

Dear RC MacDonald Community,

We are looking forward to meeting with you this week for our Fall Conferences. This year we are including Student Voice into our conferences by working with each student to set a Learning Goal that will be shared in the conference.

All staff and students enjoyed a Spooktacular afternoon of Halloween Fun on Friday. Ms. Rakhra and the amazing Challenge students created stations and fun activities for everyone to try. Very fun indeed!

Thanks to our lead parent, Eve Gauthier, the work of Project Salamander 3.0 has transformed our back forest within only a few days of outdoor work. It's truly amazing to participate alongside our students through several full days of planting. Most students worked at Recess, Lunch and for a class block on the planting and are proud of their work. Laura, from Tree Canada, spent an entire afternoon observing the planting in progress. Jonah Hong and Emerson Plouffe will be featured in a news article about Project Salamander that they penned for the SD43 Sustainability Newsletter. Well done!

Through the month I will do my best to keep the RC Mac Community informed of additional school events and activities through brief "RC Mac Reminder" emails as I find there is always lots of learning and loads of activities on the go in school and around the community.

Next up will be observing Remembrance Day. All classes will engage in meaningful learning activities in their classrooms and contribute to a larger school display with cenotaph and wreaths for Remembrance Day. On November 10<sup>th</sup>, we will participate along with SD43 Schools in a special online assembly from classrooms. Students who are members of Scouts Canada – Beavers, Brownies, Cubs, and Guides- are invited to wear their uniform and have their photo taken on November 10<sup>th</sup> in front of the school display.

As always, your children bring their enthusiasm and energy into the school each day- rain or shine. They absolutely LOVE learning, and we love engaging them in a variety of learning activities. Hopefully we will be able to help every student voice their own learning goal and work alongside them as they pursue personal excellence.

See you outside soon,

*Mrs. Roberts, Principal*



## Dogs at School

A friendly reminder to families about dogs at school. We have several children at the school who are afraid of dogs. Please be sure to keep your dog away from the student line ups at pick up and drop off times. Thank you.

## Absences

Thank you for your continued diligence in following the daily health check and keeping children at home until symptom free. Please use the online absence form on the school website, quick links to log absences. [Online Absence Form](#)

## Report Card Survey- BC Ministry of Education

The Ministry of Education is seeking feedback towards an updated report card policy by November 5, 2021. Thank you for your input. [Reporting Survey Link](#)

## What to Know About Squid Game

The recent Netflix release, Squid Game, features extreme violence, death, and considerable gore. Squid Game was released worldwide on September 17, 2021 and is Netflix's most-watched series to date. Players in the program participate in traditional children's games for the chance to win a monetary prize but are killed if they lose or break the rules.

"Squid Game" is rated TV-MA. The program is specifically designed to be viewed by adults and therefore may be unsuitable for children under 17. There are concerns that this program may normalize or desensitize acts of violence. There have been reports of students playing games featured in Squid Game and pretending to shoot other players who lose and engage in violence against those who have lost. Game platforms frequently used by youth, including Roblox and Minecraft, also feature Squid Game inspired mini games where the user's avatar can play games and will be shot if they lose.

### Tips for Parents

- ✓ Preview shows and movies such as Squid Game to determine the level of violence and appropriateness for your child to watch. There are lots of age-appropriate media free of violence that your child will enjoy.
- ✓ Talk with your child about what they are viewing and why it is not okay to engage in certain behaviours they see in movies and shows.
- ✓ Monitor what your child watches on TV and social media platforms.
- ✓ Consider the age ratings on social media apps.
- ✓ Have conversations about the appropriateness of specific apps, online behaviour and the impact of the content on your child.

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.

## 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.

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>

## COMING UP AT RC MACDONALD

<b>Tues. Nov. 2</b>	<b>Early Dismissal at 1:45PM</b> (Fall Conferences 2:00-6:00 PM)
<b>Wed. Nov. 3</b>	<b>Early Dismissal at 1:45PM</b> (Fall Conferences 2:00-4:00 PM)
<b>Fri. Nov. 5</b>	School Spirit Friday - Wear <b>BLUE</b>
<b>Wed. Nov. 10</b>	Wear Scouts Canada Uniform to School (For any students in Beavers, Cubs, Brownies and Girl Guides)
<b>Wed. Nov. 10</b>	Remembrance Day Assembly
<b>Thurs. Nov. 11</b>	 Remembrance Day – <b>No school</b>
<b>Fri. Nov. 12</b>	School Spirit Friday - Wear <b>BLUE</b>
<b>Wed. Nov. 17</b>	Crazy Hair Day (Student Leadership Initiative)
<b>Thurs. Nov. 18</b>	Doughnut Love Treat Day
<b>Fri. Nov. 19</b>	School Spirit Friday - Wear <b>BLUE</b>
<b>Fri. Nov. 26</b>	School Spirit Friday - Wear <b>BLUE</b>
<b>Thurs. Dec. 16</b>	Term 1 Report Cards Published on Parent Portal
<b>Fri. Dec. 17</b>	 Last Day of School before Winter Vacation
<b>Tues. Jan. 4, 22</b>	Schools Re-open after Winter Vacation

The RC MacDonald calendar is online – all events that have been confirmed are available for you to see at a glance. Please revisit our site as *we will continue to add special event dates as they are confirmed*. Our website is:

<https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/rcmacdonald/Pages/default.aspx>