

MAPLE LANE NEWS

Newsletter #4

December 1st, 2017

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Registration for Next Year - 2017-18

Kindergarten registration - families are now asked to register at our Central Registration site at the School Board Office on Granville and Minoru.

A list of document requirements is available at our school office and on the School District Website. There is a Chinese translation available as well.

Families wanting to transfer (in or out) must register their child at Central Registration first. Applications can then be made to the requested school starting Thursday, January 11th.

From the Office

A Reminder...Parking Lot Before School

As you know, our parking lot can be a busy place before and after school. We ask that parents use the drop off lane to let students out of their car in the morning. Students should get out of their car using the doors on the passenger right side so they don't step out into traffic. We also ask that parents do not park in the drop off lane before school and wait with their child(ren) in their vehicle until 8:30am, when students are allowed to enter the school. If cars park in the drop off lane and wait until 8:30am, an unsafe situation for students is created as other cars have to stop around waiting vehicles. Sometimes these cars need to reverse to get out of the drop off lane because parked cars are not moving, as is expected. Please stop in the drop off lane and let your child out of your car quickly and efficiently.

Flu and Cold Season

It is that time again - flu and cold season. Please help us by reminding your child to wash their hands regularly. Using soap and hot water is a great way to clean hands. The school is discouraging hand sanitizers because they are not good for your skin AND, when used widely in a classroom, fill the air with irritants that are affecting eyes and breathing. PLEASE do not send sanitizers to school: JUST REMIND YOUR CHILDREN TO WASH THEIR HANDS REGULARLY.

Communicating Student Learning (Reporting)

On Wednesday, December 20th, term one reports will come home for students in Divisions 4 through 8. The reports will be a short concise snapshot of the progress your child has made in their learning this term. No one piece of paper can ever capture who your child is, but their portfolios, work, projects, and journals speak volumes as to who they are as a student. It is this work that is the true communication of your child's learning, along with conversations with their teacher.

With the Ministry making a shift in curriculum, there is also a shift in reporting and Richmond has begun this shift on report cards by making them more succinct. The Ministry of Education makes the following recommendations in order for us to move forward successfully with the new curriculum:

- Shift from "reporting"(letter grades) to "communicating student learning"(descriptive comments of student ability)
- Support meaningful communication between teachers, parents, and learners
- Report on core competencies and key areas of learning
- Focus on learning standards and big ideas in areas of learning (subjects)
- Enable ongoing communication (with provincial guidelines and supports)
- Maintain formal, written summative reports at key times in the year
- Use clear performance standards-based language

The essence of these recommendations is: there is a shift in how schools communicate student learning towards meaningful descriptions / collections / and demonstrations of student learning.



Some information about report cards to help you talk with your child:

1. Teachers assess a child's progress based on the widely-held expectations for children of that age. Letter grades for intermediate students and performance scales for primary students give parents an idea how their children are doing based on these criteria.
2. It is important to remember that children are all learning and progressing at their own rate. Some children may learn more quickly or easily than others. Some children take a longer time to learn. Teachers need to report on a child's current development. Both parents and teachers need to celebrate each child's progress and growth in learning.
3. **When you and your child look at the report card, it is important to celebrate growth and improvement and to talk about areas for improvement in Term 2.**



SNOW DAYS - WHAT TO EXPECT: Snow days cause inconvenience for all of us. Closing schools is a difficult decision for the school district – trying to weigh the safety of all with the repercussions for working families. To help assist families, we would like to outline what you can expect from us on a snow day. The following things will happen:

Schools will be OPEN unless conditions reach civic emergency proportions. **Radio announcements will only announce those schools that are CLOSED.** Most of these will be private schools. Listen to radio CKNW 980AM, NEWS 1130AM, CBC 690AM, QM 103.5FM or watch on television CBC, GlobalTV, City TV and CTV.

As well, you can get information other ways:

- the district's website
- all elementary schools' websites have a scrolling message along the top as necessary (i.e. on days which are questionable due to weather). The message will include a link back to the district's website containing detailed information.
- the snow closure hotline, (604) 295-4304, which will provide a recorded message indicating if schools are open or closed
- Twitter at RichmondSD38

Please do not phone the school. The administration will be too busy planning the day and will not be able to answer the phone.

- ❖ It may not be a regular school day as many students and teachers may be absent. If children do come to school, we will ensure that the children are cared for and are safe. Many alternate activities may be planned so that students who are absent will not miss any work.
- ❖ School will remain open until 3:00 pm. In the event that we have to close early, students will not be sent home without contacting parents first.

You have some choices:

1. Students are not required to attend school on a snow day if you feel that their safety or your own safety may be at risk (you may keep them home).
2. Make plans in advance for what you and your family will do on a snow day.
3. Children who come to school may be taking part in alternate activities.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at the school before a snow day.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER: It is important that students are dressed for the weather. During these colder damp days, students need to have proper jackets, footwear, hats and gloves so that they can enjoy playing outside.

If it should snow, students should have extra clothing and boots or a dry pair of socks and shoes to change into if they want to play in the snow at recess and lunch.



Around the School



GRADE 5/6/7 COED VOLLEYBALL

Our Grade 6/7 Volleyball Team had a fantastic season. The students enjoyed practices and excelled in game situations against Bridge, Walter Lee, Errington and McKinney schools. Without dedicated coaches, there would not have been a successful season. Thank-you to Ms. Metcalf and Mr. Mason for volunteering many mornings and afternoons after school towards the grade 5/6/7 team.



Thank you! Thank you!

Thank you to our PAC and to our parent community. At the November 8th PAC meeting, the PAC gave Maple Lane School funds to purchase 14 iPads. These iPads can be used by students for many purposes, including, learning, research, creating, presenting and for uploading work to student e-Portfolios. The staff at Maple Lane also wants to thank the Maple Lane PAC for the purchase earlier in the year of the room dividers for music in the gymnasium. We are so lucky to have a supportive and hardworking PAC and parent community at Maple Lane.

Skating



Many classes will begin skating in November and December. All classes are going skating twice in the coming months of November, December and February. Skating opportunities are part of our school's Physical Education program. For all divisions, but particularly in younger grades we welcome parent help at the arena. Parents are welcome to attend the skating sessions to watch their child participate in skating and to help tie the skates of our younger students.

Winter Christmas Concert

On December 21st, 2017 from 1:30 to 2:40pm, our whole school will participate in our Winter Christmas Concert. Parents are invited to attend. Each class will participate. Some classes will play an instrument to a song Mr. Warbinek has been teaching them in music, while other classes will perform a song they have been learning in class with their teacher. It is sure to be a fun afternoon.



MAKER SPACE CURRICULUM

AS PART OF THE NEW PROVINCIAL CURRICULUM (APPLIED DESIGN, SKILLS AND TECHNOLOGIES) SCHOOLS ARE REQUIRED TO GIVE STUDENTS OPPORTUNITIES TO BUILD AND CREATE. TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH MATERIALS TO BUILD SKILLS IN THIS AREA OF THE CURRICULUM, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.

IF YOU HAVE ANY OLD ELECTRONICS SUCH AS RADIOS, CELL PHONES, LAP TOPS AND DISC MANS PLEASE BRING THEM TO MRS. SANDHU (TEACHER-LIBRARIAN) IN THE LIBRARY. ALSO, IF YOU HAVE ANY OLD TOOLS SUCH AS SCREWDRIVERS, HAMMERS, PLIERS, WRENCHES (AND OTHERS) AND BUILDING MATERIALS LIKE WOODEN BLOCKS, PLYWOOD AND LEGO, PLEASE BRING THEM IN. THESE MATERIALS WILL GIVE STUDENTS OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE, BUILD, AND RECREATE!!! PART OF THIS CURRICULUM INCLUDES SEWING. IF YOU HAVE THREAD, YARN OR SEWING NEEDLES, WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE THEM. WE WOULD ALSO LOVE TO TAKE A WORKING SEWING MACHINE FROM ANY FAMILY THAT DOES NOT NEED THEIR MACHINE.

THANK-YOU,
MRS. SANDHU

PAC NEWS



Winter Wonderland Holiday Event - Friday, December 8th from 5:00-7:30pm in the Maple Lane Gym. All students are encouraged to come dressed in Pajamas! The Me to We students are organizing activities & requesting food bank donations at the door. Please see this week's PAC email & event notice for the provided links to RSVP & sign up as an Event Volunteer. All students must be accompanied by an adult. We look forward to seeing you there!

iPad Fundraiser - Ongoing until Monday, December 11, 2017. A big huge THANK-YOU to all the families who have contributed so far towards the purchase of more iPads for our school! These iPads will directly enhance student learning schoolwide by supporting the new curriculum. For anyone still wishing to donate, there is still time!

Earthquake Comfort Kits - Due Monday, December 11th, 2017. Unfortunately, there are still many students without them. These kits are vital in helping your child cope during an emergency. Our wonderful Volunteer Parents are in the process of identifying students without kits & will be sending home notices.

Next PAC Meeting - Wednesday, December 13th, 2017 at 6:00pm in the Library. This meeting will include a Holiday Potluck so come bring a dish to share along with your ideas & join in the fun! Child-minding will be provided.

Next Hot Lunch - Friday, December 15th, 2017 - Xyclo Vietnamese! Please remember to return your completed orders by the deadline. Late orders cannot be accepted.

If you have any questions, please contact us at maplelanepac@gmail.com. Thank you!



Dates to Remember

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| Friday, December 8 th | - Winter Wonderland PAC Family Event 5pm-8pm |
| Wednesday, December 13 th | - PAC Meeting 6pm |
| Friday, December 15 th | - Skating Divisions 4,5,6,7 |
| Friday, December 15 th | - Hot Lunch Day |
| Wednesday, December 20 th | - Report Cards Home for Divisions 4,5,6,7,8 |
| Thursday, December 21 st | - Winter Christmas Concert 1:30-2:40pm |
| Friday, December 22 nd | - School Bowling Activity at Lucky 9 Lanes |
| Friday, December 22 nd | - Last Day of Term 1 |
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| Monday, December 25 th to Friday January 5 th | - Winter Break: Maple Lane is closed |
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| Monday, January 8 th | - School Reopens for Term 2 |
| Tuesday, January 9 th | - DARE begins for Grade 5 students |
| January 12 th , 17 th , 19 th | - Talent Show Auditions for students in grades 1 to 7 |
| Friday January 26 th | - Professional Development Day |
| Friday, February 2 nd | - Maple Lane has Talent Show |