

MAPLE LANE NEWS

Newsletter #3

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重要文件. 请翻译.

Tea and Talk Sessions

Tea and Talk on Friday, November 4th at 9:00 a.m. in the Maple Lane Library

Topic: Combined grades, how children learn and the New BC Curriculum.

Please note: Translation will be provided.

From the Office

Registration for New Kindergarten Students

Children born in 2012 and who are Canadian citizens can register for Kindergarten starting Monday, November 1st. If you are interested in any district programs, you can register at your neighbourhood school and then take the program registration to the School Board Central Registration Office.

Children who are not Canadian citizens can be registered at Central Registration starting next week as well.

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 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 park around waiting vehicles. Please stop in the drop off lane and let your child out of your car immediately.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.

Flu and Cold Season

It is that time again – flu and cold season is beginning and we are reminding students 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.

AGAIN, THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.

HALLOWEEN CANDY ACCEPTED...

McMath Secondary students and Maple Lane Elementary students are working together to support a project which assists the homeless living on the Lower Eastside of Vancouver. 7 days a week, 365 days a year – **GOOD SHEPHERD** volunteers provide homeless people with candy bags, food, hope, and encouragement. It is not unusual for volunteers to give out 90 candy bags per night. In support of this project, McMath and Maple Lane are collecting **LEFTOVER HALLOWEEN CANDY** from students and families. The donation record is 4000 candy bags ~ we are hoping this year, with your help, we could beat that record. Please drop-off any donations in the tote bins located at the front of the school.

GRADE 6/7 COED VOLLEYBALL

Our Grade 7 Volleyball team is practicing hard with their coaches Mrs. Adjei-Achampong and Ms. Metcalf. They have several games coming up against neighbouring schools. Come out to the Lightning Dome (AKA Maple Lane Gym) to watch the action.

Remembrance Day Assembly

This year our Remembrance Day Assembly will be held on **Thursday, Nov. 10th at 10:30 a.m.** in the Gym. Students who are members of Brownies, Beavers, Cubs, Guides, Scouts and Cadets are invited to wear their uniforms for the assembly and to take part in the presentation of the Flag. Poppies will be distributed to the students and donations to the Poppy Fund will be accepted on that day and throughout the week at the school office. Parents and family members are invited to join us for this special Assembly for Remembrance.



Communicating Student Learning (Reporting)

On Tuesday, December 13th, term one reports will come home and you may notice that they look more concise than in previous years. One of the reasons for this is that the report card is meant to be a summary snap-shot of your child's learning. 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, and it is this work that is the true communication of your child's learning, along with the 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" to "communicating student learning"*
- *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*

There is a greater move toward meaningful descriptions/collections/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. Not all intermediate children will receive "A"s as letter grades on their report cards and for many children, this is not a realistic goal. For the many children, a C or C+ is a very good grade, especially if their effort is meeting their potential.

Here is a snapshot of what each letter grade means:



- A consistently excellent performance
- B consistently very good performance
- C+ consistently good performance
- C consistently satisfactory performance
- C- minimally meeting expectations



4. **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 and 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 a dry pair of socks and shoes to change into if they want to the snow at recess and lunch.



Other Dates to Remember

Wednesday, November 2 nd	- PAC Meeting 6 p.m. in library
Thursday, November 3 rd	- Grade 2 Fire Safety Presentation
Friday, November 4 th	- Tea and Talk 9 a.m.
Friday, November 4 th	- Richmond Sockeyes Hockey Club Presentation
Thursday, November 10 th	- 10:30 a.m. Remembrance Day Assembly
Thursday, November 10 th	- Richmond Sockeyes Hockey Game (Maple Lane is invited)
Friday, November 11 th	- No school on this day in honour of Remembrance Day
Wednesday, November 16 th	- Photo Retake Day
Wednesday, November 16 th	- Steveston/London Secondary Band plays at Maple Lane
Friday, November 18 th	- ProD Day Curriculum Implementation Day
Friday, November 25 th	- Hot Lunch Day
Friday, November 25 th	- Lock Down Drill