



September 2020

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Promontory Motto – "Clean Hands, Kind Hearts, Strong Learners"

ABOUT PROMONTORY

AIM- Our vision is to inspire students to reach their individual potential, become socially responsible citizens and to develop a love of learning.

BELIEFS

Connecting- positive relationships foster connections, a sense of belonging and inclusiveness

Empowering- opportunities inspire and engage students to be responsible learners with a passion to empower themselves and others

Learning- a learning environment that is flexible and purposeful allows students to achieve success

Thinking- creative and critical thinking leads to new understanding

Promontory STARS:

S - Safety

T - Teamwork

A - Attitude (positive)

R - Respect and Responsibility

S – Success

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE - COVID and our new protocols

The first full week of school is now complete. Our students have done very well in returning and learning the new routines and expectations. We have lots of new protocols in place for safety, and that can be a challenge, so we are grateful that everyone is working together to help us all stay safe. Parents, this includes you modeling for the children by keeping physical distance, wearing a mask when there are others nearby, and adjusting calmly when things need to change. We will be pivoting and adjusting as needed. For example, some teachers will be asking for inside shoes, while others will not in order to reduce the bunching up that happens. Please be sure to read the informational emails that are coming your way in case adjustments need to be made.

If you are bringing your child in the morning or picking up at the end of the day, please be aware of crowding and do your part to reduce it. Please avoid meeting in large groups as you

drop off or pick up children, wear a mask when there are lots of people around, do your best to keep strollers and dogs away from the flow of traffic, and as always we appreciate how gracious and courteous you are.


DAILY HEALTH CHECK – A commitment from you

You have received a Daily Health Check reminder from your child's classroom teacher. We are asking for your commitment to doing this health check every morning with every child. It is one way you can help us ensure that no child comes to school feeling unwell, and it is one of the best ways we can all keep each other safe. Staff members are expected to do the same thing each day. Please be sure that you have connected with your child's teacher to confirm that you have received the health check list and will do it daily. Thank you!

We also value open communication between the school and home. My door is open, and I encourage you to stay in close contact with your child's teacher. You can email any of us at any time, and we will return your email as soon as we can. This is a good way to set up meeting times that work for the teacher (it is often too busy at the start of school to have a proper conversation).

It is going to be a great year....
Mr. C. Bloch

CHILDREN THAT ARE ILL

Everyone is mindful of how quickly illness can spread through a class or the school. In these times, our COVID protocols must be followed and **parents must complete a Daily Health Check with their children** (previously sent to you by your child's teacher). It is important to note that **if your child is ill, especially if there are COVID-like symptoms, 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**. 

ROUTINES AND EXPECTATIONS

Many of the routines and expectations listed here will be found on our website under parent information. Please refer to our website for further details at <https://promontory.sd33.bc.ca/>

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 Ms. vanDalfsen or Mr. Bloch.

If you have general concerns about the school, please feel free to come and chat with one of us. We are not always in the office, so often the best thing to do is to email chuck_bloch@sd33.bc.ca or lisa_vandalfsen@sd33.bc.ca

*****ALLERGIES – PROMONTORY IS A "NUT AWARE" SCHOOL**



Please ensure that you have made your child's classroom teacher and the office **aware of any serious 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, and at least one class where students have been asked to be "nut free". 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.

MEET THE STAFF NIGHT

Stay tuned for virtual tours, introductions, and more!

STAFF UPDATE

- New and returning staff:
- Kathleen Caplette – Grade 2
- Kristin McIvor – Grade 2
- Karla Buxton – Grade 2
- Kelsey Ablitt – Grade 5
- Laura Milette – Music
- Monica Craig – EA
- Robin Russell-Pottter – EA
- Sarah Chow – EA
- Emily Reed - EA

PARKING LOT

Our parking lot is a busy place and we encourage our students and families to "Move to School" by walking, biking, etc. You can park a block away and walk to school. It's a great way to start the day, is better for our environment and keeps you healthy, too. Carpooling is also highly recommended for those who must drive.



We know some families need to drive so please read on... On Tuesday our K students begin a full day. There are 80 of them and many of them will be getting picked up and dropped off. All K drivers, please pick up and drop off in the K Lane. If you wish to get out of your vehicle and walk to get your child, you will need to park on the road and walk in. If you are very lucky you may find an empty space in our front lot. If there is an empty space in the afternoon, it is open for parents.

Do not leave your car unattended in the drop off/pick up lane between 8:10-8:40am or between 2:00-2:30pm, or you will be creating a traffic problem.

All students are to be picked up and dropped off at the curb. Please do not let children out in the middle lane as they will be running out into oncoming traffic. At the end of the day, please do not stop in the middle lane and call them over. They will be running out into traffic and cutting in front of the K drivers who may be exiting their lane. The Gr. 1-5 lane is along the curb at the end of the parking lot near the exit. When you see your child standing at the curb, ready for pickup, please drive in and pick him/her up. If your child is not there, please circle around and try again. This makes space for other drivers who have a child waiting there. The lot does clear out quickly, and this system works as long as no one stops and parks. Then it gets messy. Please make sure you and your children use the sidewalks. We are working hard to keep your kids safe. Thank you so much for your patience with this.

STARS

Promoting socially responsible behavior 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

TERRY FOX RUN & COIN DRIVE

Stay tuned for information about individual Terry Fox "challenges" from your classroom teacher.

DONATE ONLINE

<https://secure.terryfox.ca/registrator/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?TeamID=914229>

Our virtual celebration assembly is September 25th.

VOLUNTEERS (CRIMINAL RECORD SEARCH)

We are having very few parents into the school at this time, but some may be needed to assist a class with outdoor activities. It is very important that parents who wish to volunteer at our school in any capacity complete a **Criminal Record Search form** that you **complete and turn in to 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.



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.

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 after 8:30 am 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 call 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 call 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 make sure their name is on it. You can call the office and we will come collect it and 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 purposed 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 ALL 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

As your pet is in the presence of children, and both dogs and children can be unpredictable, it is often the best choice to leave pets at home. 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. Remember that not everyone is a "dog person", and a barking dog can be very scary to some children. Please keep your pet a safe distance from other dogs. Once on the school grounds it is the responsibility of the parent to maintain control of the family pet.

SMOKING ON PREMISES

It has been **district policy to ban smoking 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, or on 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 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.**

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	
Sept. 25	-Terry Fox Virtual Assembly (1:15pm)
Sept. 30	- Orange Shirt Day
Oct. 2	- Photo Day
Oct. 23	- Pro D Day – No School
Oct. 29	- Early Dismissal @11:20
Nov. 3	- Picture Re-take Day
Nov. 10	- Remembrance Assembly
Nov. 11	- Remembrance Day – No School
Nov. 16	- Pro D Day – No School
Nov. 27	- Pro D Day – No School

LIBRARY NEWS

LIBRARY UPDATE: This year our school will be split into two different learning groups with two different schedules. In order to accommodate all the classes and keep students safe with their designated groups. Students will now visit the library learning commons every two weeks. During the students off

week from the library, their teachers can email me at any time if any student needs a new book to read. Students will also be able to sign into Destiny Quest with their email account information and put holds on book. For access to Destiny Quest please go to the library website: <https://promontory.sd33.bc.ca/promontory-elementarys-library>

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS: Promontory Heights Library learning commons is a volunteer school library. We depend on our student and parent volunteers. Unfortunately, because of COVID19 restrictions we cannot have parent volunteers in yet. As soon as we are able we will make an announcement in the newsletter.

Please contact Mr. Mueller if you are able to volunteer. No experience necessary, training is provided when possible. Email: matthew_mueller@sd33.bc.ca
*Please note that all volunteers need a criminal record check. Please see Mr. Mueller or the office for more details.

KIWANIS SUPER READER PROGRAM: Read and earn rewards! The very successful reading program will be back again this year. Students will receive a Super Reader Booklet after their first visit to the library. Every night a child reads for 15 minutes they receive a check mark in their booklet. Every 50 nights of reading return the booklet back to your classroom teacher for a reading prize. Parents are allowed to back date the booklet as of September 8. Happy reading!

ACCELERATED READER QUIZ PROGRAM: Students from Grades 3 - 6 can participate in some way in the Accelerated Reader Program (A.R.) at Promontory Elementary. Many books in our library have bright pink stickers on the spines with the reading levels printed on them. The reading levels help a student find a 'just right book' within a reading zone in which they can be successful at reading and comprehending. Each student in grades 3 - 6 should have one 'just right' or an A.R. book he/she is reading, along with other choice books. After reading, the student logs into his/her A.R. account, selects the book he/she has read and takes a reading comprehension test. These are tracked by the A.R. program. Students accumulate points which can earn them prizes. Students will be able to sign up to write AR tests. The top three students at the end of the year win a special prize!

TRANSITION SUPPORT STUDENT BOOK EXCHANGE: For all of our families attending the transition support programs, you will still be able to check out books from the Promontory library. Starting on September 21, every second Monday, you can email me for new books. Email:

matthew_mueller@sd33.bc.ca Please leave a phone number where I can reach you and I will phone when collecting your order. I will gather your new book order and bring it outside for contact less pick up. When you come to pick up new books, you can drop off the old ones. Family accounts will be allowed 10 – 15 books per account.

TRANSITION SUPPORT STUDENT BOOK EXCHANGE DATES: Sept 21, October 5, October 19, November 2, November 16, Dec 8.

PAC NEWS

Our first PAC Meeting is this Monday, September 21 at 7:00pm (Zoom Meeting). Here is the link:

<https://sd33-ca.zoom.us/j/62135201425?pwd=eEpmV1Z5R0UrVUovWjM1UVBLNOZWZz09>

Hot Lunch & Fundraising on Munch-A-Lunch

We are so excited for the new school year. Welcome back!

MUNCH-A-LUNCH IS OPEN FOR FUNDRAISING! Get your Little Coupon Books now! Still only \$10.

Parents can place their 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 sent to school with your child, for them to drop off at the office.** We want to limit contact inside the building.

Note to returning parents upon first login. Any returning parents who login will see this message: "Welcome to the 2020-21 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 only order for the dates you intend to pay for. Munch A Lunch does not accept partial payments. Thank you!**

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 love having parent volunteers, but due to COVID restrictions this will be paused for now.

If you have any questions, please email the following:

Hot Lunch Coordinators
Karmen & Kristie - promontoryhotlunch@gmail.com

Fundraising Coordinator
Leah Shields - lshields@gmail.com

Promontory Heights Elementary Community School Association

Ph: 604-858-2999
Email: phecsa@phecsa.ca



Fall 2020 Programs

Registration is open soon for our fall programs; register early to secure your spot!
Please contact our Office for program details.

Preschool (0-5 years)

- Karate
- Little Kickers Soccer

School Aged (6-12 years)

- Panther Pen Before & Afterschool Child Care Program
- Private Guitar/Piano Lessons
- Karate
- Babysitter Course/At Home Alone

Youth (13+)

- Private Guitar/Piano Lessons
- Karate

Community School News

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic access to Chilliwack School District facilities are limited. PHECSA is required to suspend all adult programs, drop-in programs, special events and rentals until further notice. Thank you so much for being a part of our community and we look forward to hosting your favorite activities again soon!

We are hiring! PHECSA is looking for a guitar teacher, 2-3 afternoons per week. Contact our office for more info! 604-858-2999