

Little Mountain Elementary School Newsletter



May 31, 2016 Gabe D'Archangelo, Principal | Tel 604.792.0681 | gabe_darchangelo@sd33.bc.ca | <http://littlemountain.sd33.bc.ca>

“Only 17 Days left!! WHERE DID THE TIME GO?????”

Dear Parents;

Time certainly has a way of flying by. It seemed like only last week that the students walked in the doors for their first day of school in September. From that first day through until today I have enjoyed every minute watching all of our students mature and excel both academically and socially. I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to you, the parents of our school, for your support, your words of encouragement and your words of advice throughout the past year. I feel we have accomplished a great deal thus far and yet we are only really beginning our journey towards excellence at Little Mountain Elementary School.

Someone much wiser than I once said, “Nothing ever really stays the same, a school is either improving or declining.” It is with this adage in mind that we will be revisiting our School Plan reflecting on progress that has been made and evaluating challenges that have occurred. The intent of the School Plan is to establish a direction for the school that reflects who we are and what we value educationally. For the next school year our school’s focus will continue to be Literacy and Numeracy. Our students continue to do well in these two areas but, as a collective whole, we feel that there is always room for improvement. Our school plan outlines the school-wide and classroom based initiatives, in these two areas, that we feel will continue to strengthen our student’s skills next year. Once our plan has been approved by our Superintendent it will be posted on our website for your perusal.

In addition to these two goals, as a staff we will continue to work hard addressing the needs of the “whole child.” We will continue to be an Action School reinforcing in our children the importance of leading a healthy, active lifestyle. We will also continue to work with our children in the area of Social Responsibility, encouraging them to meet expectations and rewarding those that exceed expectations.

June has been and will continue to be a hectic month. Over the next 17 days, your children will go through a wide range of emotions. They will be saying goodbye to friends and classmates that have been a big part of their lives this past year, while anticipating the summer break and new adventures in September. As a staff we will also be working hard to wrap up this school year, and at the same time looking towards the next school year and the experiences that it will bring. On behalf of the staff I would like to extend our appreciation for your ideas and suggestions throughout the year. Please feel free to continue to put forward these suggestions next year as we all work together to make this school a wonderful place for your children, our students, to attend.



June Dates to Remember:

Friday, June 3 - Enrichment Students to Cultus Lake

Our enrichment Students in Grades 1 through 6 will be participating in a Field trip to Cultus Lake where they will be introduced to Kayaking. Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for this field trip.

Monday, June 6 – School Hike

All our students in K-6 will be travelling to the Othello Tunnels to participate in our last hike of the year. If you wish to be a parent volunteer for this trip please contact your child’s teacher to make this arrangement. Please note that a Criminal Record Check must have already been completed and on file if you are planning on participating in this activity as a Parent Volunteer.

Thursday, June 9 – Peer Helper Celebration Day

In recognition of the hard work and dedication that our Peer Helpers have exhibited this year, they will be participating in a field trip to Cultus Lake Water Park. All of our Peer Helpers, from grades 4 to 6 have had a significant impact on the culture and climate of our school and we are grateful for their dedication throughout the year. Students will be leaving the school at 8:45 a.m. and will be back at the school at approximately 2:00 p.m.

Friday, June 10 - Library Books Due back at the School....PLEASE HELP!!!

Please help us keep our school library as complete and productive as possible by ensuring that ALL Library Books are returned to the school prior to this date. Each year we have 40 - 50 books lost or misplaced by our students to a loss of approximately \$750.00 from our School Resource Budget. Please help us this year by ensuring all of your child's books are returned, there-by allowing us to spend the money on new resources for the Library and not replacing what was lost or misplaced.



Friday, June 10 – Super Reader Assembly - 8: 45 am

Please join us at 8: 40 a.m. as we recognize those students who have reached our school goal of reading 200 nights. Students at this assembly will be recognized for reaching 3 benchmarks: 100 Nights of Reading since the last assembly; 200 Nights of Reading; 250 Nights of reading and receiving a Coles Gift Certificate from the Kiwanis Club of Chilliwack.

Friday, June 10 – "LME's Got Talent" Show - 12: 45 p.m.

56 solos, duos and small groups have signed up to audition for an opportunity to perform at our Talent Show on June 10th. After auditions this week our judging panel staff will narrow the number of students performing to 15. The final performance line-up will be posted at the office and on our website. A parent audience is encouraged and appreciated.

Monday, June 13 – “Grouse Grind”

A select few of our students, who have met a pre-determined “running” goal, will be going on a special field trip on June 13th. These identified students will set out to conquer the Grouse Grind, having lunch at the top and then having a Gondola trip back down to the bus. Please remember to dress your child appropriately for this excursion.

Wednesday, June 15 - Primary Fun Day

Our Fun Day for Kindergarten through Grade 3 students is planned for Wednesday June 15th. Students will spend the morning rotating through various stations and activities. In the afternoon, our Kindergarten Students will be enjoying a movie and popcorn, our Grade 1 classes will be going to the Rotary Pool to swim and our Grade 2 and 3 classes will participate in various races and relays. To ensure that this day is a success we are in desperate need of Parent Volunteers. Parent Volunteers will accompany their children from station to station ensuring the activity is understood by the students in the group. If you are able to help, please indicate below or contact your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Thursday, June 16 - Intermediate Sports Day

Our Intermediate Sports Day will be held on Thursday, June 16th, this year. We are in need of parent volunteers to run stations in the morning for cooperative games. If you are able to spare 90 minutes of time on this day, please complete the form at end of this newsletter, contact the office or your child's teacher. Please keep in mind that our Sports Day will only be as successful as the number of volunteers that we have helping us at the different stations.



Monday, June 20 – District Track and Field Meet

Our Track and Field team, comprised of students from Grades 3 to 6 will be participating in the District meet on Monday, June 20th. All events will take place at Sardis Senior Secondary School. The only exception will be the 1500 metre race, which will be taking place on Wednesday June 15th, at 3: 30 p.m. at the same venue. Please look for a permission slip to come home next week if your child has been participating in the practises at school and has been selected to represent our school.

Tuesday, June 21 - Primary Celebration Assembly - 12: 45 pm

Our students in Kindergarten through Grade 3 will be having their year-end Celebration Assembly on June 21st. Please join us as some classes will be performing for their Primary Peers.

Wednesday, June 22 – Intermediate Year end Awards Assembly

Our year-end assembly, beginning at 8: 45 a.m., is an opportunity for our school to recognize our Intermediate students for a variety of achievements in different areas of the curriculum throughout the past school year. This assembly is also an opportunity for our school to wish our exiting Grade 6's the best of luck as they continue on their educational journey. Students will be dismissed at 11: 00 a.m. on Wednesday.



Thursday, June 23 – Year-end Celebration

Throughout this past year, we have talked to our students about Little Mountain Elementary School being a very large family and that we need to treat each other with respect, help each other when there is a need and celebrate our successes. The end of the school year is a cause for celebration and therefore all of our Students in Good Standing will be spending the day together at either Bridal Falls Water Park (Kindergarten - Grade 3) or at Cultus Lake Waterpark (Grades 4 - 6). Parents who would like to also be in attendance at either venue are welcome to meet us at the respective venue. Report cards will be issued to students at the end of the school day on the 23rd. Please look for a permission slip next week indicating specifics.

Other Items of Interest...

We wish you well!

June is unfortunately a time that we say goodbye to people who have made a difference in our school. Our Grade 6 students, many of whom have been with us since Kindergarten have left their mark on our school this past year and we are certain that they will continue to be extremely successful in middle school. In addition, this year we are saying goodbye to staff members who have made a difference in the lives of our students both short and long term. Mrs. Bugden, Ms. Dalton, Ms. Macdonald Ms. Taylor and Ms. Tester will be leaving our school at the end of this school year and will each be making a difference in the academic growth and success of students at other schools in our School District. From our Student Support team, Ms. Baumstark, Ms. Currie, Mrs. Doell and Ms. Raine, will also be working at other schools in our district in the new school year providing direct support to those students who require their expertise to be successful each day. All will be missed greatly by our entire school community; staff, students and parents alike.

Beach Wear

As the weather begins to warm up, our children begin wearing less clothing to school. Please keep in mind that our school, like all other schools in our district does have a dress code that we expect all of our students to follow. A “rule of thumb” that we are using with our students is, **“If it doesn’t tuck you are out of luck.”** Please ensure that your child is wearing clothing that is suitable for their PLACE OF WORK. Spaghetti straps and halter-tops, shorts classified as “short-shorts” are not the best choice of clothing for school. (Please be aware that this rule is directed more towards our intermediate students than our primary students.) Students who, in our opinion are not appropriately dressed will be asked to call home for suitable clothing. Thank you for your help in monitoring your child’s clothing choice for school.

News from the PAC

For the next 3 weeks on Fridays, the PAC will be selling Ice-Cream at Recess to students for \$1.00 each. In addition the PAC will also have a Hot Lunch for students to order on both the Primary Fun day and the Intermediate Sports Day.

Yearbooks

The hottest commodity in our school next 2 weeks will be the fabulous yearbook that Ms. Heemskerck has spearheaded and helped put together. Students will be receiving a form to pre-order a yearbook. A small number may be available at the office to purchase for those families who do not pre-order and then change their minds. The cost for the yearbook this year is only \$17.00. The limited number of yearbooks available through the office at a later date, will be sold on a first-come basis.

School Photos

By now you should have received your class photo. Lifetouch is making the school panorama photo and the grade 6 grad photo available online for purchase at www.lifetouchevents.com (use guess password: littlemountain16). Additional to those online orders, students will be receiving an order form for the other group photos, please wait to receive those or check in the office next week.

Summer Reading.....iPod prize

In an effort to continue to promote the importance of reading through the summer, we are asking all of our students to join the Summer Reading Program at the Public Library. Any student who joins and participates in this program will have their name entered into **a draw for an iPod**. Proof of participation will be needed to have your child’s name entered into the draw. The draw will be held at the first assembly in September.



Student Supplies for September

This year, we will once again be handling school supplies in the same manner as the last year where all students, in Kindergarten through Grade 6, will be given their supplies by their classroom teacher once they are set up in their classroom in September. Parents will be notified of the cost and if any teacher specific items still need to be purchased. Please feel free to call the school if you have any concerns / questions/ clarification regarding this format for September.

Kindergarten Gradual Entry

All students attending kindergarten in September will be contacted in August by their kindergarten teacher. One of the informational items that parents will be given will be the gradual entry schedule for these new students. If you have not received this package by August 10th, please email the school.

First Day of School

The first day of the 2016 – 2017 school year will be **Tuesday, September 6, 2016**. Students will be in session until **recess** on the first day. Our school, at this time has a Wait List for students wanting to attend Little Mountain in September. If you are planning on returning to our school, but, your child will not be in attendance the first day, please contact the school as soon as possible so that we do not give away your child’s spot to someone on the Wait List.

Bell Schedule Adjustment

Please note that we have made a minor adjustment to our bell schedule for next year to fulfill the directive from the Ministry of Education:

LME Elementary Bell Schedule 9900 Carleton Street, Chilliwack, B.C. V2 Phone: 604-792-0681	
8: 20 am	First Bell
8: 25 am	Session Begins
10: 05 am –10: 20 am	Morning Recess
12: 00 pm - 12: 32 pm	Lunch Break
12: 35 pm	PM session begins
2: 13 pm	Dismissal



School Calendar 2016 – 2017

*** Please note that all activities, except for Professional Development Days and Holidays are tentative dates and may be adjusted as events dictate during the school year. ***

September 2016:

September 6	School Opens – students dismissed at 10:00 a.m.
September 13	“Meet the Teacher” Event
September 23	Non-Instructional Day - School District # 33 Schools Closed
September 19 – 30	Cancer Awareness Weeks - Terry Fox Run / Cops For Cancer

October 2016:

October 10	Thanksgiving Day – School Closed
October 13	School Photos
October 17	School Hike # 1
October 19	Non-Instructional Day – Provincial Schools Closed

November 2016:

November 10	Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10: 30 a.m.
November 11	Remembrance Day – Schools Closed
November 25	Non-Instructional Day – School District # 33 Schools Closed

December 2016:

December 5	Term 1 Report Cards Home
December 8	Early Dismissal for Parent – Teacher Interviews
December 14 / 215	Christmas Production
December 16	Last day before Christmas vacation

January 2017:

January 3	First day back from Christmas vacation
January 23	Non-Instructional Day - Little Mountain Elementary Closed

February 2017:

February 11	Family Day – School Closed
February 16	Wind and Tide Pre-school closed
February 24	Non-Instructional Day – School District # 33 Schools Closed

March 2017:

March 10	Early Dismissal for Parent – Teacher Interviews
March 13 - 24	Spring Break

April 2017:

April 3	School Hike # 2
April 6	Term # 2 Report Cards Home
April 14	Good Friday – School Closed
April 17	Easter Monday – School Closed

May 2017:

May 2	Class Photos
May 5	Non-Instructional Day – School District #33 Schools Closed
May 19	Non-Instructional Day – School District #33 Schools Closed
May 20	Victoria Day – School Closed

June 2017:

June 5	“Grouse Grind”
June 12	Hike # 3
June 28	Year End Assembly – Students dismissed at 11: 00 am
June 29	Year End Celebration – Waterslides - Last day for students

Sports Day Request for Assistance

_____ **I am able to volunteer to help at an “Activity Station”**

_____ **I am able/willing to help in other areas on Sports Day**

Name: _____

Contact Number: _____

Email address: _____

Child(ren) at LME: _____
