



Meadowbrook News

Newsletter #1 September 2010

It has been a great pleasure welcoming your children back to a new school year. Thank you for all those out in the playground and in the school who have made me feel so welcome as well! The staff at Meadowbrook are looking forward to working with each and every one of our Meadowbrook families this coming year.

We have had a successful start up, thanks to the efforts of our marvelous staff and the cooperation of our wonderful students. As of 2:15 last Thursday, all of our students were placed in their classroom and are ready to start the year. We are on our way to a great year of learning and laughing together.

Parents as Partners

At Meadowbrook, we truly believe that education must be a partnership between home and school. Parental attitudes towards such basics as reading, homework and respectful behavior have a significant effect on your child's approach to learning. If you show your child that you value education and life-long learning, chances are that your child will value them too. Research clearly indicates that when parental support and involvement is high, student achievement improves. We encourage you to get involved in the Meadowbrook community, whether by volunteering, joining the PAC, keeping in touch with your child's teacher, or just dropping in to the office to say hello. Keep us informed when "at home" issues are going to affect your child's performance at school so that we can do our best to help. Talk with your child about what they are learning at school – have them teach you something new. We are all learners!

OPEN HOUSE

Mark Thursday, September 23rd on your calendar. Staff will be available in their classrooms from 7:00 – 8:00 and your child has the opportunity to introduce you to his/her teacher and take you on a tour of the classroom. Please keep in mind that due to time limitations, this is not a time for parent-teacher interviews.



Terry Fox Run – September 20th

Once again, Meadowbrook staff, students and all interested parents will be running to support the Terry Fox Foundation in its efforts to raise money for cancer research. We will meet in the gym at 9:00 a.m. for a very short assembly and then head outside to run. Please join us!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Sign in and out at the office - This will help ensure a safe and secure environment for our students and makes us aware of who is in the building in case of an emergency.

Medical alerts – If your child has a medical condition that we should be aware of, it is imperative that you let the school know. Please stop in at the office and request a medical Alert form to complete or if you have completed a form in previous years, please update and initial your previously completed form.

Lates/Absences = Please let the office know if your child is going to be absent or late.

Parking Lot – Staff parking lots are the upper two near the school. For safety reasons, please use the lower parking lot.

Rainy Days - in order to provide students with exercise and fresh air, we will be encouraging students to go outside at recess and lunch unless the weather is extremely wet, windy or cold. Please send your child to school with weather appropriate clothing.



Meadowbrook School Goal

Our goal this year is to improve student writing skills. We will be using a program called the 6+ 1 Traits of Writing. By examining strong writing samples, students learn how to assess and improve their own writing by looking at voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions, organization and ideas.

Meadowbrook staff 2010-2011

Teachers

Mrs. B. Hart - kindergarten	Mrs. S. Bawa – Principal (@Riverview Park)
Mrs. J. Smyth – grade 1/2	Mrs. S. Maidens – Vice Principal
Ms. N. Berner – grade 2/3	Ms. H. Neill - Counselor
Ms. Chaikin – grade 4	Mrs. E. Fortier – ESL & Dept. head
Ms. H. Andruski/ Mrs. Amy Azaroff – grade 5	Mrs. D. Boss – Learning Resource and Department head
Ms. S. Citulec – Music	Ms. L. Fennell – Choices program (SAP)

Support staff

Mrs. C. Brito - secretary	Mr. T. Plul - caretaker	Miss C. Wesley SEA
Mr. K. Herd - caretaker	Mrs. C. Davies TA	Mrs. D. Jekova SEA
Mrs. S. Kapatais – noon hour supervisor	Mrs. C. Weger - noon hour supervisor	Mr. S. Halvorsen SEA

District staff: Mrs. D. Lina – Speech Pathologist



School Calendar

Parents please retain for your reference the calendar below listing non-instructional days, school events and holidays for the 2010-2011 school year. Early dismissal time is at 2:00 p.m.

September

Schools Open Tuesday, September 7th 9:00-9:45

Regular schedule in effect – September 8 (9:00-3:00)

Terry Fox Run - September 20

Open House- September 23

District Non-Instructional Day Friday, September 24th

October

Thanksgiving Monday, October 11

Individual Student Photos October 13

District Non-Instructional Day Friday, October 22nd

Halloween Parade – October 29th

Halloween Sunday, October 31st

November

Remembrance Day Assembly Wednesday, November 10th

Remembrance Day Thursday, November 11th

District closure day Friday, November 12th

December

First Report Card Friday, December 3rd

Parent conferences December 8th and 9th early dismissal at 2p.m.

Christmas concert - December 14

Last Day of Classes before Winter Break Friday, December 17th

January

Schools Open Monday, January 3rd

School Non-Instructional Day Friday, January 21th

February

Kindergarten registration begins February 1

Food drive February 1-14

Student Led Conferences February 16 & 17th early dismissal

District Non-Instructional Day Friday, February 18th

Jump Rope for Heart – February 28-March 4

March

Last Day of Classes before Spring Break Friday, March 18th

April

School Reopen after Spring Break Monday, April 4th

Reports cards home April 5

District Non Instructional Day Thursday, April 21st

Good Friday Friday, April 22nd

Easter Monday Monday, April 25th

May

Victoria Day Monday, May 23th

Kindergarten Orientation Tuesday,

June

Sports Day – June 3

School Non-Instructional Day Monday, June 6th

Parent Appreciation Tea- June 7

Grade Five Leaving Ceremony Wednesday, June 29th

Last Day of Classes Wednesday, June 29th

Administrative Day/ Schools Close Thursday, June 30th

Please note due to the recent school board decision regarding spring break, our school day will be lengthened by 10minutes. We have accommodated this change by shortening our lunch hour. Our 2010/2011 school day will be:

First entry bell – 8:55 am.
Instruction begins – 9:00 am.
Recess begins – 10:30 am.
Entry bell for recess – 10:45am.
Lunch begins – 12:05 am
Lunch outside bell – 12:20 pm.
Lunch entry bell – 12:50 pm.
Instruction begins – 12:55pm.
Student dismissal – 3:00 pm.

PAC news

The PAC will hold their meetings on the first Monday of the month in the library at year on Monday night at 7:00. Everyone is welcome! Please come out and support our Meadowbrook community.

There are many ways to help out in the school. If you don't have the time to attend PAC meetings, we are always looking for volunteers to spend one hour a month supervising the handing out of food for hot lunch days or shelving books in the library. Let us know if you can help!

Community News

Family Play at Spirit Square

Family play events will be held (weather permitting) at Spirit Square on Saturdays throughout the month of September. There will be games and activities for children of all ages! September 4th will feature the Dixie Star Storytellers (www.dixiestars.com). The storytelling show will run from 10:45am until 11:30am.

Play and Learn at Coquitlam Centre Mall

Families and children ages 3 – 10 are invited to visit activity and display tables and to participate in a story time. This month's Family Play & Learn Night will take place on Wednesday, September 29th from 6:00pm – 8:00pm at Coquitlam Centre Mall (Lower Level, in front of London Drugs). This month's theme is "Healthy Harvest".

Story Time at Lougheed Town Centre

Every Saturday at 10:30am children are invited to gather near London Drugs at Lougheed Town Centre for interactive fun! Each week features a special theme, storytelling and activities. September themes include PJ Day on the 4th (wear your favourite pajamas!) and Penguin Day on September 11th. Everyone is welcome!

Volunteer Language Bank

S.U.C.C.E.S.S., in partnership with the Tri-Cities Literacy Committee's ESL Working Group, is developing a Volunteer Language Bank for the Tri-Cities. If you speak more than one language and are interested in sharing your skills to help others, please call 604-936-5900 or email languagebank@success.bc.ca for more information.

Family Literacy Celebration - September 25th at Spirit Square

Our Family Literacy Working Group is hosting a Family Literacy Celebration on Saturday, September 25th from 10am - 1pm at Spirit Square, 3005 Burlington Drive in Coquitlam. (Across the street from Coquitlam City Hall and the City Centre Library.) Everyone is welcome to join us rain or shine for a pancake breakfast, activity and display tables, a bouncy castle (weather permitting) and a story tent featuring exciting guest readers including RCMP members, local children's authors and parent ambassadors. For more information contact Julie at jrioux@sd43.bc.ca or 604-817-6462.