

West Heights Community School Newsletter



October 31, 2017

Darran Forrest, Principal | Tel 604-826-6401 | Darran.forrest@mpsd.ca | www.westheights.mpsd.ca

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please check our "Dates to Remember," we have a busy month ahead! Our 2 grade 5/6 basketball teams have begun their season! All the best to our athletes!

Also, please ensure your child is dressed for the wet and cold season. Raincoats and rain boots with felt liners work great for children who love puddles. A spare change of clothes kept in their backpack is also helpful. Please be extra careful in the parking lot as it is often dark before school commences.

A final note related to cold weather, we need to ensure we do not idle our vehicles. We have young lungs breathing the air. In particular, students who line up outside their class close to the parking lot should not have to endure exhaust fumes from vehicles parked along the sidewalk.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping out our young community.

Darran Forrest – Principal
darran.forrest@mpsd.ca

Daylight Savings

Don't forget! On Sunday, **November 5th**, we change our clocks back 1 hour. Avoid being late for school on Monday!



Remembrance Day Assembly

All parents are invited to our Remembrance Day Assembly on **November 10th at 9:00 am** where the Legion and our students will participate. We ask that you send a donation for poppies this day.

Breakfast Club

Congratulations, West Heights for a successful Haunted House.

We raised **\$370.20** for Breakfast Club at the Haunted House.

Thank you to all who came out to participate.

Breakfast club continues daily in room #151 from 7:45 am – 8:15 am, all are welcome.



Mr. Hebb (Megan's Dad) visits Division 8 to discuss his career



Field Trips

Division 7, 8, 9 and 10 went to Taves Apple Barn in October. The weather cooperated enough and all of the students came home with their own pumpkin. Thanks to all the parents who attended and helped supervise.



Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

We hope to see you Thursday, November 23rd, 2:30-7:30 pm to discuss your child’s progress so far this year. Please be aware some teachers will be sending home an alternative schedule. Of course, you are welcome to do so at any time. Please remember, that if you have a question or concern about your child, it is protocol to discuss it with your child’s teacher first, before administration.



**Super Bee Winners!
(Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible)**

‘Super Bee’ winners this month were:

- Oct 2 – Aiden & Ellie
- Oct 13 – Andrew & Ryder
- Oct 20 – Kieran & Carson

Orange Day  every child matters

On Sept 22nd, an assembly was held in the gymnasium. Orange Shirt Day is an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come. Wearing an orange shirt and promoting the slogan, Every Child Matters, is an affirmation of our commitment to raise awareness of the residential school experience and to ensure that every child matters as we focus on our hope for a better future in which children are empowered to help each other.

Dates to Remember:	
Nov 2:	Photo Retakes (9:00 am)
Nov 10:	9:00 Am Remembrance Day Assembly – Parents welcome
Nov 10 Nov 13	Early Dismissal for assessments No School- Stat in Lieu of Remembrance Day
Nov 20:	Report cards sent home
Nov 23:	2:30-7:30 pm Parent/teacher/student conferences
Nov 24:	No school in lieu of conferences

Gr 6 Immunization

On Oct 10th the grade 6 immunizations took place at the school. If your son or daughter was away that day, please contact Fraser Health.

Halloween

Once again our students paraded from class to class and on into the gym showing off their awesome costumes. Everyone enjoyed singing and dancing to ‘The Monster Mash’.

Inclement Weather



Updated information about any unplanned school closure will be posted on the School District website at www.mpsd.ca

You can also tune your radio to:

- CBC radio One
- CKNW – 980 AM
- Country – 107.1 FM
- CKNW (News 1130) 1130 AM
- Star FM – 98.3 FM

Decisions about school schedules and bus route changes are almost always made in the early morning before school to allow for the most current weather information to factor into the decision. Information is communicated immediately, generally before 6:30 am. We understand these decisions have an impact on our families and appreciate your patience during these severe weather situations. While we know that our students and families are best served when we are open, our top concern is the safety of our students and staff. The final decision to send students to school resides with parents since they know the road and weather conditions in their respective areas. Parents/guardians should be reminded to dress their children warmly during inclement

weather conditions as schools are sometimes cooler than normal.

Dress for the Weather

Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. We recommend coats, boots and a change of clothing in your child’s backpack in case their clothes get wet. Students will be outside for recess and lunch unless severe weather conditions.



BEAR Aware

At this time of year, the school may receive calls from the public alerting us of bears in the area. Our community is reminded to call 1-877-952-7277 when a bear is spotted. Please discuss the following steps with your child in order to ensure their safety if they encounter a bear:

- Remain calm
- Do not scream or yell as this may provoke the bear.
- Do not run as this may trigger the bear to chase.
- Slowly move away to the nearest location.

Parents in our neighborhood are reminded to monitor garbage, pet food, bird feeders, berry bushes, and their barbeques to discourage any special guest attracted to your yard. To learn more go to <https://wildsafebc.com/>

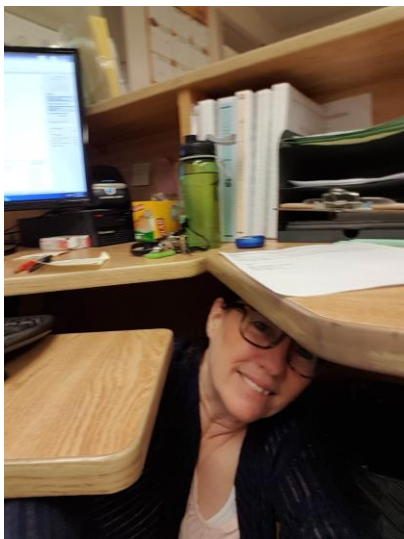


Lice

Head lice are tiny insects. They are difficult to see, but the eggs or “nits” are found glued to the hair. Nits are different from dandruff as dandruff is easily removed while nits have to be pulled along the hair shaft. Head lice are spread by direct contact with an infested person, or indirectly by contact with their personal items like combs, hats, hair bands, clothing and towels.

If the school becomes aware that a child has lice or nits, parents are contacted and letters will go home with all children in that class warning parents that a case has been found. Parents of children with head lice must carry out an insecticide program. Please call the Health Unit at 604-814-5500 or go to www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthfiles/hfile06.stm for more information.

Earthquake Drill



On October 19th at 10:45 am, West Heights Community School participated in the practice along with millions of people worldwide on how to “**Drop, Cover and Hold On**” during the Great ShakeOut

Earthquake Drills.

Mission Library

Storytime

Tues, Nov 1-Dec 12, 10:30-11 am

Introduce kids to the love of books and language with Storytime! Children and caregivers will enjoy interactive stories, songs, rhymes, and more. Storytime prepares children to learn to read.

Wiggle Time

Wed, Nov 1-Dec 13, 10:30-11:30 am

No need to sit still! Introduce your toddlers to the joy of books in a fun and friendly atmosphere! Kids will enjoy a half hour of interactive rhyme, songs and stories, followed by half-hour of play and social time.

Babytime

Thursday, Nov 2-Nov 30, 10:30-11:30 am

Make language fun! Start early with Babytime. Help your baby develop speech and language skills - enjoy bouncing, singing and rhyming with stories. Babytime is a fun, social bonding activity for babies AND caregivers.

LEGO Club

Tuesday, Nov 7 - Dec 19, 3:30-4:30 pm

We provide the LEGO, you bring your imagination! Come play, create and experiment.

Snowflakes and Sleigh bells! Puppet Show

Tuesday, December 5, 6:45 pm – 7:30 pm

‘Tis the season to sing songs, enjoy some holiday stories and a puppet show because Christmas is coming!