



Little Mountain Elementary School Newsletter



Chilliwack
School District

October 2017

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Principal's Message

September has been a great month for all of us here at Little Mountain Elementary. Our students have settled in to another year of focused growth. Our school community continues to be strengthened through our student leadership, high quality instruction and incredibly supportive parents. Our teachers are working with the BC New Curriculum and preparing our students for the 21st Century. We are teaching our students skills in: critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity, computing, career learning and cross-cultural understandings. We continue to reinforce our 4 B's Code of Conduct at all times of "Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible". In October, we will be reviewing our matrix and focusing on playground and school ground expectations. As we approach Thanksgiving, our staff would like to wish everyone a very special time spent with family and friends.

Terry Fox Run & Cops For Cancer

Our Terry Fox Run and Cops for Cancer was very successful. We continue to support Terry Fox's goal to find a cure for cancer. Thanks to all of our students and parents who brought in donations and to Mrs. Huitema, Mrs. L. Price, our parent volunteers and Mrs. McGowan's class for helping to organize this event and count all our coins. Our goal was to raise \$500.00 and we went above and beyond by raising over \$1300! Well done Little Mountain!

Cross Country

Our Cross Country team has been running hard and had their first meet yesterday. Thank you to Miss. Atkinson and Mrs. McGowan for coaching the Cross Country team!

Soccer

LME has both a boys' and girls' soccer team this year with students from Grade 4-6. Both teams are doing very well. Thank you for your commitment and hard work on the field! Thank you to our coaches Mr. Allen and Mr. Chater, Mrs. Moore and Mrs. McGowan.

Peer Leadership Team

Our Peer Leaders from grades 4-6 had their first Peer Leader meeting today. I just wanted to thank them for their commitment and willingness to be a leader at LME! Our Peer Leader training sessions will occur during the school day. It is very important that all Peer Leaders attend the training sessions that usually occur the first Friday at lunch.



Friendly Reminder: Little Mountain is a NUT FREE School

This year we have several children who have life-threatening nut allergies. Reaction to contact (touch, ingestion, etc.) with nuts can be life-threatening to these children. Therefore, we have found it necessary to ask children to be very selective with what they bring for lunch and for snack time. We would like to have a safe environment for all of our students and therefore we are asking that you carefully monitor what your child will be eating at school each day. The rule to follow is "If in doubt, DON'T pack it" PLEASE. We are aware that for some people it may create some difficulties with preparing what your child brings each day but making a mistake for these children with allergies could result in drastic consequences. Thank you for your assistance and understanding with this matter.

PAC Hot Lunch Program

Hot Lunch is up and running on Fridays. The PAC online program gives you the opportunity to order/pay ahead for the entire year, or in increments at your own pace. Please note you are also able to change/cancel an order as long as it is done by the ordering deadline. You will be able to register your child as soon as you know who his/her teacher will be for the year.

To register your child please complete the following process:

- go to lme.hotlunches.net
- click on "click here to register"
- enter access code: lmepac
- complete the rest of the registration form - please include an email address to ensure you receive reminders of hot lunch order deadlines as well as your child's order for upcoming lunches.
- click the "register now" button at the bottom of the page.
- follow the instructions to add each child in your family who attends LME.
- once your child(ren) are registered click on "orders" and proceed to place your orders.

Please note that the order will not be completed until payment is made. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Lindsey Day, our Hot Lunch Coordinator at the school or at lindseyday182@gmail.com. Paper forms are also available at the office and can be handing in to the PAC room.

Pick Up and Drop Off

Please help us by adhering to the following:

- Please follow and respect all parking bylaw signs – including those on Portage Ave.
- All schools are "Idle Free Zones." We have young lungs developing and we appreciate you turning off your vehicle while waiting to pick up your child.
- Please refrain from parking on sidewalks – we have many students that walk and are finding the sidewalk is partially blocked when they are walking home.
- We appreciate the fact that parking is tight. I am in the process of working with the city and their "Safe School Travel Program," to help develop a plan that assists the school, students and parents to think of different options for safe travel.

Dismissal Expectations

In an effort to ensure that all of our students arrive safely at home directly after dismissal, it is expected that ALL students go directly home after they have been dismissed unless they are being directly supervised on the playground by a parent or guardian after-school. If a student lives close to the school, they are asked to not return to the school grounds until after 3:00 pm each day. Our after school supervision ends at 2:25. The teachers on supervision will ask all students who haven't been picked up to wait at the office.

School News and Updates

For updated information on weekly school and class events please visit the school website at <http://littlemountain.sd33.bc.ca/www.sd33.bc.ca>. We will also send out an "Upcoming Weekly Events" email every Friday to inform parents of important events for the upcoming week.

Student Absences

Please be sure to contact the school at (604)792-0681 or email Ms. Heemskerk at kim_heemskerk@sd33.bc.ca if your child will be late or absent. We have an answering machine in the office for early morning and afternoon/evening calls. If your child is NOT in attendance and we haven't heard from you, we will call. Your child's safety is our primary concern.

Parent Volunteers

Parent volunteers are welcomed and cherished by the staff at our school. Having another person(s) to work with children on specific activities was an invaluable resource that many of our staff took advantage of last year. For those parents who are interested in volunteering in our school (classroom, library, field trips, etc.), please check with Ms. Heemskerk at the office to see if your "Police Information Check" is up to date or if you need one done. We will be hosting a "Volunteer Information Session" on October 23rd from 9:00am-9:45am. Please RSVP at the office to let us know if you're coming. We will be serving coffee and muffins.

Please Sign In

This is just a quick reminder that ALL adult visitors to our school need to check in at the office before going to their destination in the building. In this way we have an opportunity to keep track of who is in the building in case of an emergency and it also gives Ms. Heemskerk an opportunity to meet and touch base with the parents of the students in our school. In addition, please keep in mind that teaching/learning time is critical for all of our staff and students. If it is imperative that you speak with your child's teacher, please keep in mind that the best time to do this is in the morning, prior to 8: 20 a.m. and/or after 2: 10 p.m. If this is not possible, please notify the office of the pressing situation and we will make every effort possible to ensure that you have the opportunity to talk to the staff member in question. Thank you for your cooperation with this procedure.

Parent Volunteers

Parent volunteers are welcomed and cherished by the staff at our school. Having another person(s) to work with children on specific activities was an invaluable resource that many of our staff took advantage of last year. For those parents who are interested in volunteering in our school (classroom, library, field trips, etc.), please check with Ms. Heemskerk at the

office to see if your “Police Information Check” is up to date or if you need one done. We will be hosting a “Volunteer Information Session” on October 3rd. Please stay tuned for more information.

IMPORTANT DATES

October

- 9 Thanksgiving Day – no school
- 12 Individual Picture Day
- 13 Hot Lunch - Panago
- 16 Bus Evacuation Practice
- 16 6:30pm PAC Meeting in the Library
- 17 Gr. 6 Immunizations
- 19 Earthquake Drill
- 20 ProD Day – no school
- 23 9:00-9:45 Parent Volunteer Info Training – please RSVP to Ms. H
- 24 School wide Hike day
- 27 Hot Lunch – Hot dog
- 31 Orange and Black Day