



# Maple Ridge Elementary School

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## September Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1



### Upcoming Dates to Remember

Sept 5	Staff Orientation
Sept 5	Meet the Teacher 5:30 - 7:15pm
Sept 6	Site-Based PD (No students)
Sept 7	First Day for students
Sept 14	“Stand Up, Speak Out” Day
Sept 25	SAC Meeting (6:30-7:15pm) Home & School (7:15-8pm)
Sept 27	Terry Fox Run
Sept 28	Picture Day
Sept 28	Family Dance

### Virtue of the Month

## Respect

We show **respect** by  
speaking and acting with  
courtesy.

**Respect** yourself and others  
will **respect** you.

### Principal’s Message

Welcome back to students, parents and staff! We are excited to be welcoming all of our new students in Grade Primary and all of the other grade levels as well. I hope everyone had a restful, fun-filled summer and you are looking forward to getting back into a routine as much as I am.

We have a few additions to our MRES Staff this year that I would like to announce at this time. New members of the Maple Ridge community are:

**Katie White**  
**Allyson Power**  
**Connie Isenor**  
**Sherry Forestall**

**Grade 3 Teacher**  
**Guidance Councillor**  
**Educational Assistant**  
**Educational Assistant**

The entire MRE staff is hoping for a school year filled with excitement, encouragement and accomplishments and we will work our hardest to ensure that your child experiences success.

September is a busy, and possibly anxious, time for many of us so please let us know if there is anything we can do to help with the transition back to school. There are some slight changes in scheduling this year that I would like everyone to be aware of that are highlighted later on in the Newsletter so please be sure to read the fine print☺.

If you are interested in volunteering this year please reach out to your child’s teacher or let us know at the office. We have a number of volunteer opportunities ranging from the occasional field trip, Library, reading to students, various committees, etc.

If you have any questions about the upcoming school year please don’t hesitate to let me know.

*Robin Isenor*

Principal

## **School Advisory Council (SAC)**

Last year our SAC was extremely active and played a large role in Maple Ridge remaining open during the school review process. The committee consists of Parents, Teachers, Administrators and community members. The primary role of the SAC is to be involved in policy and procedure as well as staying informed of the progress the school is making with its school improvement plan that outlines the strategies for seeing student growth both academically and socially. The committee meets once a month and our first meeting will be held on **Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm** in the school library. The meeting is open to the public so please feel free to stop by and check things out.

## **Home and School**

The Home & School organization at Maple Ridge provides a number of enriching learning opportunities and presentations for the students throughout the school year with the funds we raise. We hold a handful of school dances, run a fall fundraising campaign, and other events that will be communicated as they get closer. We are looking for a few parent volunteers to join our small but mighty team to donate a few hours throughout the year as well as bring some fresh ideas for us to try during the upcoming school year. We will be having a meeting that will be open to anyone interested in helping out on **Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:15pm** in the school Library.

## **Registration Forms**

We have sent home completed registration forms this year and we would ask that you simply highlight any changes in your child's registration form and send it back to your child's teacher by **Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**. I understand this is a quick turn-around time but we need correct information to ensure the safety of your child(ren). **Please use a highlighter or red pen if possible to make the changes more visible.** Using black or blue pen make the changes hard to pick up on occasion.

## **Picture Day**

Picture Day is taking place on **Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>**. Children will get their individual pictures taken along with a class photo. Information will then be sent home by the photographer if you wish to purchase a school photo package.



## **Meet the Teacher Night**

Our Meet the Teacher took place on **Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>**. We will be sending a short survey home in the near future to ask for your input on various aspects of the evening to guide our decision on having it again next year before the first day of school.

## **CCRSB Stand Up – Speak Out Day!**

All schools in the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board (CCRSB) will be participating in our annual Stand Up – Speak Out Day on **Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>**. The theme this year is “What’s your Story?” The idea is to promote social justice and acceptance. Information about what we have planned for September 14<sup>th</sup> will be coming soon. Information about how we can all address bullying and promote social justice will be available on the CCRSB website at: [www.ccrsb.ca](http://www.ccrsb.ca).

*Stand Up. Speak Out. Stop Bullying. Together.*

## **Terry Fox Run**

The students will have an opportunity to participate in this event on **Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>**. The staff and students will be running/walking for one hour after lunch.



# General Parent Information

## Scheduling Changes

- We will be starting our day 5 minutes earlier this year with Instructional time beginning at 8am rather than 8:05am. There should be no impact on bus arrival times but it will be monitored over the first few weeks to determine if morning routines have to be adjusted slightly.
- Recess will now happen at 10am instead of 10:10am. It will still be 15 minutes in length.
- Lunch time for P-2 students will take place from 11:15am-12:00pm with the students going outside from 11:15-11:35 and eating lunch in the cafeteria from 11:40am-12pm. The lunch times for 3-5 students will still be from 12-12:45pm with students going outside from 12-12:20 and eating from 12:25-12:45 in the cafeteria.

## Arrival and Departure of Students

All students travelling by bus will be dropped off at the front door by way of the bus loop. Any parent dropping their child off is asked to use the left side of the parking lot not attached to the bus loop. Students can be dropped off any time after 7:40am but not before as there will be no supervision available. **It is important to drop your child off no later than 7:50am to allow them time to get ready for the day. Our registration bell rings at 7:55am and instruction begins at 8am.** If you come to pick up your child please use the buzzer at the main doors to gain entrance and come see us at the office so that we are aware of who is in the building. Instruction ends at 1:50pm and students are dismissed between 1:50 and 1:55 so please be here at that time to sign your child out before they leave.

## Notification of Bus Change

A changing of bussing arrangements during the day is difficult. Please make any necessary changes in advance in writing to the classroom teacher as it involves contacting bus drivers, students and teachers. Also, messages left on the answering machine may not be accessed until after dismissal. As space is limited on busses, only changes for child care are permitted.

## Labels

It is always a good idea to label your child's belongings to avoid mix-ups with regards to sneakers, jackets, boots, etc.. There will be a Lost and Found if something does go missing.

## Communication

Please use our school website ([mre.ccsb.ca](http://mre.ccsb.ca)) to get important information. You will be able to find general school information as well as upcoming events for the year on this site. We also have a Facebook page (Maple Ridge) as well that you may use to keep updated on recent events. If you have any questions or concerns with school operations or the education of your child you must email, phone or arrange a meeting with the appropriate people.

## Cafeteria

There will be separate communication being sent home from Christina with regards to cafeteria news and a monthly menu. If you have any questions about the cafeteria please contact us.



## Fit Club

Students will have the opportunity to take part in the "Fit Club" during lunch time again this year. We are hoping to start the week of **September 18<sup>th</sup>**. We will provide more details as we get closer to the date.

## Library

Library will begin the week of **September 25<sup>th</sup>**. Each class will receive a 30 minute block of Library time during the week on either Monday or Wednesday.