



October 2023

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE –

Families of Promontory,

Our first month together has gone by far too quickly! It's hard to believe that October is now upon us. Students and staff enjoyed a wonderful week of learning, reflection, and celebration of Indigenous People. Learning; history, culture, and reconciliation. A sincere note of appreciation to everyone who donated non-perishable food. Over 1000 items were collected and our Gr. 4's brought in the most items, winning themselves fresh Bannock.

As a school district, we will continue our *Journey to Truth and Reconciliation* on October 6th, with all district employees attending a day of listening and learning at the Chilliwack Coliseum. It is sure to be a very impactful day of educating ourselves and deepening the understanding of the impact, reality and sadness residential schools had for Indigenous Families.

On behalf of the staff, we wish your family an enjoyable long weekend. We look forward to seeing students back at school on Tuesday October 9th.

~Ms. Kass



IN/OUT DAYS – DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

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.

TERRY FOX UPDATE:

We had a very successful Terry Fox run on September 14th and as a school we were able to raise \$935! Way to go everyone!

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR SCHOOL

To ensure success for students at school, it is important for the schools and families to work together. If a question, concern or issue arises, the District has a Communication Brochure to guide communication protocols that can be found on the District website ([link](#)) or by clicking the following link to view the brochure ([link](#))

FAIR NOTICE LETTER

The Chilliwack School District is committed to a safe and supportive environment for all. All schools take all threatening comments and behaviour seriously. There are specific protocols and procedures followed to address threat-making behaviour in order to keep students, staff, and the community safe. The District's Fair Notice document provides information on how the District and schools respond to threat-making behaviour that occurs in schools.

SCHOOL PICTURE DAY

Individual student photo's will be taken on October 25th, with re-takes on November 1st. Photo ordering details will be sent out closer to the date.

PARKING LOT

Reminder: Please DO NOT PARK IN THE DROP OFF ZONES IN OUR PARKING LOT, as that completely disrupts the flow of traffic. We have over 400 families coming and going, and we just do not have capacity for that many vehicles. Please be patient; your courtesy and cooperation help make everyone's day better, and more importantly it increases student safety on the parking lot and sidewalks. **Do not leave your car unattended in the drop off/pick up lane between 8:10-8:30am or between 2:00-2:30pm, or you will be creating a significant traffic problem.**

*****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 HELP THEIR CHILDREN LEARN TO ADVOCATE FOR THEIR OWN SAFETY; THE FIRST LINE OF SAFETY LIES WITH THE CHILD AND THE KNOWLEDGE THEY HAVE TO KEEP THEMSELVES SAFE.

Many children come to school with life threatening allergies. This can vary from food allergies to certain foods like nuts, fish, dairy etc. or it can be allergies associated with bee stings.

Children with severe allergies that require immediate medical attention should they come into contact with an allergen need to inform the office so the proper documentation and support protocols can be put in place.

Schools often have children with allergies to specific types of nuts such as peanuts and other nut products. For the safety of children, we are asking your cooperation in restricting the use of nut products in lunches or other food items brought to school.

We understand that it can be difficult to know what is in specific food products. For classrooms that have students with severe type of allergies we ask that parents refrain from sending items with these specific food products. It is understood that assuring that a school is absolutely "allergen free" may be difficult and instead ask that community be "nut aware" and identified classrooms be "allergen aware". Thank you for your understanding with this serious health concerns for students and families.

REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES SCHOOL MESSENGER

For the safety and security of the children, **if your child is going to be absent or late, please use our NEW "Safe Arrival" program called School Messenger, located on the front page of our school website, or [here](#)**. This is a very user-friendly App that can be downloaded to both android and iPhone. This program can be accessed at any time of day. You are still able to report a late or absence over the phone if you prefer. Phone calls can now be directed to 1-833-698-6567 and you can follow the prompts.

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**, so the school staff can support enforcement.

Dates to Remember

- Oct 6 - Pro-D Day (**No School**)
- Oct 9 - Thanksgiving (**No School**)
- Oct 13 - Hot Lunch, Jim's Pizza
- Oct 19 - Early Dismissal @ 11:25 (buses will be running)
- Oct. 20 - Pro-D Day (**No School**)
- Oct 25 - School Picture Day
- PAC Meeting @7:00pm in the library
- Oct 27 - Hot Lunch, Booster Juice & Chopped Leaf
- Nov 1 - Photo Retake Day

LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

Storybook Pumpkin Patch:

We are growing a storybook pumpkin patch, and we need your help! Decorate a pumpkin to look like one of your favourite book characters, bring it to school to plant it in our Storybook Pumpkin Patch (No carved or cut pumpkins. Participation is completely voluntary. This is not a contest. This is a school wide literacy event to build community and to foster creativity. Have fun and be creative!



How: Think of your favorite book and design a pumpkin based on your favorite book character.

- Pick a pumpkin of any size. As a family, turn it into a story book character anyway possible.
- Fill in the blanks on the back of Storybook Pumpkin handout page.

Materials: Decorate your pumpkin without cutting or carving. Gather your decorating supplies. Acrylic paints or permanent markers work best. You can add other props and materials like yarn, cardboard, buttons, wiggly eyes etc. (Please keep in mind that water colours start to run. Spray paint works but it will gradually dissolve the pumpkin).

When: Pumpkins can be brought into school during the morning of Monday October 30, and Tuesday Oct 31. The doors will be open at 7:50am (both days) for families to start dropping their pumpkins off.

Where: The pumpkins will be placed on folding tables lined up outside the library. This will create a gallery walk experience for our students. On Oct 31, classes will have a chance to view the pumpkin patch.

All pumpkins must be picked up by 2:45pm on Oct 31. Any remaining pumpkins after that time will be thrown away. No exceptions! If your child needs help getting it home, please make plans to do this.

KIWANIS SUPER READER PROGRAM:

Read and earn rewards! Green logbooks were distributed in September. 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 11.

If you need a new Super Reader Green Logbook please let your child’s teacher know or email me directly at matthew_mueller@sd33.bc.ca

Happy reading!

SUPER READER PRIZES:

50 Nights – First Day for Prizes November 1st

- 2 for 1 Stickers or a Bookmark and a sticker.

100 Nights– Kiwanis Club Prize & McDonald’s coupon

- K – t shirt & goodie bag
- 1 – picture book & goodie bag
- 2 – chapter book & goodie bag
- 3 – water bottle & McD coupon
- 4 – water bottle & McD coupon(grade 3 and 4 bottles are different)
- 5 – stylus pen & McD coupon + Chapter Book (**NEW** for 2021/2022!)

150 Nights

- Toy or Stationary Item – POKEMON key chains, poppets, snap bracelets, puzzle cubes, and other toys available. While supplies last.

200 ghts

- Book Prize – **New book selection this year thanks to our last successful Book Fair.**

- 250 Nights

\$8 Cole's Books gift certificate from the Kiwanis Club.

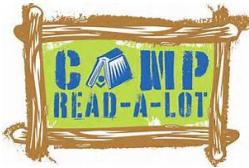
Mature P/G Content books:

Mature or PG Books are only available to Grade 4 and 5 students with a permission slip. They are available at the library. 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 during their time at Promontory, as it is kept on file.

Annual Read-a-thon: OZOBOTS EVO

At Promontory Elementary we want our students to become lifelong readers. Reading for pleasure is always a great activity. Annual reading events help to make reading and books more fun! Grades 2 – 5 students will be reading for 60 minutes. K and Grade 1 students will be reading for 30 minutes. Please note that Kindergarten may participate on an alternate day and time. This year the read-a-thon will be held in classrooms and different spots all around the school. Classes will start reading right after recess and read for an hour (10:45am - 11:45am). Please start returning money on or before by TUESDAY, October 31st (cash or cheque made out to Promontory Elem.)

Read-a-thon Pledges will be used for:



We want to keep improving the learning resources in our amazing Makerspace. We want our students to learn about robotics and coding. The plan is to buy a classroom set OZOBOT EVO robots. Our goal is to purchase a total of 30 OZOBOT EVO robots. We will purchase two classroom kits. One will have 12 robots (retails at \$2669.99) and one will have 18 robots (retails at \$3999.99). Our goal is to raise enough money to purchase all 30 robots as soon as possible. This project may take multiple years to complete.

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!

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 the school is closed on **Friday Oct 6 & Oct 20** because of the professional development days.

FAMILY STORY TIME

Next Story Time Dates:

Friday Oct 13 at 8:35 (Open from 8:20am - 8:50am).

Friday Oct 27 (Open from 8:20am - 8:50am).

During October 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.

PAC NEWS

Promontory PAC is a hardworking, collaborative group that is open to ALL Parents. The PAC provides many wonderful opportunities, events, and experiences for students and the school community. New to PAC and PAC Meetings, come and see what it is all about!

We held our first PAC meeting last week with special guest, Trustee Swanky. The PAC will meet each month and everyone is invited to attend. The next meeting is October 25th at 7:00 pm

HOT LUNCH

October 13 – Jim’s Pizza

October 27 – Booster Juice & Chopped Leaf

November 9 – Taco Del Mar

November 23 – Jim’s Pizza

December 8 – White Spot

December 22 - Subway

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: promontoryhotlunch@gmail.com

PAC Executive 2023-2024

Chair: Brian Leong

Past Chair: Esther Maloney

Vice Chair: Leah Shields

Treasurer: Lisa Brine

Secretary: Ashely Durance

Hot Lunch Coordinator: Karmen Sawracki, Lisa Brine

Fundraising – Bronwyn Wilson

PAC – PHESCA Liaison: Leah Shields

DPAC Rep: Esther Maloney & Ashley Durance

Our Mission, Vision and Motto

Mission

We ensure deep learning engages our heart, head and hands to develop competencies vital for the success of all learners.

Vision

Syó:s:ys lets'e th'ále, lets'emó:t

(See EYE yees LETS - a - thala LETS - a - mot)

One heart, one mind, working together for a common purpose.

Motto

"Partners in Learning"

Students, parents/guardians/caregivers, staff, First Nations, community members and organizations are important members of our education community and partners in learning with the Board of Education. Together we strive to create a culture of mutual respect that supports engagement and collaboration in order to achieve the shared goals outlined in our District Strategic Plan. Collectively, we aim to meet the present needs of our students and our community, while remaining flexible to anticipate and respond to future priorities.

About us...

Located in the Fraser Valley, we are a learning community of over 14,000 students, and 1,800 teachers and support staff. Our diverse programs include elementary, middle and secondary neighbourhood schools, French Immersion programs and more.

We are privileged to be working and learning on the Stó:lō unceded traditional territory of the Pilalt, Sema:th and Ts'elxwéyeqw.

Our work in the Chilliwack School district is driven by our Strategic Plan, which is framed by four dimensions of practice:

- High-Quality Instruction
- Data-Driven Decisions
- Targeted Interventions
- Collective Responsibility

Additionally our learners are supported to achieve success through our core values of:

- Equity
- Kindness
- Inclusion
- Collaboration
- Innovation

Chilliwack School District

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P: 604-792-1321

E: Information@sd33.bc.ca

W: www.sd33.bc.ca



Chilliwack
School District

Communication

Home and School



Questions about your Child's Education?

Education is a shared process between home and school, and good communication is an excellent starting point for resolving any concerns that may arise. School staff welcome the opportunity to talk with you about your child's education. If you have a question or concern about your child's education, the following steps will help ensure an effective line of communication.

Step 1: Teacher

The first person to talk with is the classroom teacher. The teacher knows your child well and most concerns can be addressed at this level. Please set up an appointment by contacting the teacher or the school so that your concern can be discussed without distractions.

Step 2: Principal

If you need extra assistance with your question or concern, your school principal is there to help you.

Step 3: District Staff

If you have questions that you feel were not resolved at your child's school, contact the District Office at 604-792-1321 and ask for the District School Supervisor. If not resolved at this level, your questions will proceed to the School Superintendent.



Parent Teacher Conferences

Meet the teacher nights, parent/teacher conferences and student-led or student involved conferences are excellent ways to get to know your child's teacher(s).

Discussion topics could include:

- Is my child performing up to their ability?
- If not, what alternative strategies can be taken to help them be successful?
- Are there any additional school supports or programs that might help my child?
- What is an area of strength for my child?
- What is an area of growth for my child?
- Does my child work/play well with others?
- What can we work on at home to help my child's learning/growth?

School Based Teams

A school-based team is a core group of staff within a school who meet on a regular basis to problem solve, make suggestions, and plan interventions for students who are struggling with any aspect of their education. For more information, speak with your school principal.



Parent Advisory Councils (PACs)

Each school has a PAC and all parents and guardians are members. School PACs generally meet monthly at the school and all parents are welcome to attend. Some works of the PAC are:

- Enhancing communication and cooperation among students, school, home and community
- Sponsoring school programs or initiatives
- Fundraising
- Volunteering
- Coordinating school events

District Parent Advisory Councils (DPACs)

The Chilliwack School Districts' District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) is a legislated organization recognized within B.C.'s School Act to represent the parent voice at the school district level. DPAC's main role is as an advocate for parent involvement in the education system and to give input into the development of education policy.

Fair Notice

The Chilliwack School District and community partners are committed to making our schools safe for students and staff. As a result schools will respond to all student behaviours that pose a potential risk to themselves, other students, staff, and members of the community.

What behaviours initiate a Student Violent Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA)?

A Student Violent Threat Risk Assessment will be initiated for behaviours including, but are not limited to, serious violence or violence with intent to harm/kill, verbal/written threats to harm/kill others, online threats to harm/kill others, possession of weapons (including replicas), bomb threats (making explosive and /or detonating devices), fire setting, sexual intimidation or assault, or gang related intimidation and violence.

Duty to report

To keep school communities safe and caring, staff, parents/caregivers, students, and community members must report all threat-related behaviours.

What is a threat?

A threat is an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something. Threats may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the Internet, or made by gesture. Threats must be taken seriously, investigated, and responded to.

What is a Threat Assessment Team?

Each school has a Threat Assessment Team which is multi-disciplinary. The team may include Principal, Vice-Principal, School Counsellor, Resource Teacher and Police.

What is the purpose of a VTRA?

- To ensure the safety of students, staff, parents and others
- To ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat
- To understand factors contributing to the person of concern's behavior
- To be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the person of concern
- To promote the emotional and physical safety of all

What happens in a VTRA?

All threat making behavior by a student shall be reported to the Principal who will activate the protocol for the initial response. Once the team has been activated, interviews may be held with the student(s), the person of concern, parents and staff to determine the level of risk and develop an appropriate response to the incident. Intervention plans will be developed and shared with parents, staff and students as required.

Can I refuse to participate in a VTRA process?

It is important for all parties to engage in the process. However, if for some reason there is a reluctance to participate in the process by the person of concern or parent/caregiver, the threat assessment process will continue in order to promote a safe and caring learning environment.

Collection Notice

The School District is subject to personal information privacy laws and will undertake the collection of information in compliance with the requirements of such laws. Collection of information will be limited to that which is relevant and necessary to address a risk or threat. Information that is collected from online sources will only be obtained from open source sites. The School District will not collect information as part of a threat assessment unless there is reason to believe that a risk exists. Information collected as part of a threat assessment may be provided to law enforcement authorities in appropriate circumstances.