

White Rock Elementary School

We're on the Web!

Newsletter 10/2/23
Volume 1, Issue 2

<https://www.surreyschools.ca/whiterockelem>

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October Newsletter...

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

Our school year is progressing very well. It was nice to see many families during our Parent Night and during drop off and pick up times. We would also like to thank the many parents that have volunteered for the PAC, hot lunches and field trips. If your children are experiencing severe cold symptoms like worsening coughs, runny nose and sneezing, please keep them at home until they are better.

Thanks again,

Jas Atwal

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Upcoming Dates of Interest

Monday, October 2nd Truth and Reconciliation (No School)

Wednesday, October 4th – PAC Meeting at 6 pm

Thursday, October 5th – World Teachers Day

Thursday, October 5th – Grade 7 Camp Parent Meeting 6 pm

Friday, October 6th – Wear Fall Colours (Brown, Yellow, Red, Orange)

Monday, October 9th – Thanksgiving Day (No School)

Monday, October 16th – PJ Day (Drop Everything And Read)

Friday, October 20th – Non-Instructional Day (No School)

Tuesday, October 24 - Grade 6 Immunizations

Wednesday, October 25 – Photo Retakes

Thursday, October 26 – Halloween Dance 5-8 pm

Friday, October 31st - Halloween Costumes

Wednesday, November 1st - Early Dismissal 1:27 pm

Thursday, November 2nd – Early Dismissal 1:27 pm

Friday, November 10th – Professional Development Day (No School)

Monday, November 13th – Remembrance Day In (No School)

Upcoming Events

- ◆ PAC Meeting 4th
- ◆ Gr. 7 Camp Mtg 5th
- ◆ Thanksgiving Day
- ◆ PJ and DEAR Day
- ◆ Pro-D-Day 20th
- ◆ Photo Retakes 25th
- ◆ Family Dance 26th
- ◆ Halloween 31st

Parent Night Pics...

It was a pleasure hosting all the parents and families for our Parent Night last week. We hope to see you at future events soon.



Photo Retakes/Ordering...

Photo orders have arrived at the school for those that have ordered prints from the initial photo day. Photo retake day will take place on October 25th for families that did not like the individual picture or missed photo day. We will send a reminder about retakes a few days before they begin.



Parent Visitor Protocol

All visitors must report to the office of the school due to safety reasons. One of our office staff will be happy to assist you. You can contact your child's teacher to make an appointment if necessary.

Lunches/Water Bottles

Students should bring water bottles and lunches to school daily in the morning. If you need to drop off a lunch, please label the lunches and place them on the table in the lobby. Please bring special lunches like Subway or McDonalds to the Office.

Lates and Absences

Please call and let us know if your child will be late or absent. We call you if you have not called in so we can ensure the safety of your child. If we are not available to pick up the phone, please leave a message on the answering machine. This would help us at the office immensely.
(604-531-5731)

Student Planners...

Planners have arrived and have been issued to teachers. The planners will cost \$5. The planners will have important information



about the school and District in the front 8 pages. Please refer to these pages for school contact information, school address and school code of contact. Please use School Cash Online for your payment. Cash payments will also be accepted.
<https://surreyschools.schoolcashonline.com/>

School Cash Online...

School Cash online is an online payment program run through the School District. It is completely safe and does not cost any additional fees. We will use this online method for planners, field trips, Fine Arts fees and Kindergarten Supplies. If you need help registering or adding your child to the account please call Ms. Foreman. The fees owing will already be attached to your child's profile. Go to the following link to start an account or make payment:
<https://surreyschools.schoolcashonline.com/>
Cash payments can also be made if necessary.



Before and After School Care

Are you looking for a fun Before and After School care program for your child? Alex House is offering a day care program at White Rock Elementary in the Fine Arts Studio before and after school (7:30-8:30 am and 2:30-5:30 pm). Please contact 604-535-0015 or visit www.alexhouse.net for more details.

Truth and Reconciliation and Federal Holiday...

Each year, The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation takes place on September 30. This day is meant to honour Canada's residential school survivors, their families and communities. The holiday publicly commemorates the history and ongoing legacy of the schools. In honour of this day, October 2nd was a Federal Holiday and schools were closed.



Drop off and Pick Up Safety Policy...

- ALWAYS HAVE YOUR CHILDREN EXIT TO THE SIDEWALK SIDE OF THE VEHICLE
- Never open the door to the interior of the street to exit out as cars may be passing
- Please drive slowly in front of the school.
- Look both ways before exiting the drop off area
- Do not double park on the street
- Do not overpass a stopped car as they may be stopped for students to cross
- Park one block down the street and walk to pick up your children
- Use the drop off and pick area in the parking lot with caution



Terry Fox Run and Fundraising for Cancer Research...



Thank you for your amazing contributions during our "Toonies for Terry Fundraising". Our school raised over \$925 through coin donations and another \$150 online. You have all done an amazing job raising money for cancer research. You can still go online and make a pledge to our Terry Fox Run school pledge site at <https://schools.terryfox.ca/31798>. We are just \$75 shy of our goal of \$1150.



Important Forms to Bring Back to School...

Coming Home this Month:

Important forms will be coming home that will need your immediate attention. There will be:

- 1.) a **media consent form**,
- 2.) a **Student Information Verification Form**
- 3.) a **Technology Form**

All forms will need to be reviewed, updated and returned to school. **It is VERY important that all three forms are returned promptly** so we can update our records and students can participate in all educational opportunities.



PAC Meeting Information October 4th at 6 pm...

Our Next PAC Meeting will take place on:

Wednesday, October 4 at 6pm in the ART ROOM

Babysitting will be available

Volunteer Call Out:

*volunteers can be any family member, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, household members.

Please email us whiterockpac@gmail.com

Fundraiser Lunch Volunteers: Please sign up in [Munchalunch](#).

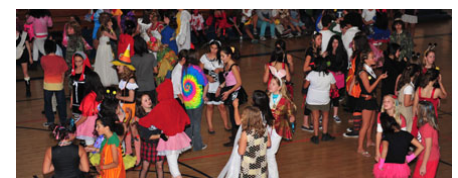
Ways you can help

- Organize the alphabetical letters for the outside sign (can be taken home overnight).
- Change the sign- short notice request.
- Help PAC with communication posts – ex: facebook, instagram
- Attend a PAC meeting: PAC meetings are a 1 hour commitment.
- Buy "PAC snacks" for sports day or fundraiser lunches from PAC fun
- Create a PAC newsletter
- Review and improve the coin drive information for parents (February)
- Help with Babysitting /Stay Safe course 1 hour shifts
- Help distribute hot lunch (Thursdays from 11-1230; sign up in Munchalunch
- Help with Halloween Dance and cake silent auction
- Be the Grade 7 rep /PAC contact (spring 2023. From February- June)
- Winter fundraiser (2 parents Nov-Dec)
- COIN DRIVE. Count the money collected - daytime school hours (2 parents, Spring 2023)
- YEARBOOK- Compile a school yearbook with Mountain West Studios and student leadership (January 2023 start. Work spread over 2-3 months) - ideal for 2 individuals, gr 7 parents)

We look forward to meeting you and helping to support the students this year.

Family Halloween Dance Oct. 26 Run by our PAC...

The PAC is hosting a Halloween Dance on Thursday, October 26th from 5 to 8 pm. The PAC has booked a DJ for Music. The dance is meant for all families that want to attend and have some family fun. Students that attend must be accompanied by at least one adult. Costumes may be worn but we would like adults and students to follow the costume guidelines attached at the end of the newsletter. The District does not allow real or replica weapons of any kind so please do not bring real or fake guns, knives, swords, axes, etc. Costumes should be school appropriate. The PAC will be sending out more information about how to volunteer, the concession and other fun activities that may be included as part of the dance festivities. We look forward to seeing you there.



Trick or Treating Tips...

1. Be creative, wear make up instead of a mask.
2. Be sure your child's costume is flameproof.
3. Wear light clothing that is easy to see at night.
4. Carry a flashlight, so you can see in areas where there might not be much light.
5. Go with friends or your brothers and/or sisters and preferably one parent should accompany each group of children.
6. Walk on the same side of the street instead of criss-crossing the street.
7. Children should be instructed to cross only at intersections.
8. Children should trick or treat in well-known areas only.
9. Never go into a strange house or apartment.
10. Children should avoid stray animals.
11. Know where the Block Parent homes are in your area in case you are frightened, or hurt.
12. Have your parents check your treats before you eat them.

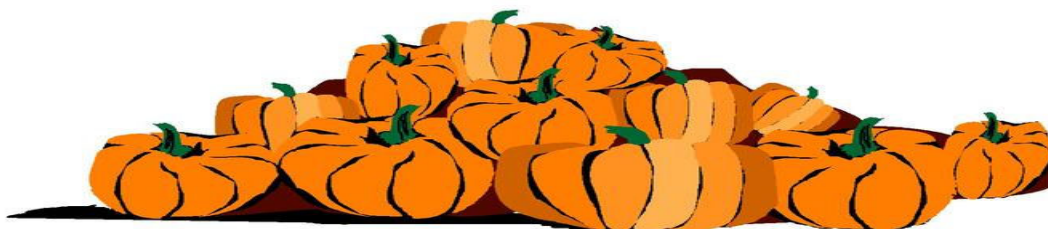


Costume Guidelines Tips...

This year, we are again allowing costumes to be worn at school on October 26th for the school dance and on October 31st. There are strict guidelines that no weapons of any sort are allowed even if they are fake (guns, knives, swords, etc.). In addition, masks with flowing blood or with high amounts of blood will not be allowed. Costumes must not be too revealing either. Students that do not meet the criteria will be asked to change. If you do not wish to wear a costume, you can wear orange and black. There will be a costume sharing time where each class will share student costumes from their classrooms. We will be giving you more information towards the end of the month regarding costume guidelines.

Halloween Fireworks Safety Tips...

Every Halloween, children and adults are seriously injured by fireworks and firecrackers. On occasion, fireworks/firecracker use has even resulted in death. According to municipal by-laws, it is illegal for any person under the age of 18 to be in possession of fireworks/firecrackers of any kind. The by-law was a response to the number of injuries and other damage caused each fall around Halloween by these explosive devices. The penalty is a fine up to \$100 and seizure of the fireworks. It is illegal even for adults to explode fireworks without a permit. Please discuss the legal and safety implications of fireworks with your children. Security guards will be on site during Halloween and any fireworks brought on school property can be confiscated and students involved may face suspension.



Fundamental Skills Assessment...

The Fundamental Skills Assessment Tests (FSA's) will be used this year for all Grade 4, Grade 7 and Grade 10 students. The FSA's are a Provincial wide test that assesses the Reading Writing and Math knowledge students have. These tests will be starting in the next few weeks. You will get the results sent to you directly. The FSA results will show you how your child performed in the different areas in relation to the rest of the provincial grade group. Only students that have designations or if they are beginner English Language Learners will be excluded from writing the tests.



Greenspace Between Fir and Merklin...



On the other side of the cross walk on Fir Street, there is a greenspace that is private property. It is not designated as a pathway to Merklin Street. Please use the sidewalk to get around the green space as the neighbours continue to see heavy traffic through their property.

School Soccer Team...

Our Grade 6 and 7 soccer team has been practicing the last few weeks in preparation for the Playday tournament on October 12th. They recently had a great game against Ray Shepherd. Great job team.



Cross Country Team...

Our Grade 4-7 Cross Country team has been practicing for their Tuesday Cross Country events. Many of our athletes have finished very well in the races and look forward to improving their finishing places. Congratulation to our racers.

Family Assistance Fund...

The Family Assistance Fund from the Ministry allows our schools to help families that need assistance with costs associated with school related activities. If you are a family in need of financial help for school related activities, please contact the office and we will help where we can. This may include planners, backpacks, school supplies, field trips or related,

Grade 7 Camp Parent Meeting...

The Grade 7 teachers will be holding a Parent Meeting for Grade 7 Camp on Thursday, October 5th at 6 pm in our School Theatre. We will provide all the information you need about camp, volunteering to be a chaperone and activities the students can participate in.