for a library account, whether or not they attend the school? Come and see me on Friday mornings to get signed up! Families may have up to 20 books out at one time. Parents can visit the library Fridays between 8:15 and 8:55. Parents are also welcome to sign out books after school.

Mature Content books: If your child would like to take out the 'mature content – teen books' we have in the library, he or she may get a library permission slip. These are books that have some violence, coarse language or mature subject matter e.g. The Hunger Games or Five Nights at Freddy's. This only needs to be done once, as it is kept on file.

Library Volunteers:

We always need help in the library! We are looking for more people to help wrap our library books and help with general duties in the library. Please contact Mr. Mueller if you are able to volunteer this year.



MAKERSPACE NEWS

WE ARE ON INSTAGRAM:

Check out Promontory's Makerspace Instagram for pictures of the new and exciting builds! Instagram: Promontorymakerspace

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- 1.) Pipe Cleaners
- 2.) Elastics
- 3.) Toothpicks
- 4.) Popsicle sticks
- 5.) Beads
- 6.) Hot Wheels cars/Tracks
- 7.) Nails/Screws
- 8.) Hammers
- 9.) Screw drivers and other hand tools.

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to storage reasons, the library is no longer accepting any used cardboard or plastic containers at this time. Students will be asked to bring in some of their own materials when building class projects in the Makerspace. If you have materials that might be useful in the Makerspace please contact Mrs. Buck or Mr. Mueller.

GRADE 5 FUNDRAISER



Mabel's labels are fun, durable and waterproof for the stuff kids lose.

Support our Grade 5 fundraiser by purchasing your personalized labels at www.campaigns.mabelslabels.com

Choose "Promontory Heights Elementary" as the organization being supported.

Standard shipping is free and your custom labels will be mailed directly to you.

Proceeds go towards helping to make the last year of elementary memorable for our Grade 5 students!

FRESH TO YOU FUNDRAISER

Our Fresh to You fundraiser is to support our School Garden's Program. Please see attached flyer for more details. Order deadline is **October 23rd 2019**.

PAC NEWS

-our next PAC meeting is on Monday, October 7th at 7pm.
YOU ARE WELCOME!

-Please see the attached flyer about purchasing School Spirit Wear.

- PAINT NIGHT!!! OCTOBER 18TH in the mini gym.

Instructor Cindy Hogan is here to guide you step-by-step to create your own custom work of art. A 12" x 16" Halloween themed canvas painting. Let's get together for a fun night of socializing where you get to paint your own masterpiece and take it home at the end of the night! Tickets are \$40 and space is limited. Forms have been sent home with students. Parents if you are interested in participating in this fun event please fill in the form and hand



in along with the money to the PAC box in the office. Contact Leah Shields at lshields79@gmail.com for more information.

Hot Lunch

Hot lunch is on its way again! We will be offering it twice a month this year. You can choose your meals from October to December.

Parents can place their hot lunch orders online only using MunchaLunch.com!

Orders can be paid for online with Visa or Mastercard, pre-paid credit card or visa debit. Cash or cheque may be dropped off at the school office.

Note to returning parents upon first login. Any returning parents who login will see this message: "Welcome to the 2019-20 school year, please update your child's grade/teacher/div BEFORE ordering". You must complete this step before you will be able to order.

HOW TO REGISTER:

- 1) Go to:
<https://munchalunch.com/schools/PromontoryHeights/>
- 2) Click the **"Register Here"** button (as shown below). The system will guide you through from there.
- 3) After adding your children, click the green **"Order Lunch!"** button to order
- 4) Next time, just click the **"Login Here"** button to access your account.



ORDERING DETAILS:

- Online ordering will be open at least by the 1st of each month until 1 week before date of hot lunch
- Orders are paid for using credit card online through munch a lunch secure system. Or brought to school by ordering date deadline. If payment is not received by deadline you will be notified of your order cancellation.

Please note if your child is ill on a lunch date, you are welcome to come and pick up their lunch at 12 pm from your child's classroom; otherwise please consider it a donation for a child who does not have a lunch. Consistent with previous years, there are NO REFUNDS as this is a PAC fundraiser.

We appreciate your support for our hot lunch program as the funds go towards needs of the school and general fundraising within the school. We are always in need of Volunteers! There is a volunteer page in the online system where you can checkmark which dates you are available. The lunch coordinator will then contact you with a proposed schedule. If you have any questions, please email

promontoryhotlunch@gmail.com.

Kristie & Heidi

Promontory Heights Elementary Community School Association

Ph: 604-858-2999

Email: phecsa@phecsa.ca

