



THUNDERBIRD NEWS

November 18, 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE ADMIN

The short days of the Fall season are well upon us and so is the end of the first term for Explorations. The first term for core subjects will come to an end later this month. This time of year affords all of us an opportunity to reflect on the successes that the students have had since the beginning of the school year. For one, the Grade 6 students have made a big step in their academic lives by adjusting to the new routines and expectations of middle school. It is great to have these new students at our school as they provide an energy that is always refreshing. The Grade 7 students know the ropes and are growing physically, emotionally, and intellectually as they enter their teen years. They are to be congratulated for providing support with the transition of our Grade 6 students. The Grade 8 students are experiencing their final year at Eagle Mountain Middle and are beginning to look and act like they are ready for the next step: secondary school. The academic expectations for Grade 8 students are to synthesize their learning from the past and extend their knowledge by applying previously learned concepts to more complex learning experiences. Our Grade 8 students have provided the leadership and role modeling that we would expect from them. Bravo!!

Now a word for you, their parents. From time to time, parents ask me (Mr. Graham) for advice on how to deal with their pre-teen and teenage children. Most often I am at a loss as to what to say because as a parent of two children who are now adults, I find parenting to be the toughest job of all. My work as a school principal is far easier compared to my role as a parent when my kids were middle school students. I believe this is because of the enormous responsibility we have as parents in shaping our children into respectful and responsible young people. For myself, I always feel that I fall short as a parent, but my two wonderful grown-up daughters teach me many valuable lessons about care, respect, and love. Your role as parents far outweighs the influence we have over your children. We do make a big difference, but the reality is that our staff's impact on your children only lasts for 6 hours a day/5 days a week for 10 months of the year and for three years. In contrast, a parent's influence begins from birth and lasts for many years thereafter, including into their adult years. You are their role models and their first educators. We, as their school educators, humbly accept the responsibility of carrying on the education that you have already started and look forward to continuing our partnership with you to help your children become productive and happy members of society.

It is a great privilege for all of us here at EMM to work with your children. It is a job that we take very seriously and one that provides us with much joy and satisfaction. We appreciate the efforts that you make at home to support, help and encourage your children with their education as it benefits us in the work we do with them during the week.

Wishing you all many rewarding and memorable experiences with your children throughout their middle school years and beyond.

Mr. A. Graham
Principal
agraham@sd43.bc.ca

Ms. K. Paterson
Vice Principal
kpateron@sd43.bc.ca

PAC NEWS

Eagle Mountain Middle PAC Meeting - Tuesday, December 13th, 2022. Please join us if you can at 7:00PM, in the Learning Hub (Library) at Eagle Mountain Middle to hear about how to be involved in your child's middle years and Eagle Mountain Middle School.



Hot lunch!

Watch your inboxes for the next round of ordering opportunities for hot lunch. Hot lunch dates will be: November 23, December 7 & January 25, February 22, March 8, April 19, May 17 and June 7.



PAC is looking for volunteers to help out with the upcoming Winter Market, being held at the school, during school hours, on December 13th & 14th. For anyone unfamiliar with the Winter Market it is a chance for Eagle Mountain students to participate in making some holiday themed crafts that they can keep or use as gifts. Students will participate with their class on one of the above two days and on the alternate day will have a holiday themed movie day with candy, popcorn & hot chocolate provided by the PAC.

In order for the market to be successful we need a lot of helpers! Please see the jobs listed below and let us know if you can help by emailing the PAC at 110-PAC@sd43.bc.ca. Thank you to everyone who has already emailed to indicate that they can help!

- **Setup:** Monday, December 12th from 3-4:30pm.
- **Market days:** Tuesday, December 13th & Wednesday, December 14th during school hours. If you can join us for a whole day that's great – but we'll also take helpers that can only come for an hour or two. Just let us know when you're available.
- **Takedown:** Wednesday, December 14th: 2:30 – 4:00pm

Thanks in advance for your help – the Winter Market Organizing Committee



help decrease some of their worries.

Crista Jones, MEd, RCC
cjones@sd43.bc.ca or 604-469-1133

Hello parents and guardians! As report cards are fast approaching, we have noticed that students' stress levels have been increasing. Having a variety of tools in our tool kits to manage stress is beneficial not only to our children but to adults as well. There are a variety of apps today that can teach mindfulness strategies as well as how to combat negative thinking. Some of those apps are: Calm, Mindshift, Breathr, and Headspace. Also, if you notice that your child is feeling overly stressed, please communicate with your child's teacher as they may be able to



Minecraft Club and Minecraft Esports Club

Mr. Kwok is excited to start two after-school Minecraft clubs in the upcoming weeks and any interested students are welcome to join.

Minecraft Club is for any students who are passionate about playing Minecraft and getting a chance to meet new friends from the school. Students are welcome to come to the **Learning Commons Tuesdays after school from 3-4pm** to just play and connect with each other in a casual setting. Students play on their own devices on either Java (commercial) or Education (free) Edition, or they can borrow a school device to play the Education Edition. Please note that there are no requirements for students to purchase the Java edition to play.

Minecraft Esports Club is for any interested students who likes to compete with one another in a more structured setting **Tuesdays after school from 3-4pm in the Learning Commons**. Students will participate in build challenges or player-versus-player (PvP) challenges (such as Skywars, Bedwars, Lucky Blocks, etc.) each week. The intention is for them to learn about scholastic esports skills, such as creative thinking, critical thinking, communication, and teamwork. We will explore what it takes to become an esports player that ties into healthy living and social-emotional learning.

Please note that even though both clubs are non-committal and offered on a drop-in basis, Mr. Kwok will require students to have permission from parents/guardians to stay after school on either/both of those days and permission forms will be sent home with your child once the clubs are ready to go.

Last year, Mr. Kwok presented at a PAC meeting on scholastic esports, and how families could support their children at home if they are interested in pursuing esports as a hobby or even a potential career. If you are interested to learn more about it, please fill out this survey: <https://forms.office.com/r/j37sRF3NFE>. You can also contact Mr. Kwok if you have any questions or concern!

Mr. Kwok – Teacher Librarian

YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW

Yearbook is a good way to celebrate the achievements of students at an important time in their life. It can become a treasured book that students will love to look back on in years to come and preserve memories of friendships and events. Please go to schoolcashonline and purchase the yearbook.

ALL PAYMENT WILL BE EXCLUSIVELY ONLINE. No cash, cheque or verbal orders will be taken.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE EXPLAINED:

Here at **Eagle Mountain Middle**, we are now only accepting online payments to minimize the physical handling of cash. encourage all parents to pay for their child's fees through our **School Cash Online Program**.



As District, we implemented that all mandatory School Policy Forms, parent volunteer forms, and permission forms are also done through your online account. The online payment process is easy, reliable, and a secure way to pay for all your child's field trips, student fees, yearbooks, and other various items. The program will also provide you with a transaction history, so you can keep track of what you have purchased.

As we are also a **GREEN SCHOOL**, this process also eliminates paper waste as we now have electronic permission forms attached to all field trip payments. This will also eliminate sending cash with your child, and permission forms getting lost in your child's backpack!

If you are already registered for this program, great! If not, no worries we can help you along the way. Please visit the following link to see a to register for your account:

<https://sd43.schoolcashionline.com>

Once you have registered your account, make sure to log back on and add all your children. All children who are registered in SD43 can be added to your account. All you need is their name and birthdate!

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More to do items for parents...

- **Parent E-Forms (Volunteer):** Please complete via your [School Cash Online](#). ***We may need volunteers this year for a few field trips, at which time, we will have your information on file.***
- **Parent Criminal Record Checks and Drivers Abstracts:** In order to volunteer at our school or on your child's field trip, we do require to have your Criminal Record Check on file. **We may need driver volunteers this year, at which time, we will have your information on file.** Please access the following letter to get your fee waived at the RCMP, on the website, If you are going to the Port Moody Police, just remember there may a small fee. We also require parents to have a Drivers Abstract submitted each year if they are planning to drive. You can retrieve that at the following: [Drivers Abstract ICBC](#) and have ICBC send the form to eaglemountainsecretary@sd43.bc.ca.

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 Eagle Mountain 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 **604-469-1133**, use the **“Absence Report”** function on our school website under **“Quick Links”** or email at eaglemountainsecretary@sd43.bc.ca.

If your child will be arriving late, you **must** also inform the office. If your child will be dismissed early, we ask 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 and the office wasn't informed, please come into the office and we will call your child.

***Reminder: please do not send your child to school if they are experiencing any symptoms of illness and only return when the major symptoms (fever, cough, etc) subsided.**



BIKE SECURITY AT SCHOOL

Some of our students are riding to school on their bikes once again this year. Please remember to lock your bike, with a strong and solid lock, on the racks in front of the school or in the courtyard in the bike racks. Locking your bike up will go a long way to prevent it from being moved or stolen. Be sure to put the lock through the frame and wheel.



VALUABLES AT SCHOOL



We would like to ask parents to discuss the issue of bringing valuables e.g. large amounts of money, personal electronic devices such as: ipods, cell phones, game gear, video games/equipment, or even jewelry to school. It is very unfortunate and frustrating when personal items get damaged or go missing from backpacks or classrooms and we would like to eliminate students from experiencing the disappointment of losing something dear to them by asking them to safeguard these items if brought to school. Please note that we do not reimburse for lost or stolen valuables but will investigate purposeful damage or theft.

FIRE DRILLS, EARTHQUAKE DRILLS AND LOCKDOWN

DRILLS

Every year, we have three earthquake drills, three fire drills and at least two lockdown drills. Many of you are familiar with fire drills and earthquake drills, but some of you may not be familiar with lockdown drills. A lockdown is when we close and lock all exterior doors to the school, close and lock all classroom doors and have students sit down in the classroom as a group silently. The door windows in each classroom also get covered so nobody can peer in. Essentially, anyone who could enter the school would find the school locked up and silent with no evidence of any adults or students being present. The purpose of such a drill is to be prepared for any number of potential emergencies that may arise where we need students to be in a safe, secure area where they cannot be seen, heard or found. Being prepared for a potential emergent situation is prudent planning; however, this may cause some anxiety for some students. We recommend you sit down with your child and discuss the rationale behind a lockdown drill. At the school level, we discuss the rationale, answer any of the students' questions and have a debrief to clarify or answer any further questions after



the lockdown. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Paterson or Mr. Graham.

SCHOOL OFFICE PHONES



The office phones will only be used by students for necessary purposes or with the permission of their teacher. To minimize the physical handling of the phone, and congestion in the office, **we ask that parents please send lunches with their child(ren) to school and inform the office via email or phone for any early dismissals prior to your child leaving.**

ATHLETIC NEWS

EMM Intramural T-Shirt Sales

They come in Neon Yellow, Purple and Red. Quantity is limited. If your child would like one, please go do schoolcashonline, see the sizes, colours, a picture of the t-shirt that's available and purchase it.

There will be no opportunity to try on sample t-shirts. If you have any questions, please send Mr. Nordby an email at anordby@sd43.bc.ca.

NOTE THAT ALL PURCHASES WILL BE EXCLUSIVELY ONLINE.

CELL PHONE RULES AT EAGLE MOUNTAIN

It is the school's policy that students are not to use their cell phones in the school during school hours. The only exception is when specific permission is given in class by a teacher for the purpose of using the phone to search for information for a specific project.

Any student found repeatedly using their cell phone during school hours will have their phone confiscated and, in the future, stored at the school's office during school hours for a specified period (eg. 1 month).



With this information, we would like to ask our Eagle Mountain parents to refrain from texting or calling their children's cells during school hours with information that requires an immediate response, so the students aren't put in a position of disobeying our school rules. Instead, please remind students to check their cells after school for messages that possibly could have been left for them by you or leave a message at the office for them to pick up, only if plans are changed.



Wildlife Alert Procedures for Eagle Mountain

A. Daily Procedures:

1. All doors will be locked.
2. Exterior garbage cans emptied.
3. Principal/supervisor visually checks playfield prior to students being dismissed at recess and lunch. Staff on supervision always keep a watchful eye.

Emergency Actions

B. Bear Sighting off of school grounds:

1. Phone call from neighbour or parent received. Time and location of bear sighting are noted.
2. Announcement made to notify school if sighting is near a dismissal time.
3. Students kept indoors if time of bear sighting is near a break time (recess, lunch)

Students and parents will be advised of bear sighting in neighbourhood if sighted near 2:53 pm. Students walking or biking are reminded to be alert and go in pairs. If there a risk, administration may reroute students or hold students and inform parents to pick students up at the school.

C. Sighting of wildlife on school grounds during instruction time:

1. Staff report wildlife sightings to the office.
2. Announcement made to notify school that a bear is on school grounds.
3. Students kept in at recess and lunch.
Port Moody Police Department and Conservation Officers are contacted immediately for assistance or further instructions.

D. Sighting of wildlife on school grounds if students or staff are outdoors (Morning; Recess; Lunch or Afterschool)

If sighted by supervising staff, a whistle is blown/students notified.

Announcement made asking everyone to proceed indoors.

Students enter the school via the nearest unlocked exterior door. Move calmly towards entrances. Students then proceed to their classrooms once they are in the school. Port Moody Police Department and Conservation Officers are contacted immediately for assistance or further instructions.

E. If You See wildlife:

Remain calm; don't panic. Often the wildlife is simply looking for food and will move on if it finds nothing to eat. Keep away from the wildlife and go inside – bring all children inside. Never approach the wildlife and do not run from the wildlife. Do not act submissively by crouching down or whispering. Warn others of the wildlife presence, but don't do it by yelling. If the animal climbs a tree, keep people and pets away. When things quiet down, the animal will come down and leave. This usually happens after dark when the animal feels safe. When the animal is safely out of the area, check the area to ensure there are no attractants available.

Staff, students and parents are instructed to not approach the bear or cubs.

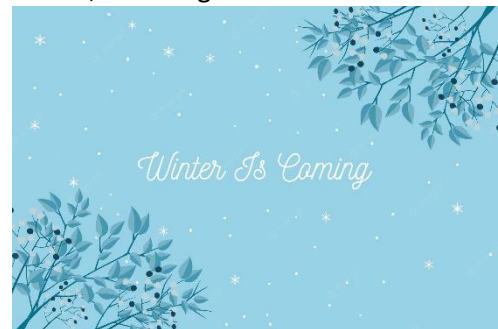
<https://wildsafebc.com/>- this is a great resource

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 and CKNW AM 980 radio, CKWX 1130 radio and CBC (690) radio.

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.

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

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

School Fruit and Vegetable

Nutritional Program

This year, we are excited to announce that Eagle Mountain Middle will be participating in the School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program brought to us by the BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation. Once a month, students will be provided with a piece of fruit or a sampling of a locally grown vegetable. Should your child not wish to participate, he/she can opt out at any time. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Paterson or Ms. Chen via email.



2022-2023 Core Teachers

Team	Div	Assignment	Room	Teacher
Bear	1	6/7	218	Wendy Chen
	2	6/7	219	Angelo Graffos for Barb Buczewski
	3	7/8	P302	Charissa Wong
	4	8	221	Jarod Fong
Eagle	5	6/7	222	Avie Basson
	6	6/7	220	Shaun Leong
	7	7/8	223	Louisa Perro/Lauren Au
	8	8	225	David Grender
Orca	9	6/7	235	Raphael Fernandez
	10	6/7	233	Andrea Shim-Ping/Natalie Hyde
	11	6/7	232	Irvin Samson
	12	8	234	Christina White/Anders Nordby
	13	8	236	Kate Zubick
Wolf	14	6/7	279	Stephen Spagnuolo
	15	6/7	231	Andrea Coupe/Kevin Keeler
	16	6/7	229	Danielle Murdoch/Daniel Martin
	17	7/8	228	Jenn Moody
Raven	18	8	230	Suzanne Clements/Lauren Au
	19	6/7	226	Kelly Murray/Martine Bro
	20	6/7	224	Sara Keeler/Natalie Hyde
	21	7/8	P303	Breana Sievenpiper/Lauren Au
	22	8	P301	Marietta Heily-Van Os or James McConville

YOUR OFFICE TEAM

Mr. Andrew Graham	Principal
Ms. Kirsten Paterson	Vice-Principal
Ms. Crista Jones	Counsellor
Ms. Grace Gallaccio	Youth Worker
Ms. Saras Mudaliar	Head Secretary
Mrs. Antoinette Woodman	Student Records Secretary

ATTACHED TO THIS NEWSLETTER

- Inquiry Hub Secondary Open House – December 7th, 2022
- Port Moody Secondary IB (pre-Diploma) Application Timeline
- Port Moody Public Library Teen Volunteer Form



IMPORTANT DATES

November	23	Munch a Lunch
December	9	Newsletter #4
	7	Munch a Lunch
	16	Last day of classes before Winter Vacation
	19-Jan 2	Winter Break
January	3	School reopens after Winter Break
	13	Newsletter #5
	25	Munch a Lunch
	30	School Based Non-Instructional Day - no classes
February	17	Newsletter #6
	20	School Closed – BC Family Day
	22	Munch a Lunch
	24	School Closed - District Non-Instructional Day
March	8	Munch a Lunch
	10	Last day of classes before Spring Break
	14-25	Spring Break
	27	School reopens after Spring Vacation
April	7	Good Friday
	10	Easter Monday
	14	Newsletter #7
	17	Easter Monday
	19	Munch a Lunch
	21	District Non-Instructional Day - no classes
May	17	Munch a Lunch
	18	Newsletter #8
	19	School Based Non-Instructional Day – no classes
	22	Victoria Day
June	7	Munch a Lunch
	16	Newsletter #9
	30	Administration Day - School closes

