



Maple Ridge Elementary School

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October Newsletter

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Principal's Message

September was here and gone in the blink of an eye. The time seemed to go fast as the staff and students spent a great deal of time establishing routines and re-connecting after the summer. The start-up has been great this year and we look forward to continuing things into the rest of Term 1 and the remainder of the school year.

Programs are starting to pick up again with the beginning of the Boys and Girls "Fit Club" that happens twice a week at the beginning of Lunch for all grade levels and Band and Choir Programs will also be starting again soon for students in upper elementary.

The Government has recently come out with a new attendance policy that takes effect at the beginning of this month. It mainly pertains to High Schools but there are a couple of items that I have highlighted in the newsletter that you should be aware of as a parent of an elementary child.

Please take the time to read the information in this newsletter about all of the events that are happening at our school during the month of October and don't hesitate to get in touch with me if you have a question about things that are taking place.

Have an enjoyable Fall season,

Robin Isenor

Principal

School Advisory Council (SAC)

The SAC met successfully on Monday, September 25th for the first time this year. Our next meeting will be on October 16th at 6:30pm in the Library. Minutes from each meeting will be available on our website. The meetings are open to all MRE parents to attend and gather information about what is happening here at MRE so please feel free to attend even if you are not a member of the committee.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Oct. 4	Walk to School Day
Oct 8-14	Fire Prevention Week
Oct 9	Thanksgiving
Oct 11	Bus Evacuation Drills
Oct 16-22	Waste Reduction Week
Oct 16	SAC/Home & School Meetings
Oct 26	Home and School Halloween Dance
Oct 27	Provincial PD Day

Virtue of the Month

Thankfulness

Thankfulness is being grateful for what we have. Appreciate the little things that happen around you every day.

Home and School

The Dance was a great success on September 28th. Thank-you to everyone who helped out and to the school community for supporting it. We will be having our next school dance on **October 26th** and it will have a Halloween theme. We held a Home and School meeting on September 25th and it was nice to see some parents turn out to support the efforts of the Home and School. We plan to have some different events this year so if you are curious or able to offer some suggestions please feel free to attend the next meeting. This will be communicated by Carrie MacDougall.

Just a quick reminder that the QSP fundraising forms and money are due on **Monday, October 2nd**. Please have them in as soon as possible so orders can be processed.

Walk to School Day

On **Wednesday, October 4th** we will be participating in a “Walk to School” day here at MRE. Participating staff members will start walking from Robert Scott Drive at approx. 7:05am. Students, parents, grandparents, and care givers are encouraged to join us along the way. If your child requires direct supervision when walking, they must be accompanied by an adult. Participants are walkers only as biking or using a scooter can be a safety issue depending on the number of participants. Here’s hoping for a good weather day☺ If it is raining then the make-up day will be **Friday, October 6th**.

Provincial Students Attendance Policy

Late Arrivals/Early Departures

Below are some sentences taken out of the new Provincial Attendance Policy pertaining to late arrivals and early departures.

“Students are expected to be present and prepared for the beginning of class.”

“Students arriving late should be required to report to the office to have their arrival recorded. Similarly, students that need to leave early should be required to sign out at the office.”

“In the earlier grades, the parent/guardian is required to sign the student in or out.”

At Maple Ridge, as a whole, we do a good job in signing our students out if they are leaving early or at the end of the day for pick-up. A couple of areas that I would ask parents to pay close attention to is getting here in enough time so that your child is ready for the beginning of class and bringing your child in if they are late and not just dropping them off. Instruction begins at 8:00am so anyone being dropped off should be here by 7:55 so there is enough time to get ready.

Bus Evacuations

Grade Primary – Two students will be practicing Bus Evacuations on Wednesday, October 11th. The bus driver will talk briefly about bus safety and explain the different reasons why these drills are practiced.

Communication

Our website (mre.ccsb.ca) has been updated with current and accurate information. We also have a Facebook account that you can receive immediate communication from. If you need to talk with a staff member about education related topics then please use the staff email directory or call the school at your earliest convenience..

Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week this year is happening from October 8-14. The theme this year is “Every Second Counts Plan 2 ways Out!” We will be having a visit from the Milford and Lantz volunteer fire departments at some point in October to give presentations to all of our students about Fire Safety and its importance.



Waste Reduction Week

Waste Reduction Week in Canada is a national environmental campaign that builds awareness around issues of sustainable and responsible consumption, encourages choice for more environmentally responsible products/services, and promotes actions that divert more waste from disposal and conserve natural resources. This year it is happening from **October 16-22**.



Virtues Assembly

The Virtues assembly for the month of October will be happening on **Thursday, October 26th**. This month we are highlighting the virtue of Thankfulness. The assembly will be taking place at approximately 1:00pm in the gymnasium and it will be a great time to celebrate and honor all of the good things that have happened over the past month.

Provincial PD Day

There will be no school for students on **Friday, October 27th** as it is the day for the Provincial Conference. All educators and support staff will be involved in professional development sessions.