

EAGLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

September 2015
Ms. Petra Kintzinger, Principal



Newsletter #1
pkintzinger@sd43.bc.ca

From the Principal

I am so happy to be here at Eagle Ridge Elementary. It's a beautiful location and I have been made to feel very welcome. I'm sorry not to have mass-communicated before this. With the rush and crush of a new school year, it was impossible to put my mind to it for more than a few minutes at once.

Last night I attended the first Parent Advisory (PAC) meeting of the year, and I was so impressed by the enthusiasm and generosity of those in attendance. We are fortunate to have such a committed group of parents, ready and able to make things happen for our kids. We talked about popular Eagle Ridge fundraisers such as movie nights, hot lunch, Purdys for Hallowe'en and Christmas, Santa's Secret Shopper, pancake breakfast and more. We talked about improving communications with parents (definitely a goal of mine!) and inviting parents to the meetings. I am so excited to begin my work with this true "community" school.

Noteworthy today is a news item I listened to on the radio this morning, as it is so important to our children and many adults as well. We all know Type 2 Diabetes is becoming a serious issue in our society. Today's conversation was about the dangers of beverages with sugar in them. These are a significant contributor to the development of Type 2 Diabetes and include sweetened pop, fruit drinks and punches, sweetened coffees and teas - in short, any drink with added sugar (have you noticed that the sweetness level of popular brand coffee drinks has increased?). Unfortunately, artificial sweeteners are detrimental to the health of children as well, so please do not switch to those.

The best thing to drink when you're thirsty, of course, is water. In my years as a principal, I have made significant inroads to creating a sugary-drink-free school. The litter from juice boxes alone is a good reason to stop bringing them to school, but the sugar is poison to the children. I am encouraged to see many of our kids using refillable water bottles and will continue to emphasize the importance of replacing juice boxes and soda with water, in the hope of eventually eliminating the boxes and also the water bottles.

The school calendar forms part of this newsletter. I would encourage you to regularly access the school website (<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/eagleridge/Pages/default.aspx>) to look for calendar updates and important notices you can find on the home page. Some teachers also have a presence on the website, and you will learn over time what to expect, as these things take some time to get going.

OPEN HOUSE ~ Thursday, September 24

6:30 ~ 7:30pm

Everyone is Welcome!!!

PRO D DAY ~ Friday, September 25

Students do not attend on this day

TERRY FOX RUN ~ Wednesday, September 30

Eagle Ridge's annual TERRY FOX RUN is Wednesday, September 30th. We are asking each student to bring a TOONIE (suggested donation) for the Terry Fox Foundation. The run will take place on a designated route with teacher and volunteer supervision. Please ensure that you have completed the beginning of the year on-line policy form as we will be using this as the permission form for students to participate.

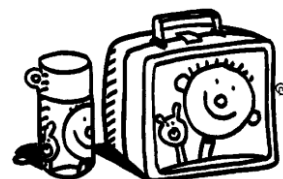


A single dream. A world of hope.
The Terry Fox Foundation

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LITTERLESS LUNCHES

A goal at Eagle Ridge this year is to move to a "litterless lunch" concept. Due to health and comfort concerns around excess lunch litter (foils, plastics, juice boxes) and composting (now required in all municipalities), we will be asking students to put their litter and food waste back into their lunch boxes after lunch so it can be disposed of properly at home. Please support this initiative as it has a significant positive effect on the school environment. Encourage the use of reusable containers, and remind your kids the importance of not leaving them on the playground. If you put your last name on the containers with a Sharpie, we will try to reunite your child with their container. ☺



THANKSGIVING

Monday, October 12th is Thanksgiving; students do not attend on this day.

PHOTO RETAKES ~ Friday, October 16th

All students who did not have their photo taken on the first photo day will have it taken on this day.

FORMS

Please complete the following start of year forms as quickly as possible, SCHOOL POLICY FORM, YELLOW EMERGENCY RELEASE FORM and WHITE STUDENT VERIFICATION FORM. If your child has a medical condition we should be aware of please complete the online MEDICAL ALERT FORM print it and bring it to the office. PLANNER payment of \$10 is also due (grades 1 -5).

ABSENCES AND LATES

We ask that you let the office know if your son or daughter will be absent or late for school prior to 8:45AM each morning. This can be done by calling the office at 604-464-5848 after 8:00AM, after hours by leaving a message on the answering machine, or by submitting an online absence form (selecting Eagle Ridge as the school). **Please continue to remind your children to wash their hands as this is still the best defense against colds and the flu.**



EXTRA CLOTHES

With the wet weather upon us **please** send an extra set of dry clothes to be kept in your child's classroom. Please send the clothes in a bag labeled with your child's name. By dressing your child appropriately for the wet weather conditions, raincoats, boots, umbrella etc. and by keeping a complete set of dry clothes at school this will ensure your child will not have to sit in wet, muddy clothes all day.

FROM MR. DRAKE

Just a reminder that Eagle Ridge's library catalogue is online and can be found on our school website under PROGRAMS AND SERVICES or under EAGLE RIDGE at <http://destiny.sd43.bc.ca/> Feel free to browse the catalogue and encourage your children to think of (and write down) particular titles that they would like to take out each week. In addition, students are always welcome to recommend book purchases for our library if we do not currently have a specific title that they think others would like. Students are being asked to take out a minimum of one "Challenge Book" from the library each week that will help their brain get stronger. If a student does not know 5 words on a page, then they are told that the book is too difficult.



PAC CORNER

PAC MEETING

Next PAC meeting is, Wednesday, October 21st at 6:45. Everyone is welcome to attend.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK FUNDRAISER

Money for Entertainment books are due October 5th. If you do not wish to purchase the book please return it to the school. Extra books are available for purchase.

EAGLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY CALENDAR 2015 - 2016	
Open House	Thursday, Sept. 24
Pro D Day	Friday, Sept. 25
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, Oct. 12
Photo Retakes	Friday, Oct. 16
Early Dismissal 1:55pm	Tuesday, Oct. 20
Provincial Pro D Day	Friday, Oct. 23
Remembrance Day	Wednesday, Nov. 11
School Closure Day	Friday, Nov. 20
Early Dismissal 1:55pm	Wednesday, Dec. 9
Last day before Winter vacation	Friday, Dec. 18
Winter vacation period	Dec. 21 - Jan. 1
School reopens after Winter vacation	Monday, Jan. 4
School Based Pro D Day	Friday, Jan. 29
Early Dismissal 1:55pm (Student Led)	Wednesday, Feb. 3
BC Family Day	Monday, Feb. 8
District Pro D Day	Friday, Feb. 19
Early Dismissal 1:55pm	Wednesday, March 9
Last day before Spring vacation	Friday, March 11
Spring vacation period	March 14 - 24
Good Friday	Friday, March 25
Easter Monday	Monday, March 28
School reopens after Spring break	Tuesday, March 29
District Pro D Day	Friday, April 15
Victoria Day	Monday, May 23
School Based Pro D Day	Monday, May 30
Last Day of School	Wednesday, June 29
Administrative Day/School Closes	Thursday, June 30