



# ÉCOLE MARY HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1890 Humber Crescent, Port Coquitlam, B.C., V3C 2V7  
Phone: 604-942-0264 Fax: 604-942-3157



Learn to Live



Live to Learn

## NEWSLETTER

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Margo McKnight, Principal

January 2012

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### Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

#### MISSION STATEMENT:

Within our community we strive to develop enthusiastic, respectful citizens who value diversity and learning and who pursue excellence in a safe and caring environment.

Goal: to increase students' reading comprehension

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF VOLUNTEERS

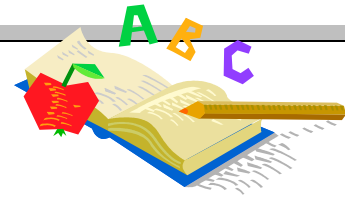
"The closer the parent is to the education of the child, the greater the impact on child development and educational achievement." *Fullan 1991*

At Mary Hill, we are fortunate to have so many parents who volunteer their time to help with special projects and fundraising. Our learning community is richer because of all the time and energy our students' parents give to our school. It is important to remember that all parents are giving their time on a volunteer basis because they feel that their involvement will make a difference for their child and for other children as well. All parents are very busy - that's the basic definition of parenthood. It is important to remember that those who volunteer are busy too. It is all too easy to criticise the way another parent is doing a volunteer job, either because things are not being done as quickly as someone would like, or because the job is not being done in quite the same way as in the past. There are different ways to get jobs done and we need to be patient with those who have agreed to help.

Email communication is not always the best way to deal with issues because it is too fast and impersonal. It is my experience that many are willing to write words that they would not feel comfortable saying either on the phone or in person. We teach the students at Mary Hill to follow the Golden Rule - to treat others the way they want to be treated. As the adults in the community, we need to model the same behaviour, be it in the halls, in the way we interact with others or in the way we communicate. It disturbs me to hear that parents are not comfortable coming to school because of the way in which others have spoken to them or because of emails they have received from other parents. We need to celebrate everything that each one of us brings to the Mary Hill community and to treat everyone with patience and kindness. When we disagree or when we are having problems, we must treat each other with respect. What are we teaching our children if we do not?

Margo McKnight

## **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2012**



### **When Can My Child Start Kindergarten?**

- Children who are five years old before December 31, 2012 may enter school in September 2012.
- You may defer your child's enrolment until September 2013.

### **When Should I Register My Child?**

- Kindergarten registration for all programs (except Montessori, Bilingual Mandarin and French Immersion) within School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) will be held on February 7, 8, and 9 in all elementary schools.
- **Beginning this year, registration for Early French Immersion will be done online from January 19-25, 2012. See the information below for more details.**

### **Should I Bring Anything for Registration?**

- Please bring along proof of citizenship for parent and child (i.e. birth certificate, PR Card, Passport) and proof of residency in B.C. (e.g. rental contract, property purchase agreement, or tax notice, utility bill, etc.).
- Information regarding Kindergarten and parent meetings should be available at every school at the time of registration.

### **Can I use my childcare facility address to determine my child's school attendance area?**

- According to the School Act, enrolment can only be based on the home address.
- All students must be registered for Kindergarten at their catchment area school on February 7, 8 or 9.
- If parents wish their child to attend an out of catchment school they will be provided the opportunity to apply for a cross catchment transfer, beginning on February 10, 2012 with the deadline of February 22, 2012. If enrolment projections show that space is available, cross-catchment transfer applications will be accepted in accordance with the following priorities: (i) catchment area child; (ii) non-catchment area child; and (iii) non school district child.
- **Please note that siblings of students in attendance at a school are considered as a catchment area child at that school.**

### **NON-RESIDENTS**

- Please contact the International Education Department @ 604-936-5769 or visit at 1100 Winslow Ave., Coquitlam.
- Bring along proof of citizenship for parent and student, proof of residency and proof of guardianship (if applicable).

## **EARLY FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM**

### **Early French Immersion Information Meetings**

For those parents interested in French Immersion Kindergarten for September 2012, there will be information meetings held:

#### **Kilmer Elementary**

1575 Knappen St., Port Coquitlam

**January 16th at 7:00 p.m.**

#### **Nestor Elementary**

1266 Nestor St., Port Coquitlam

**January 18th at 7:00 p.m.**

For further information visit [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) or contact Sophie Bergeron at 604-937-6392

## REGISTRATION FOR THE EARLY FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM

Beginning this year, registration for the **Early French Immersion Program** will be available online from 9:00 a.m. January 19th to 4:00 p.m. January 25th, 2012.

- The district is encouraging use of the electronic version of the application form accessed through the district website ([www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca)) beginning January 19th at 9:00 a.m. If you do not have computer access you may wish to contact your catchment French Immersion school for assistance (please call ahead to make arrangements).
- Paper forms will also be available at the following schools and on the district website as of 9:00 a.m. on January 19th: Glen, Glenayre, Irvine, Kilmer, Mary Hill, Nestor, Panorama, Porter and Rochester Elementary Schools.
- All completed paper forms must be returned **in person or by mail** to the school district office at 550 Poirier St., Coquitlam V3J 6A7 by the closing date. **Faxed or emailed copies will not be accepted.**
- You must register your child at the French Immersion School in your catchment. To find out which school is in your catchment, use our school locator at [www.sd43.bc.ca/Schools/SchoolLocator](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/Schools/SchoolLocator).
- Registrations will be processed based on a **first come-first served basis**. Students who have a sibling already enrolled in the French Immersion program at the school will be given priority.
- The system will automatically mark the time we receive the online registration.
- An email confirmation will be sent confirming online registration receipt.
- The receptionist will mark the date and time of all paper copies as they are received at the front desk at the school district office.
- The district will then enter the paper requests into the online system and record the appropriate date and time.
- The registration process will close off promptly at 4:00 p.m. on January 25th.
- Parents should receive communication from the school by February 3rd as to whether or not they were successful in securing a placement.

### MARY HILL BOOK CLUBS

There's a whole lot of reading going on at Mary Hill! The student Book Clubs will begin next week. The Grade 2 and 3 Book Club students will be reading "Ralph S. Mouse". The Grade 4 and 5 Book Club students will be reading "The Secret World of Og". The parent Book Club members are reading "The book of Negroes".

### FOOD FIRST

We are going to continue helping our community by having food drives for the local Food Bank on the first day of every month. If you can contribute a non-perishable item, please send it to school with your child. Every little bit helps - the need is great. For February, Food First will be on Wednesday February 1<sup>st</sup>.

### BIRTHDAY BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY



We would like to thank Liza Isakov, Michael Parkinson, Cassidy Windross, Geoffrey Xie, Lauren Schubak, Megan Schubak, Erin Weisner, Dimitri Karaboitis and Talia Goldstein for donating books to the Mary Hill library to celebrate their birthdays. Christopher Raggett donated a book to celebrate the New Year. Their names have been inscribed in the books and we will acknowledge their gifts at the next assembly. This is a wonderful way to mark your child's birthday instead of bringing treats to school as we have many children with allergies to eggs and nuts and we have to be very careful. Please see Ms. Medan for ideas from our wish list! Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

## PYJAMA STORY TIME



I would like to invite children in Kindergarten and Grade One and their parents to our third Pyjama Story Time on Wed., Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. As I read to the children, I will demonstrate Reading Power techniques that you will be able to use to develop and deepen your child's reading comprehension. This is not a "drop off" event. Parents need to be here with their child. Please bring your child in pyjamas, ready for bed! We will meet in the library. Plan on staying 45 minutes and then going home to pop your child into bed! This is for our students in Kindergarten and Grade 1 only. Babysitting for siblings will not be available.

## RAINY DAYS!



Please make sure that your child has appropriate clothing for our fall and winter weather. Unless it is really pouring, the children will go outside at recess and at lunch so that they can get some fresh air. Hoods, boots and umbrellas are essential! It would be very useful for all students to have a change of clothes at school. The playground gets very wet and slippery and we often have students who get muddy. The students also need to be dressed for cold, frosty weather.

## READING POWER

The third strategy that good readers use when they read involves "questioning". There are two types of questions: literal and inferential. We need to push our young readers past the classic Who? What? Where? When? Why? to What if? What about? Couldn't? Shouldn't? With these questions, often the answer is not in the book or there is not just one right answer. We are trying to help readers think beyond the story. Adrienne Gear says, "I believe children need to be introduced to the idea: Good readers ask questions while they read; some answers can be found right in the story, but if you can't find the answer in the story, the answer has to come from you. Again, it is this reinforcement of metacognition - awareness of thinking, of understanding, of questioning and answering - that empowers students to become more confident constructors of meaning." Here are some stories which are really good for questioning:

- I Wonder Why by Lois Rock
- I Wonder by Tana Hoban
- The Philosopher's Club by Christopher Phillips
- The Day Eddie Met the Author by Louise Borden

*Happy  
questioning!*



## NUMERACY TIPS

Counting is central to the foundational skills and concepts of numeracy. Take advantage of every day, real life experiences to encourage the language and knowledge of counting.

- Meal times: "How many carrots do you have left?"
- Calendar countdowns: "How many sleeps until Halloween?"
- Toys: "Let's count your toys as we are putting them away."
- Walking, skipping and hopping: "How many hops is it from the kitchen to your bedroom?"
- In the car: How many red cars can you see on the way to the store?
- Clocks and watches: How many hours will it be until we go to soccer practice?
- Money, laundry, and dishes all provide excellent sorting and counting experiences.
- Rulers, number puzzles, games, magnetic numbers, dice, cards, computer games, dominoes are all age appropriate items to provide counting experiences.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

We are in the process of submitting the names of our grade 5 students to their respective middle schools for next September's enrolment. Most of our students will be attending Pitt River Middle School - with some going to Maple Creek or Hillcrest. Parents of Grade 5 students have received a letter notifying them of their child's assigned middle school for Grade 6 next year. Parents who want their child to attend a different school than the one assigned, must complete an on-line application or take a form to the Board Office - no exceptions.

- **All requests will begin Feb. 10th @ 9:00 am and close Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 pm**
- The District is encouraging use of the electronic version of the application form accessed through the District website ([www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca)) beginning February 10th
- Paper forms will also be available at all schools and on the District Website as of February 10th. All completed paper forms must be returned **in person or by mail** to the School District Office at 550 Poirier Street, Coquitlam, V3J 6A7 by the closing date. **Faxed or email copies will not be accepted.**
- The District response to cross catchment requests will be communicated in writing and/or email during the week of March 5-9, 2012.

## LATE MONTESSORI REGISTRATION - MONTGOMERY & SCOTT CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOLS

**An invitation to parents:** If you are considering the Montessori program at middle school in September 2012, you are invited to attend an information meeting to learn about the program. An information meeting regarding the middle school program will take place at:

- **Scott Creek Middle School** - 1240 Lansdowne Dr., Coquitlam on Wed., Feb. 1, 2012 at 7:00 pm
- Please note that for this year only Scott Creek will be accepting Gr. 7 students who have attended Montessori at the elementary level.
- For further information visit our website: [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) or contact Rob McFaul, Principal, Montgomery Middle School at 604-939-7367 or email [Montgomery@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:Montgomery@sd43.bc.ca) or contact Judy Robb, Principal, Scott Creek Middle School at 604-945-0156 or email [scottcreek@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:scottcreek@sd43.bc.ca).

### MARY HILL ELEMENTARY IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, January 12	PAC Meeting: 6:30 pm
Thursday, January 19	Kelly Hains Performance: 9:00 am - Parents welcome!
Thursday, January 19	Parent Book Club: 6:30 pm
Friday, January 20	PAC'd Lunch
Wednesday, January 25	Assembly: 10:45 am
Friday, January 27	Professional Day - Students do not attend school
Wednesday, February 1	Food First
February 7 - 9	Kindergarten Registration
Wednesday, February 8	Assembly: 10:45 am
Friday, February 17	Professional Day - Students do not attend school
Wednesday, February 22	Assembly: 10:45 am
Thursday, February 23	PAC Meeting: 6:30 pm
Friday, February 24	PAC'd lunch
Wednesday, March 7	Assembly: 10:45 am
Friday, March 9	Last day of school
Monday, March 26	School Reopens



# COMMUNITY NEWS



SouthSide Family of Schools  
Parent Education

## SOUTHSIDE FAMILY OF SCHOOLS PROUDLY PRESENTS:

### "New Ministry of Education Directions: What Can We Expect for Our Children?"

- An evening with Maureen Dockendorf, Assistant Superintendent and Ministry Advisor
- Tuesday, February 21, 2012 from 6:45 to 8:30 pm at Central Elementary School
- Cost: \$3/adult or \$5/couple
- Free childminding available with advanced registration at [ssfspe@gmail.com](mailto:ssfspe@gmail.com)

### Nurturing the Roots of Natural Self-Esteem in Children

- Featuring: Dr. Deborah MacNamara, Ph.D., a Counselor and Educator in private practice with over 15 years experience working with children, adolescents, and adults.
- Learn about three distinct kinds of self-esteem and how self-worth is based on social approval;
- How self-esteem rooted in healthy development can withstand the ravages of adversity;
- How this type of intrinsic self-worth can be nurtured in children based on the Neufeld paradigm.
- Wednesday, January 18, 2012 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Doors will open at 6:45 pm.
- Citadel Middle School (in the Cafeteria) - 1265 Citadel Dr., Port Coquitlam
- \$5 per couple/\$3 per single
- FREE Childminding available with advance registration
- Light refreshments provided.

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### Nurturing Self-Esteem in Children, Jan. 18, 2012 Citadel Middle School 7:00-8:30 pm

PARENTS' NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER: \_\_\_\_\_ DIVISION: \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Number and age of children requiring minding: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this registration to your school office by Wed., Jan. 11, 2012

Cheques can be made payable to 'SFSPE' or 'Southside Family of Schools Parent Education'.

Alternatively, e-mail us at [ssfspe@gmail.com](mailto:ssfspe@gmail.com) to register and bring payment to presentation.

## **ACTIVITIES AT PLACE DES ARTS!**

**Family Day: Sunday, January 15 1:30-3:30 pm** Tour exhibitions in clay and multi-media. then participate in a variety of all-ages, drop-in style workshops based on these exhibits. Admission by donation. Reserve your spot by calling 604.664.1636.

**Day of the Arts: *Outer Space* - Pro-D Day: Fri., Feb. 17, 8:45 am - 3:45 pm** Day of the Arts: *Outer Space* features a variety of visual and performing arts classes. Visit [www.placedesarts.ca](http://www.placedesarts.ca) for more information or pick up a brochure at Place des Arts. Registration opens January 9 and may be done by phone at 604.664.1636, online at [www.placedesarts.ca](http://www.placedesarts.ca) or in person at 1120 Brunette Ave., Coquitlam.

**Place des Arts Spring Break Camp Mon., March 19 to Fri., March 23, 8:45 am - 3:45 pm** Place des Arts Spring Break Camp is back! This art camp offers a wide array of exciting activities in the visual and performing arts. Optional after-hours care is available until 5 pm for a nominal fee. To view the full time-table and class descriptions, visit [Place des Arts' website](http://www.placedesarts.ca) or pick up the Spring Break brochure at the centre. Registration opens January 30 and may be done by phone at 604.664.1636, online at [www.placedesarts.ca](http://www.placedesarts.ca) or in person at 1120 Brunette Ave., Coquitlam.

## **BEYOND THE BELL - PORT COQUITLAM PARKS & RECREATION**

Wednesdays in the gym from 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm

**Sess. #1** - Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8 Cost: \$20.85 **Sess. #2** - Feb., 15, 22, 29 and Mar. 7 Cost: \$27.80

To register look for Beyond the Bell - Mary Hill Elementary on line at [www.Experienceit.ca](http://www.Experienceit.ca) or call 604-927-7529

Easily accessible, age-appropriate recreation program where school-aged children are provided with the opportunity to create friendships, have equal participation time, supervision of a caring recreation leader and develop their own unique skills in a fun, active and safe environment.

## **EVERGREEN CULTURAL CENTRE DAY CAMPS - Pro-D Day Camp: Jan 27 (Ages 6 - 12years)**

Evergreen is offering both full and half day camps on January 27 in support of SD 43's non-instructional days. The one-day camps will get kids excited about the visual arts. Explore the world of Pop-Art, paint like the Impressionists, or discover a famous Canadian artist. These are some of the fun projects on hand. To register call 604.927.6552.

- Full Day, 9 am - 4 pm \$45
- Half Day, 9 am - 12 pm or 1 - 4 pm \$25
- After Care, 4 pm - 6 pm \$10

## **FRENCH PROGRAMS AT PLACE MAILLARDVILLE**

- Thursdays - January 12 to March 29 from 6:00—7:15 pm
- \$84.00 for 12 weeks

Program Leader: Monsieur Mehdi Hadjoudja Learn French naturally through crafts, games, music and other cooperative activities. Emphasis is on fun, to encourage the participant's desire to learn more about the French language and culture.

- 1200 Cartier Avenue, Coquitlam
- 604.933.6166 [info@placemaillardville.ca](mailto:info@placemaillardville.ca)
- [www.placemaillardville.ca](http://www.placemaillardville.ca)

## HOW TO GET BETTER GRADES IN SCHOOL

You can make this your child's best year ever in school! Terry Small's student success system shows your kids how to take charge of their time and succeed! Parents and students attend this seminar together to learn proven strategies and study secrets that have helped 200,000 students to excel. *Guaranteed: better grades, self-confidence, more free time, and fun learning!* Good grades have never been more important than today. The seminar is suitable for students of all abilities in Grades 4 to 12. Terry Small is Canada's #1 study skills expert.

- When: Thursday, February 2, 2012 - 7:00 - 8:30 pm
- Where: Gleneagle Secondary School
- Instructor: Terry Small, B.Ed.,M.A.
- Price: \$45.00 for the whole family
- To register: Coquitlam Continuing Education 604-936-4261
- Phone: 604-535-0063 for more information [www.terrysmall.com](http://www.terrysmall.com)

## PORT COQUITLAM MINOR BASEBALL REGISTRATION:

To register, please visit our website at [www.pocominorbaseball.com](http://www.pocominorbaseball.com). If you have any questions, please email [registrar@pocominorbaseball.com](mailto:registrar@pocominorbaseball.com)

<u>Division</u>	<u>Year Born</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Year Born</u>
Blastball	2007	Rally Cap (T-Ball)	2005 to 2006
Tadpole	2003 to 2004	Mosquito	2001 to 2002
PeeWee	1999 to 2000	Bantam	1997 to 1998
Midget	1994 to 1996	Junior	1998 to 1993

In addition to offering on-line registration, we invite you to be a part of our Registration Open Houses being held on the following dates:

January 21 and 22	9 am to noon	Mabbett Room, Wilson Centre
January 27	5:45 pm to 7:30 pm	Hyde Creek Gym, Hyde Creek
February 11	TBA	Spirit Week (see website)

If you would like to register at the open house, please bring a copy of your player's birth certificate and proof of address with you (municipal taxes or utility bill, personal cheques are not accepted as proof of address). Be sure to register prior to January 31, 2012 to get the 2011 rate.



## BOX LACROSSE IS COMING!

The 2012 Box Lacrosse season is fast approaching! We have both boys' and girls' teams. In person registration dates are as follows:

Saturday, January 14, Saturday, January 28 and Saturday, February 11 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Come to the PoCo Recreation Centre - Mabbett Room. Required items are: proof of Port Coquitlam residency (utility bills, property tax bill, etc); player medical number; player birth certificate. For more information (fees, etc) please see our website: [www.pocominorlacrosse.com](http://www.pocominorlacrosse.com) and if more information is needed email: [registrar@pocominorlacrosse.com](mailto:registrar@pocominorlacrosse.com)