



November 2022

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

School is in full swing here and we see the evidence of that beyond the classroom walls. It has been so wonderful to see sports teams playing, to hear the choir practicing, and to know that students are extending their learning into the community on field trips. Education takes on so many aspects and we are so glad to have these opportunities this year.

At Promontory Heights Elementary we will be setting aside time on November 10th to pause and consider the significance of Remembrance Day. This day is to reflect on the sacrifices made, and are still being made, in conflicts around the world. We will spend time in an assembly and in our classes to help our students understand the great sacrifices that our veterans made in the past and that our current soldiers make today. It should be no surprise that this month our school virtue is "RESPECT", respect for our veterans and respect for each other.

RESPECT

Speaking of respect, we want to thank those of you who have been so helpful by...

1. ...keeping your children home when they are sick. Sending a child to school with a cold just spreads the illness. We know it can be a daycare challenge, but we appreciate you helping us all stay healthy.
2. ...showing courtesy, safety and kindness in the parking lot. Our children learn by observation. When you follow the guidelines (like not leaving your car in a drop off zone) and show patience with others, the children will follow your model.

Thank you!

HALLOWEEN AT SCHOOL

Halloween is on Monday, October 31st. Students are permitted to wear their Halloween costumes at school; however, students will be outside for recess and lunch so there is potential for costumes to get wet, dirty, or torn. Costumes must follow these criteria:

- Costumes must be safe and not gory or scary to younger students (no blood, horror, or weapons).
- Students must be able to sit comfortably and work without being a distraction.
- No blow-up costumes or items that would stick out beyond a desk.
- Wearing black and orange clothing is a great alternative if you prefer to keep costumes at home.
- If students bring in treats to share, they must be pre-packaged and will be sent home at the end of the day for parents to decide.



EARLY DISMISSAL NOVEMBER 4th

Students will be dismissed on Friday, November 4th at 11:20am. The purpose of this time is for teachers to be able to communicate student progress with parents. This will happen in a variety of ways, and you can expect to hear from the classroom teacher in the next week.

NEW PRINCIPAL

The process of identifying your new Principal of Promontory Elementary continues. Last week, consultations were held with interested parents, staff, and even some students. This week the posting went out to identify interested candidates. That process will continue for several weeks. The final decision will be made at the December 6th School Board meeting, and a formal announcement will be made public on December 7th.

GRADE 5 FUNDRAISING

A simple and convenient way to support fundraising for our Grade 5 events, including our trip to Camp Squeah, yearbooks and end of year celebration, has been set-up. Simply follow the instructions below to donate your bottles and cans:

- Take your bottles and cans in clear or blue plastic bags to any Return It Depot.
- Go to the "Drop Off" kiosk and input the schools phone number (604)824-4885.
- Print off one label per bag. Scan each bag with the handheld scanner under the screen and deposit bags into the drop off bin.

PLAYGROUND UPGRADE

It is time for our old upper play structure to be replaced. The plan is to completely remove the current structure and dig out the area so we can start fresh and install a safe, fun, and accessible new play structure. Playgrounds are expensive, and this one has a budget of \$225,000, but we received a grant from the provincial government (\$165,000) which got the project going. Thanks to the generosity of PHECSA (\$15,000) and the Chilliwack Foundation (\$20,000), and the planned donation from our own PAC fundraising (up to \$15,000), we are already very close to our budget! If you or your company are looking for a great place to make a donation that will impact our entire neighborhood for a long time, please consider donating to this worthwhile project. Every donation over \$25 will be eligible for a tax receipt. Simply contact the office. If you are willing, we would also like to add your name to the sign that will thank our donors. And if donations exceed our budget, we will add to the play structure and make it even more fun!



AFFORDABILITY FUND

The Government of BC recently announced that school districts would be receiving funds that would directly support families who are currently facing financial hardships. These funds can be used to improve students' access to nutritional food before, during and after the school day, and to directly off-set costs to parents, guardians, and students, such as school supplies, field trips, or other cost pressures. If your family is in need, we are ready and able to help. Simply contact any member of our office staff or another staff member with whom you feel comfortable and we can help. This will be handled privately and with discretion.

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 is the classroom teacher, go to the teacher, let them know what your concern is and have a conversation. 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 Mr. Moore. They are not always in the office, so often the best thing to do is to email chuck_bloch@sd33.bc.ca or justin_moore@sd33.bc.ca.

DAILY HEALTH CHECK – A commitment from you



It is the season of colds, flu and COVID-19. Everyone is mindful of how quickly illness can spread through a class or the school. **If your children are ill, especially if there are COVID-like symptoms, please 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. If your child demonstrates symptoms of illness at school, we will ask you to pick them up.**

REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES

For the safety and security of the children, if your child is going to be absent or late, please use our “Safe Arrival” program, located on the front page of our school website, or [here](#). Please indicate “late” in the note to office section. This program can be accessed at any time of day. We are trying to limit the call volume to the office and appreciate your help using this new service. You are still able to report a late or absence over the phone if you prefer. 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. If 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.

SIGNING YOUR CHILD OUT

If you wish to take your child out of school during the school day (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 inform the office.**

LUNCHESES

If you drop off lunch for your child, please make sure their name is on it. You can inform the office and we will arrange for your child to receive the lunch; we will not interrupt class time if we can avoid it.

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.**

LIBRARY NEWS

Parental Leave

I will be away on parental leave for a few weeks in November and December. I plan on returning to work a few days before Winter Break. The teacher replacing me is coming to the biggest elementary school in the school district, with a total of 28 divisions and 615 students. This new teacher will need everyone’s patience and grace as they learn and train on all the systems in place. While I am away, students will be able to take out 2 books at a time.

Family Reading

I am hoping my replacement can continue to run Family Library Access on Friday mornings. While I am away, families can take out a maximum of 5 books at a time. Please note that all family accounts must return their books by Friday December 9th.

My last family story time will be November 4th @ 8:35am. Check the December newsletter for any updates on the next story time. Please note that my replacement will not be able to add any new family library accounts. If you would like to sign out books when I am gone, please stop by the library before by November 4th to get a library account.

Scholastic Book Fair

Since I will be away on parental leave this November, we will be having a book fair early in the new year. Please check out the January Newsletter for more details. The plan is to host it sometime in February.

Storybook Pumpkins:

What a great response we had for our Storybook pumpkins! So many creative students and parents in our Promontory school community. Thanks to everyone who participated in decorating and carving storybook pumpkins for our library.

SUPER READER PROGRAM:

Please do not forget to participate in the Super Reader program. This is a great way to make practicing reading part of your daily routine at home. Students will win prizes as they practice their reading. The program is designed to get students reading every day and also rewards them for their hard work.

We have so many readers in this school! Many of the students have already brought in their home reading logs for 50 nights. It is never too late to start. Send the logs in to the library to get your bookmark or sticker prizes for 50 nights! This year students received two stickers or their choice of bookmark with a sticker. The earliest date for 100 nights is December 14. If you need a new Green Super Reader Reading Log please stop by the library or office. Prizes will be handed out in January.

100 Night Prizes– Kiwanis Club Prize & McDonald’s coupon

- K – t shirt & goodie bag
- 1 – picture book & goodie bag
- 2 – chapter book & goodie bag
- 3 – clipboard & McD coupon (Last year for clipboards)
- 4 – Water Bottle & McD coupon(**NEW** for 2022/2023!)
- 5 – stylus pen & McD coupon + Chapter Book

Camp Read S’more (READ-A-THON):



Our school’s read-a-thon happened on FRIDAY October 28th from 8:40am – 9:40am. Pledge forms were sent home earlier in October, but if your child’s form has gone missing, just send your child to the library OR office for a new one. We will be collecting pledges until the morning of Wednesday Nov 5th.

We are raising money to purchase the remaining a large roll laminating system for the school whole school community. Check December’s newsletter for more details including the winner of the classroom pizza party once all the pledges are collected and counted.

MAKERSPACE NEWS

Check out what we are making in the Makerspace! Please visit our Instagram page: “Promontorymakerspace”

Supplies Needed:

We are always looking for supplies to use in the Makerspace. Please check out the list below to see if you can help. If you have something unique, that is not on the list, please contact Mrs. Buck or Mr. Mueller.

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

Dates to Remember

Nov 3	- Hot Lunch (Jim’s Pizza)
Nov 4	- Early Dismissal @ 11:20am – busses will be running
Nov 10	- Remembrance Day Assembly @ 11:00am
Nov 11	- Remembrance Day - No School
Nov 17	- Photo Retakes - Purple Day (World Preemie Day)
Nov 18	- Hot Lunch (SinAmen Bun Co.) -Tie Dye/Bright Color Day
Nov 25	- Pro-D Day - No School
Nov 26	- Christmas Market (Saturday - school gym)
Nov 28	- Pro-D Day, No School
Dec 6&7	- Grade 1-3 Performance at 6:30pm
Dec 13	- Kindergarten Performance at 6:00pm

PAC News

November has hit and it has brought the rain, thank goodness! We are heading into our 3rd month of school which involves many class fieldtrips to the Corn Maze and Pumpkin Patch. Fall is always a fun and exciting transition into winter, and it will be an event filled season. PAC has launched our Purdy’s Fundraiser that has been extended until November 30th, with all proceeds going to our playground, with excavation starting Spring 2023. Make sure you order your Purdy’s chocolates in time for Christmas; they make the best Christmas gifts/stocking stuffers.

At our last PAC meeting we discussed the financials for the new playground We are so excited to be a part of this new development and encourage parents to come to the next PAC meeting to get more detailed information. We are also happy to be part of a school that is supporting families in times of need. The Affordability Fund is providing families with aid in the form of groceries, clothes, winter boots, field trips, hot lunch, etc. If your family needs financial assistance please reach out to Mr. Bloch, Mr. Moore, or Admin at the front office.

PAC was fortunate enough to have the pleasure of meeting Paula Jordan, Assistant Superintendent of SD33 last week. Mrs. Jordan sat down with members of PAC to ask what we wanted in the next Principal of Promontory Elementary. It was nice to be able to have a voice in what we wanted and looked for in a principal at our school. Please keep reading the newsletters for any announcements regarding Mr. Bloch’s replacement.

Next PAC meeting is on Tuesday, November 29th at 7:00pm in the library. (If you have no childcare, you are welcome to bring your kids)

Fundraisers

Purdy’s Fundraiser

Nov 1 – November 30

[ORDER HERE](#)

Orders to be picked up the week of December 12th (more info to come closer to the date)

Hot Lunch

Ordering hot lunch for the remainder of the year is open!

- Nov 3rd- Jim's Pizza
- Nov 18th- SinAmen Bun
- Dec 2nd- Shandhar Hut
- Dec 16th-Jim's Pizza

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 - promontoryhotlunch@gmail.com

Fundraising Coordinator - Leah Shields - lshields@gmail.com

Dear Parents,

Our school is excited to announce that we will be participating in World Prematurity Day this year.

On **November 17th**, more than 100 countries come together to mark this day and our school will be there to help raise awareness of the challenges and burdens associated with preterm birth faced by families worldwide.

Approximately 30 000 babies are born prematurely* every year in Canada, representing 1 in 10 babies. The Canadian Premature Babies Foundation (CPBF) is a parent-led charitable organization, committed to providing education, support and advocacy for premature babies and their families who are both in and outside of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

This year, our school will be part of CPBF's awareness campaign. On **November 17th**, we invite all students to wear **Purple** in support of babies born too soon. Parents who would like to donate can receive a tax receipt for their donation. Donate directly to the foundation at www.cpbf-fbpc.org/donate.

We look forward to raising awareness and funds on November 17th with you.

**born less than 37 weeks gestation*

PRO D DAY CAMPS



Chilliwack FC is hosting Pro D Day Camps for elementary aged students!

Participants will have indoor and outdoor space to work on their soccer related skills as well as the opportunity to expand their athletic experience through introduction to new sports.

DATES

- October 21
- November 25
- January 27
- February 17
- April 28
- May 19
- June 2

REGISTER NOW!

WWW.CHILLIWACKFC.COM

HALF AND FULL DAY OPTIONS!

