

# eNews

November 22, 2021

**Mission Statement:** We strive for personal excellence and promote enthusiasm for lifelong learning. We participate in and share responsibility for creating a caring, safe and respectful community, while encouraging and maintaining positive relationships.

**Déclaration de Mission:** Nous visons l'excellence personnelle et la promotion de l'enthousiasme pour l'apprentissage pour toute la vie. Nous participons et partager la responsabilité de la création d'une communauté aimante, sécuritaire et respectueux , tout en encourageant et maintenir des relations positives.

## Upcoming Events:

- Dec. 16** Reports Go Home
- Dec. 17** Schools Close to Winter Break
- Jan. 4** Schools Re-Open after Winter Break
- Jan. 31** Pro-D Day – No School for Students
- Feb. 21** BC Family Day – No School for Students
- Feb. 25** Pro-D Day – No School for Student
- Mar. 11** Start of Bring Break
- Mar. 28** Schools Re-Open after Spring Break
- Apr. 15** Good Friday – No School for Students
- Apr. 18** Easter Monday – No School for Students
- Apr. 22** Pro-D Day – No School for Students

All COVID-19 updates, procedures and correspondence can be found at the following link [COVID-19 Restart Plan MCM](#). All email correspondence related to COVID-19 from Mr. Graham can be found here.

*Calendar dates are constantly being updated so please keep an eye on our website and for e-mail updates throughout the year.*

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/School/maplecreek/>

***“We don’t just go to School, We go to Maple Creek”***



Greetings Maple Creek Learning Community. We have just completed the first of our Explorations cycles (which marks the quarter mark of the school year) and are coming up on our first formal report card next month, which marks the one-third mark of the school year. Our school bands are in full swing, the in-house athletics program is well underway, and we have a few clubs that connect students to areas of interest. Although we are not yet fully implementing the breadth and depth of the middle school experience for our students due to COVID protocols, we

are experiencing way more opportunities outside of their core classrooms.

We are very grateful for our staff, who are always eager to volunteer their time providing the extras for our students.

Our Remembrance Day Assembly on November 10th was a wonderful example of our school community's commitment to providing an authentic experience, within the current health and safety guidelines. Our Band played, the Drama Club performed, our MCs led us through the event, our audience of 5 classes were present in the gym, the students in the core classrooms watched the virtual stream, and several staff members worked for hours to provide a hybrid live and pre-recorded virtual experience for our school community so that families could also watch at home.

We hope that the recent virtual Student – Led Conferences gave you the opportunity to keep in touch with your child's progress and connect with the teachers. Although not ideal, we are grateful that we have the technology to make the connections happen. At any time, please know that the teachers are available to answer any questions that you have or to meet with you. You don't have to wait for the report cards or student led conferences. You can reach them by calling the office or sending an email.

As we move into the dark days of fall and winter, we will continue to provide a bit of brightness for our staff and students by continuing to provide extra-curricular opportunities, in-school Hawke Zone virtual assemblies and team and school wide activities. Look out for more information on our annual Christmas Band Concert, Christmas Hamper Fundraiser to support those who need a little boost during the holiday season, as well as our annual Santa Breakfast in December.

One thing this pandemic has taught us, is that we can adapt, adjust, and modify how we do things so that we can still engage in the things that enrich our students' experience in middle school. This ability to think of new and creative ways of doing things, builds new skills and resilience that equips us to meet the challenges that will occur in the future.

We are looking forward to the day when we can, once again, invite you all into our school for our performances and assemblies. Warm regards.

Andrew Graham – Principal

Ian Robertson – Vice Principal

## Christmas Hampers at Maple Creek



At Maple Creek we are still committed to doing our traditional Hamper program, bringing cheer to families that may be in need this year over the Christmas season. Due to our current situation with Covid-19, we will be collecting cash donations through your School Cash Online Account only. Donations will be used to buy gift cards from both Superstore and Walmart to help provide food and items for the families in need. With only 5 weeks left until Christmas Break, **the donation deadline will be December 14<sup>th</sup>**. This will allow time for us to purchase and organize for each family. We thank you for your kindness and generosity in advance. You can access the donation item at the following link [School Cash Online](#). We are grateful for any donations you would like to make to support these families. If you have any questions related to the food hampers, please contact Ms. Murillo at [dmurillo@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:dmurillo@sd43.bc.ca).

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## Winter Weather Ahead!

Schools are not routinely closed due to snow or other inclement weather conditions. All schools in School District 43 (Coquitlam) will remain OPEN, if possible, during winter weather, including snowfall.

While the District tries to make the best decision with the information available, the weather does change quickly. Therefore, when schools remain open, decisions to stay at home during challenging weather conditions should be made by each family.

However, on occasion, a district-wide or partial-district closure is required due to extreme weather. Partial-district closures affecting individual schools may occur due to the very different geography within our school district. If there is a partial-district closure affected schools will be identified.

The decision on schools remaining open or needing to be closed, because of extreme weather, occurs **before 6:30 a.m.** so that families can plan and make alternate arrangements.

**Any district-wide or partial-district closure will be decided and communicated by 6:30 a.m. via the School District 43 website [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) and CKNW AM 980 radio, CKWX 1130 radio and CBC (690) radio.**

Extreme weather can also impact transit. Transit schedules may face significant changes or cancellations due to the weather conditions. Parents seeking information on transit schedules need to consult the Translink website: <http://www.translink.ca/>

We encourage families to continuously check the School District 43 website for updates and changes: [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca)

Learn more about SD43's process for emergency and inclement weather status updates at: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/NewsEvents/Pages/EmergencyInformation.aspx>



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## Reminder of to do items for parents...

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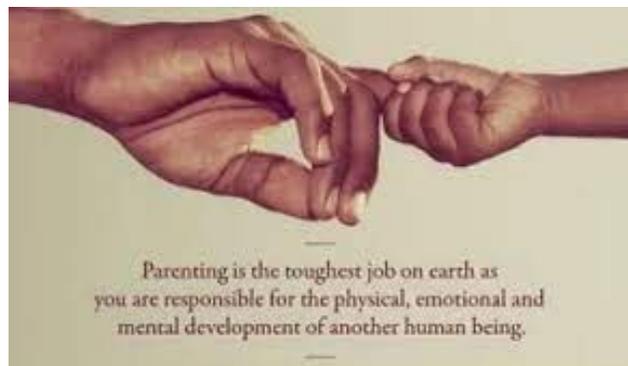
1. Student Verification Form (**green paper sent home**) - **Required**
2. District School Policies (**School Cash Online**) - **Required**
3. Student Fees are to be paid via your [School Cash Online Account](#).

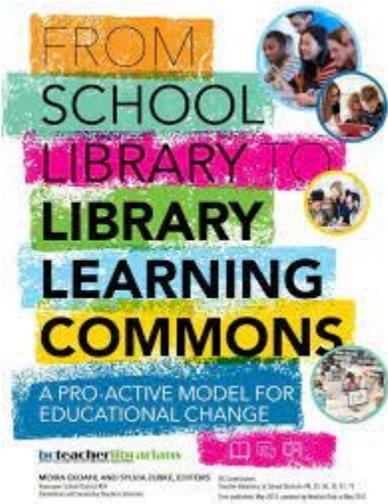
### STUDENT ABSENCES

Student absences are more important than they have ever been. The accurate tracking of students in and not in the building is so imperative right now. We would like to remind the parents at Maple Creek to please inform the office and homeroom teacher if their child will be away from school. **Please include their reason for not being in attendance.** You can call the office at **604-464-8581**, use the **“Absence Report”** function on our school website under **“Quick Links”** or email at [maplecreekattendance@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:maplecreekattendance@sd43.bc.ca).

If your child will be arriving **late**, you **must** also inform the office. If you child will be dismissed early, we as that you please inform the office ahead of time. We also ask that you please advise whether your child will be walking or will be picked up from the school for their safety. If you will be picking up your child, please come to the office to let us know you are here and we will call your child to the office so that you can sign your child out.

**\*Reminder: please do not send your child to school if they are experiencing any of the symptoms listed on the daily health check.\***





The goal of the Maple Creek Library Learning Commons is for students to learn to self-select books which are appealing and appropriate for them to read. Students in middle school are becoming more adept at choosing books that are appealing for them as they branch out in their reading interests. Since middle school students encompass a wide variety of ages and maturity levels, books selected for the Maple Creek Library Learning Commons are typically designated for grades 5-8 or for grades 8 and up, otherwise known as Mature Reads books. Mature Read books may contain content that is for more mature readers, such as language, violence, or mature situations. These books are designated on our bookshelves with a square, red Mature Read sticker for student awareness. Students are informed about the possible mature content of these books at the time of checkout. Included in that discussion is the point that if they choose to check out these books, they are conveying to the library

learning commons teacher that they have their parent's approval to do so. If a parent does not want a student to check out Mature Read books, it is up to them to have that discussion with their child.

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## **Drama Department- The Happy Scarecrow- Spring Drama Production**



Next week students will be given the opportunity to sign up for an audition to participate in our Spring production as an actor or a dancer. Interest meetings will be on Monday, Nov.22 and Tuesday, Nov.23 at nutrition break in the Drama room. Students will be able to pick up an information sheet to bring home and get parent permission to participate. They will be asked to return and sign up for an audition later in the week. Auditions for the play will run Nov.29- Dec. 2 and Dec.6-9. The call backs for auditions will be on Dec.13th and Dec.14th. The cast list will be posted before the winter break. The rehearsals for the spring play will run from Jan-end of

February. The performance week will be Feb.28-March 3.

In the new year we will be gathering students interested in being apart of the sound and lights crew, and backstage crew for the play.





# THE GO-GIRLS! PROGRAM IS NOW OFFERED ONLINE!

This is a fun, safe, virtual program for youth in grades 6 - 8 focused on connecting with peers and trained volunteer mentors in a group setting.

This program offers games, activities, and discussions around relevant topics such as: friendships, problem solving, active living, social media, and balanced eating.



FREE



VIRTUAL,  
USING ZOOM



MAKE  
FRIENDS



GAIN CONFIDENCE  
& SELF-ESTEEM

“GO-GIRLS! HAS TAUGHT ME  
HOW TO BE CONFIDENT AND  
STAND UP FOR MYSELF.”

WANT TO REGISTER?

Contact Vanessa Gale at  
vgale@bigsisters.bc.ca or 604-836-2122



This program is run through Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland and is monitored by staff.



Big Sisters  
OF BC LOWER MAINLAND

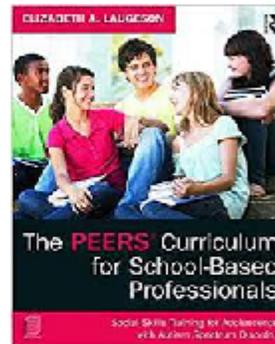


## Looking for a way to support your teen to learn friendship skills?

PEERS® (Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills) for Adolescents is a 16-week evidence-based social skills intervention for motivated teens in middle and high school who are interested in learning new ways of making and keeping friends. This internationally acclaimed program, used in over 35 countries, was originally developed at UCLA by Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson. During each group session, teens are taught important social skills and are given the opportunity to practice these skills in session during socialization activities. Parents are provided information on how to assist their teens in making and keeping friends by helping to expand their teen's social network and providing feedback through coaching during weekly socialization homework assignments. This program is suitable for teens with ASD of at least average cognitive ability who are willing to participate in a virtual group setting.

During the sessions, Teens will learn how to:

- Use appropriate conversational skills
- Use humor appropriately
- Use electronic communication
- Enter & exit conversations
- Be a good host during get-togethers
- Be a good sport
- Handle arguments and disagreements
- Change a bad reputation
- Handle rumors and gossip
- Handle rejection, teasing and bullying



Sessions will run on Tuesdays from January 18, 2022 – May 17, 2022, from 4:00 – 5:30 pm each week. Parent participation through weekly socialization homework assignments is required.

### Interested? Have Questions?

**Attend the 1-hour virtual PEERS information session hosted by POPARD on November 16, 2021, 4:00-5:00 pm by clicking the link below.**

**No advance registration required.**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89342839571?pwd=RUV3WW14dHJBUGpDWnhhUUEvLzRHZz09>



Rebecca Pawlowski: [rpawlowski@autismoutreach.ca](mailto:rpawlowski@autismoutreach.ca)  
Chelsea Jelic: [cjelic@autismoutreach.ca](mailto:cjelic@autismoutreach.ca)