



October 26, 2020

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Principal: Mr. Steve Laird

Vice-Principal: Mrs. Deborah Chenier

## Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> – Practice Emergency Drill – Lock Down

Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> – Theme – Costume / Black and Orange Day

Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Joint Partners Meeting @ 6:30 pm (for Admin and PAC)

Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> – Picture Retake Day

Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> – Remembrance Day Holiday

Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> – Theme – Crazy Hair Day

Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup> – Term #1 - Report Cards Home

Wednesday & Thursday, December 2&3 – 1 Hour Early Dismissal (Dismiss @ 1:23)

Wednesday, December 16 – Theme – Red & Green Day

Thursday, December 17 – Theme – Christmas Hat Day

Friday, December 18 – Theme – P.J. Day

Monday, December 21 – Friday, January 1 – Christmas Break

Monday, January 4 – Students back to school

## AM/PM Parking Issues – Warning - Police and Parking Bi-Laws will be Ticketing

Student and public safety are top priority. As such, police and bylaw officers will be ticketing vehicles illegally parked or blocking residents' driveways, emergency service vehicle routes, or in the middle of the cul de sac. If you are having a difficult time finding a legal place to park, I would like to offer a few suggestions:

1. Connect with another family and carpool (I would suggest alternating weeks, so it is equitable)
2. If you live close to the school, walk your child to/from school each day
3. Arrive early (20-30 minutes before the bell) to get a limited parking spot, and have your child/ren remain in the vehicle with you until staff supervisors are in place
4. Park in the Mill Lake parking lot on the North side of Bevan, across from the school, and walk your child/ren across the pedestrian cross walk and to the school. There is often lots of space in this parking lot, and it is not a restricted use lot. And, the walk is not too far.

## Lock Down - Drill – Tuesday, Oct. 27

Students and staff will be taking part in another one of our emergency drills, called 'Lock Down' on Tuesday, October 27<sup>st</sup>. We are required to practice each of our emergency drills, so we are ready in case we have a real emergency.

## **Halloween Reminders – No Blood, Gore, Masks or Weapons**

Halloween is on a Saturday this year, but we will be inviting students to wear their costumes to school on Friday. If your child's costume includes a mask and/or a weapon, and blood or gore, we ask that they do not bring them to school. Please note, that due to Covid restrictions, we will not be doing our annual Halloween Parade this year. All Halloween activities will be happening in your child's classroom.

## **Halloween Candy**

Halloween candy season is upon us and although occasional treats are part of a balanced lifestyle, at this time of year it is easy to eat too many. Here are some tips to reduce how much of the sweet stuff your child is eating:

- Encourage your child to trade some of their candy for a toy, colouring book, or family activity.
- Allow your child to eat a couple pieces of candy from their trick or treat bag each day. Have your child eat the candy as part of a healthy meal or snack.
- Help your child to bake cookies; let kids cut-up a few of their chocolate bars and stir into cookie dough.

For more information on how to handle the Halloween treats, go to the Fraser Health website:

[www.fraserhealth.ca/news/2018/Oct/halloween-treats-can-be-tricky-for-parents#.XL9CgDaotPY](http://www.fraserhealth.ca/news/2018/Oct/halloween-treats-can-be-tricky-for-parents#.XL9CgDaotPY)

## **Delicious Pumpkin**

Pumpkins aren't only for carving ghouls and giving trick-or-treaters a fright! You can also cook them for a tasty and satisfying meal. Here are some tips:

- When choosing a pumpkin, look for smaller pumpkins which are more flavourful.
- Roast and blend pumpkin to make delicious pumpkin soup; you can also add pureed pumpkin to baked goods too for more fibre and flavour.
- Remove the insides and seeds, then peel and cube pumpkin; toss cubes with some cinnamon and roast until tender; serve it alongside your favourite cold-weather meal.
- Add pumpkin to stews, soups, or chili.

Learn how pumpkin and other fibrous vegetables and foods can help your heart health:

[www.fraserhealth.ca/news/2017/Feb/whats-fibre-got-to-do-with-my-heart#.XLD1Q-aot9A](http://www.fraserhealth.ca/news/2017/Feb/whats-fibre-got-to-do-with-my-heart#.XLD1Q-aot9A)

## **Animals on School Grounds**

A reminder that animals are not allowed on school district property. Please do not bring your dogs to school when picking up or dropping off your child.

## National Anthem

Schools are required to teach students the words to 'O Canada' and the respectful behaviour to be observed during its singing. We ask all parents/adults who are in the school during O Canada, to model the respectful behavior we are teaching the students.



## Weather

It looks like the rain might be here for a while, and it is important that students are ready for the cooler, wetter weather. At school, this means raincoats, boots, hats and gloves, as needed, even umbrellas. All too often children show up at school unprepared to be outside. As parents, please make sure your child(ren) are prepared for the weather. Thanks in advance!



## Lunches

We ask that students to bring their nutritious lunch each day. We also ask that the students' lunches and snacks are nutritious – what we call “Brain” food (no pop, no chips). Please note that hot lunches cannot be dropped off at the school at this time.

## Leaving Early

Does your child need to leave early for an appointment? If yes, please make sure you message the teacher and/or office beforehand. This way, the teacher will have him/her ready for the time required.

# Parent Advisory Council

**Next PAC Meeting: Wednesday, November 18 @ 6:30 pm - Big Gym - Join us!**

## **Important Safety Guidelines and Protocols**

Although this year will be different, it is so good students are back in classrooms! Know that we will continue to do our best to ensure guidelines and protocols are followed to keep everyone safe. Listed below are the district protocols we will be following. Please review these guidelines to become more familiar. We would also ask that you regularly review this with your child, as we work to all be consistent in keeping everyone safe.

### **General Safety Measures**

- The district follows the provincial government recommendations for K-12 settings found <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/covid-19-return-to-school#health-safety>
- Parents are expected to keep child home if symptomatic
- Adults needing to meet with staff must make an appointment before coming into the school. When possible, meetings are encouraged to take place outdoors.
- Parent volunteers are not currently permitted to be in classrooms
- Students will be part of a learning group not exceeding 60, including staff
- Bells will be turned off because of staggered arrival/outside/dismissal times
- Staff will watch for children who are showing signs of COVID, besides regular symptoms due to allergies
- Children who are symptomatic will be brought to office and be immediately given a mask: while supervised, and family will be contacted for immediate pick up.
- Students who go home with symptoms are welcome back once a medical professional has been consulted.

### **Physical Spaces**

- Students should avoid travel through hallways, except going to the learning group's assigned bathroom
- Stay to the right of traffic flow in hallways

- Bathrooms have been designated to learning groups and have a bathroom pass
- One student in bathroom at a time

## **Student Expectations at School**

- Students should not play on the playground(s) before school and after school
- Students line up with physical distancing outside designated entrance doors
- Students will put personal effects in designated places in the classroom
- Students will wash hands when entering school in morning
- Students will wash/sanitize hands before and after gym, LLC, recess and lunch
- Students are expected to minimize physical touching at all times
- Not interact with students outside of assigned learning group
- Will NOT share snacks and will clean up own eating/learning area
- Will eat at own desk
- Wash/sanitize hands before and after eating
- When student sneezes, coughs, sticks fingers in mouth, eyes or other orifices (but does not appear to otherwise be sick) they must immediately wash hands.

## **Classrooms**

- Minimize physical contact between students in learning groups
- Ensure good ventilation, eg. Working with doors and windows open
- Supplies may be shared between students within learning group, including centers, if students sanitize before and after use

## Transitions and Play

- Learning groups travel together with an adult from classroom to other locations, including outside for recess and lunch
- Supervision is available before/after school, recess and lunch. Each supervisor will have an assigned area.
- Schedules will be created with learning group play locations and rotated each week
- Outdoor education is recommended (weather permitting), including walking field trips.

## Cleaning Regime at School

- Daytime custodian will wipe down high touch surfaces such as door knobs, toilets, sinks, and taps.
- High touch surfaces will be cleaned 2x within 24 hour period
- Students may share supplies within own learning group and they sanitize before and after use.
- Lysol wipes may be used on technology
- If cleaning is not possible, the resources should be set aside for 2 days before using again

For further information please refer to Tol'itcha (district restart plan) and BCCDC

## **Safety Over Convenience**

We need your help in keeping our students, your child/ren safe. These are ways that you can help us:

### **1) Entering/Exiting the School**

We ask that ALL parents enter and exit the school via the front doors and sign in. Please drop off your child in line and then walk around the school to enter via the front doors. Again – Safety over Convenience.

### **2) Parking**

***Parking in our fire lane:*** is NOT an option. The fire lane is on the East side of the school near the small gym.

***Staff Parking Lot:*** NO Parking at any time – no excuses. We have more staff members than we do parking spots, which means some staff have to double park in designated areas.

**Bus Lane:** We do have 3 buses that pick up and drop off students on a daily basis. Please do not park in the bus zone.

**Drive Through Lane:** Please do NOT stop or park in the middle of the lane or on the left side of the lane. Let's be respectful to the people behind you.

**Handicap Parking:** In order to park in these spaces, the vehicles should have a visible handicap decal.

**Parking in our Additional Parent Parking Lot:** Please do not park along the fence. It makes it difficult for cars to back up from their stalls.

**Brundige Avenue:** Additional parking has been created by the City of Abbotsford with a new sidewalk. Please park as per the city signs. Please do not block any driveways.

**Stevenson Street:** The school district widened the cul-de-sac in order to fit more cars. Please do not block any driveways.

**Neighbouring Streets:** Please note that we have been given permission from the city of Abbotsford to park on the neighbouring streets where city signs are posted "Residents only". The permission is during PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF TIMES ONLY.