



January 2023

Kim Kass, Principal | kim_kass@sd33.bc.ca | <http://promontory.sd33.bc.ca>
Justin Moore, Vice Principal | justin_moore@sd33.bc.ca | Tel 604.824.4885 | Fax 604.824.4891

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year!

The Promontory Staff hope that you enjoyed a wonderful holiday season and winter break with your family. A new year brings much hope and promise.

I'm very excited to be joining the Promontory Community. My goal is to provide a rich, meaningful learning environment for all. I have heard nothing but wonderful things about our school community and have personally experienced it during my first week here. I'm really looking forward to getting to know all of you and learning more about our gem of a school.

I feel school should be a place of Joy -where everyone feels happy and enjoys what they do every day. It is my hope that students come to school excited to learn, be with their friends, and see their teachers. I believe in working hard and having fun. While I hold high expectations, mainly of myself, I think this is critical in ensuring the very best is given so all, particularly students, can and do thrive!

My goal is to continue the many awesome programs and initiatives that are embedded into our school culture, while working with staff and the community to bring forth new ideas to build further success and rewarding experiences for students.

I look forward to getting to know everyone in our school community and working alongside each of you. Please know that if you have any questions or would like to touch base about a matter, I would be happy to meet with you or simply drop by and say hello. J

May 2023 be filled with much happiness, good health, and plenty of memorable moments all year long!

~Ms. Kass

TIP FROM MR MOORE

Nearly everyday I pick up a misplaced jacket, or hat, or gloves from the playground and they end up in Lost and Found. These items are sometimes claimed by students, but more often, not. I recommend that you write your child's first and last name inside these items so that I can return them directly. This will also help limit the amount of clothing items sitting in our lost and found that ultimately end up being donated.

GRADE 5 Students Interested in LATE FRENCH IMMERSION (LFI)

Parent Meeting – Tuesday, January 24, 2023 @7:00pm. Meeting will take place via zoom. (link to follow)

Online applications for **students entering Grade 6 in September 2023** can be submitted at any time by visiting <https://sd33.bc.ca/registration> and selecting either Chilliwack Middle School (LFI) or Vedder Middle School (LFI) as your school of choice. If the number of applications exceeds the number of spaces available, a lottery system for selection will be used within the parameters of our Selection Process. All applications received by 12:00 pm on February 10, 2023 will be included in this draw.

Applications after February 10 at 12:00pm can also be made [online](#) by selecting either Chilliwack Middle School or Vedder Middle School as your school of choice. If space is not available, applicants will be added to the existing wait list.

Please note, Grade 6 students do not require previous French experience. For more information, please visit the website [HERE](#).

REGISTRATION

If you currently have a student enrolled at Promontory, you do not need to register them for the following school year. They will automatically be placed in the next grade/classroom for Sept. 2023

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.

IN/OUT DAYS

WE WILL GO OUTSIDE MOST DAYS. With the colder weather on its way, we can expect more frequent cold, wet 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.** If your family is facing financial hardship and purchasing winter clothes is a struggle, please read the Affordability Fund section below.



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, winter clothing, 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 Ms. Kass or Mr. Moore. They are not always in the office, so often the best thing to do is to email kim_kass@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.**

LUNCHES

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.

LIBRARY NEWS

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Save the date! There is a Scholastic Book Fair planned for February 6,7,8 and 9th. Check the next monthly email for more details. Classes will be attending the book fair during their regular weekly library time. Any class that visits the library usually on Friday Please check the February Newsletter for more details. I also plan to send out an e-blast email closer to the date. When you shop at the Scholastic Book Fair, your purchases also help our school. Our school will earn reward money for every book sold during the virtual and physical Book Fair. All proceeds will be invested back into the school!

SUPER READER ASSEMBLY UPDATE

Dec 14, 2022 was the first day to hand in 100 Nights of reading. Please make sure that you child has shown their teacher their green Super Reader logbook. The prizes will be awarded and pictures for the slide show will be taken between Jan 25-31.

I am planning on having an assembly with a slide show of all the winners this year on Friday Feb 24, 2023 at 1:15pm. Please check the February Newsletter for updates. This gives lots of time for students to be included. The slide show will feature all grades. At the assembly we plan on thanking the Kiwanis Club for supporting our school and donating reading prizes

How does Super Reader work?



Every night a child reads for 15 minutes they receive a check mark in their green reading log booklet. Every 50 nights of reading, please return the booklet back to your classroom teacher for a reading prize.

If your child has lost or misplaced their green Super Reader booklet, some extras are available at the library.

SUPER READER PRIZES:

50 Nights

- Bookmark, Sticker, or Temporary Tattoo

100 Nights– Kiwanis prize & McDonald’s coupon

- K – t shirt & goodie bag
- 1 – picture book & goodie bag
- 2 – chapter book & goodie bag
- 3 – clipboard & McD coupon
- 4 – clipboard & McD coupon
- 5 – stylus pen & McD coupon + NEW Book!

150 nights

- Toy – New Toys for this year! They will be showcased in the New Year. While supplies last.

200 Nights

- Book prize!

- 250 Nights
- \$7 Cole’s gift certificate

READING LINK CHALLENGE 2022-2023 (BATTLE OF THE BOOKS)

Get ready to join in the fun and participate in the sport of reading! Promontory will be participating in the FVRL Reading Link Challenge again this year. This competition is open to students in Grade 4 and 5 who are strong readers.



Last year our school won both the Chilliwack and Fraser Valley Challenges. Can we do it again this year?

How does the FVRL Reading Link Challenge Work? - Students will read up to 6 specially selected books. Their job is to pay attention to the details of the story. Students then practice with their teams by taking turns asking and answers questions. All questions will be short answer, multiple choice, and true or false questions. Parents can help too! Read the books. Encourage your child. Help quiz your child about the details of the books. For more information visit:

www.readinglinkchallenge.ca

The Books:

Caterpillar Summer by Gillian McDunn

Rez Dogs by Joseph Bruchac

Dragons in a Bag by Zetta Elliott

Song for a Whale by Lynne Kelly

Jada Sly, Artist and Spy by Sherri Winston

The Wild Robot by Peter Brown

We currently have six copies of each book at the Promontory Library. Additional copies are also available from the FVRL Chwk and Sardis Branches. The Chilliwack Library has acquired 10 additional copies of each of this year’s RLC titles! These copies are not catalogued like the rest of the collection, but instead live at the Information Desk at the Chilliwack Library (the downtown branch). Students can get a copy by going down to the library and talking to one of the friendly staff members.

Also, there are ebooks, & audio books for some titles, which can be found on FVRL Tumblebooks or from FVRL Overdrive site.

THE BOOKMAN:



We have a Promontory Library account set up there. Please donate the credits you receive and we are then able to buy good used books at great prices! Thank you to the families that did that this past year.

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, Five Nights at Freddy’s, and some various comic books. This only needs to be done once, as it is kept on file.

FAMILY ACCESS

Families can drop in Monday through Thursday after school between 2:20 and 2:35, to use the library. On Friday mornings, families can come in and use the library between 8:20-8:50. Please note that there will be no family access to the library on **Friday Jan 27** because of the NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY. It will be open the following week Friday, Nov 4.

FAMILY STORY TIME

Next Story Time Date: Friday Jan 13 at 8:35. Once a month I will be doing a special story time read aloud for parents and children 4 or younger. This is a great way to introduce young children to the school, library, and staff. If you would like to sign out books on this date, please come in at 8:20. I would like to sign out books before the story to book shop and set up your family account.

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 | 5.) Popsicle sticks- Large or Small |
| 2.) Pipe Cleaners | 6.) Beads |
| 3.) Elastics | 7.) Nails/Screws |
| 4.) Toothpicks | 8.) Thread, String, Ribbon |

Dates to Remember

Jan 6	-Family Read Aloud @8:30 in our Library
Jan 10	-Boys Triple Ball game @ Promontory
Jan 11	-Girls Triple Ball game @ Promontory
Jan 13	- Hot Lunch (Jim’s Pizza)
Jan 17	-Boys Triple Ball game @ Promontory
Jan 18	-Girls Triple Ball game @ Promontory
Jan 20	-Tropical Day
Jan 24	-Boys Triple Ball game @ Vedder El
Jan 25	-Girls Triple Ball game @ Vedder El
Jan 26	-SinAmen Bun Co.
Jan 27	-Pro-D Day, No school

PAC NEWS

Happy New Year! We trust that everyone had a restful Christmas break and that everyone is ready for a new year with new goals! We’re so excited to be starting off the New Year well ahead of our Fundraising Goal for the new Playground. At the bake sale we raised \$2800 for the new playground and \$750 for the Music Program to buy ukuleles. Thank you so much for your generosity, it was a huge success.

We would like to welcome Ms. Kass, our new Principal to Promontory Elementary! We are anticipating a great year and we are thrilled to have her be a part of the Promontory Panthers.

If you would like to volunteer for any of the following options:

- Grade 5 yearbook
- Grade 5 fundraising
- Popcorn Tuesday
- Fruit & Veggie Day
- Lost & Found committee
- Spring Carnival & Market

Please email: promontory-pac@sd33.bc.ca

Our next PAC meeting will be on January 24th at 7:00pm in the library. There will be a zoom option available for parents or guardians unable to attend in person. Watch for an email or Facebook post with the zoom link. ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

Hot Lunch

Hot lunch dates have been posted up until spring break and are now available to order.

- Jan 13 – Jim’s Pizza
- Jan 26 – SinAmen Bun Co.
- Feb 10 – Jim’s Pizza
- Feb 24 – White Spot

March 3 – Chopped Leaf
March 17 – 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 – promontory-pac@sd33.bc.ca