

## Hi Alderson Families,

**Monday is Thanksgiving Day—Schools are closed**

This week we welcomed a few people to our school:

- **Ms. Erica Gjalterna** and **Ms. Stella Kasidoulis** who are the new teachers for Division 3
- **Mr. Francis Apacible** who is a Student Teacher working in Division 4
- **Ms. Kat Hakala** who is a Student Educational Assistant working in various classrooms

### Student Verification Form

Today you will have received an email from the MyEd Family Portal letting you know that you can now go in to check your child's Student Verification Form. The information in that form is based on the current information we have in MyEd BC. Please follow the instructions in that email and let us know if we need to update any of the information for your child. If we do not hear from you, we will assume that all of the information in that form is correct. If you have any questions or need assistance please let us know by emailing us or calling the office.

### School District Policies

Please make sure you have completed the School Policies Form for your child so that we know that you are aware of the School District Policies and Expectations. You can find this form and other important forms here: [School Cash Online](#). This item in the School Cash Online system requires no payment information.

- [Policy 17](#) District Code of Conduct for Students
- [Policy 18](#) Violence, Intimidation & Possession of Weapons
- [AP132](#) Closure of Schools for Extreme Weather Conditions
- [AP140-2](#) Digital Responsibility for Students
- [AP171](#) Tobacco and Vapour Products Free Environment
- [AP205](#) Anti Racism
- [AP355](#) Formal Intervention and Suspension of Students
- [AP 356](#) Personal Discriminatory and Sexual Harassment
- [AP380](#) Resolution of Student or Parent School Concerns

## Inside this issue

- Recap of the week
- Student Verification Form
- School District Policies
- Upcoming Events
- School Paperwork
- Book Fair
- PAC Information
- Hot Lunch Ordering Info
- Halloween Letter from Patricia Gartland (Superintendent of Schools)

## Daily Health Check

Please keep your child home if they are ill and unable to participate fully in routine activities.

Your cooperation with keeping your child home from school when they are ill protects other students and staff from illness.

If your child suffers from allergies resulting in cold-like symptoms, please let your child's teacher know so that we don't call home to report that they are ill unnecessarily.

## Upcoming Events....

<b>Monday, October 9</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Day</b> Holiday (Schools are closed)
Wednesday, October 11	<b>Photo Retakes</b> Please see instructions below if you would like your child to have a retake
Thursday, October 19	<b>Subway Hot Lunch Orders Due</b> (see ordering info on page 4)
<b>Friday, October 20</b>	<b>Professional Development Day</b> (Schools are closed for students)
Monday, October 23	<b>PAC Meeting</b> —6:30 in the library
<b>October 25 &amp; 26</b>	<b>Early Dismissal for Parent Conferences.</b> Your child's teacher will let you know how you can set a time to meet with them. <b>Students will be dismissed at 1:50 on these days.</b>
	<b>Book Fair!!</b> Children can purchase books during lunch hour or with their parents from 2:00—3:30
October 27	<b>Subway Hot Lunch</b> (see ordering info on page 4)
October 31	Halloween Festivities—students are welcome to wear their costumes
Thurs. Nov 9—11:00-12:00	Remembrance Day Assembly
<b>Friday November 10</b>	<b>School Closure Day</b> (schools are closed)
<b>Monday, November 13</b>	<b>Remembrance Day Holiday</b> (schools are closed)
Thursday, November 30	Volleyball Tournament

### School Calendar

There is an overview of the main school dates for the year on our website. Please visit our school website to download a copy. Direct Link: [Alderson Calendar and Bell Schedule 2023-24](#)

Please also check our ecalendar for a complete list of future dates:

[www.sd43.bc.ca/school/alderson/Calendar](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/alderson/Calendar)

## Photo Retakes

Photo Retakes are happening on **Wednesday, October 11th**.

IF you have not seen your child's original photos, please contact Photo Expressions at [studio@photoexpressions.ca](mailto:studio@photoexpressions.ca) so they can provide you with your access code. To have your child's picture taken on photo retake day, you can send your child to school with their Express Proof with the retake reason filled in, or send your child with a note with any specific instructions.

If your child missed photo day earlier in the year, they will be called down to have their photo taken.

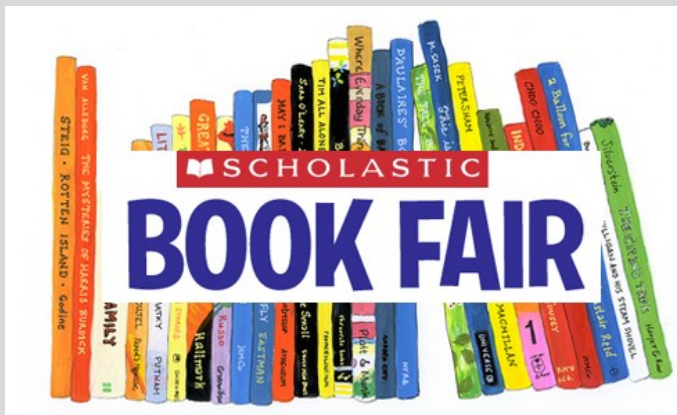
# School Paperwork

Yesterday your child brought home some important paperwork for you to complete. Please check your child's backpack. It is very appreciated if you complete the **Emergency Release Form** and you get them back to your child's teacher as soon as possible – by Tuesday would be great. This provides us with contacts if we could not reach you during an emergency situation (earthquake etc). Along with the form, a checklist was sent so that you are aware of all the forms that need to be completed. Please keep the checklist at home – we don't need that back.

In addition to the paper form, there are some eForms that we require which you can access on our school website. On the home page under "Quick Links", please click on "Parent eForms" and "Online Payments" for more information. Here is a direct link:

[sd43.schoolcashonline.com](https://sd43.schoolcashonline.com)

**These forms include permission for your child to participate in some school activities (short walking trips, using the internet for learning etc).** Students who do not have their permission forms completed will not be able to participate in these activities until the forms are complete.



The Scholastic Book Fair is once again coming to Alderson on October 25th and 26th during lunch time and after school until 3:30 pm in the school library. Partial funds from your purchases at the book fair go to support our library and classroom libraries.

**Wednesday, October 25, 12:00-12:35pm, 2:00-3:30pm**  
**Thursday, October 26, 12:00-12:35pm, 2:00-3:30pm**





# Alderson PAC

All parents in our community are automatically members of the PAC (Parent advisory council).

**PAC Meeting**  
**October 23, 2023**  
**6:30 in the Library**

Also, be sure to follow our Alderson PAC Facebook page so you are informed about PAC initiatives: <https://www.facebook.com/>

# Hot Lunch

You can also purchase other future hot lunches through Munchalunch.

Order Here:

<https://munchalunch.com/schools/alderson>

We are always looking for volunteers to help with hot lunches, if you are available, please let them know through Munchalunch, or email the PAC: [aldersonschoolpac@gmail.com](mailto:aldersonschoolpac@gmail.com)

A big thanks to our PAC for running this hot lunch program. Happy ordering!

If money is tight for your family right now your child does not have to miss out on hot lunches – please be in contact with Anita Strang ([astrang@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:astrang@sd43.bc.ca)) or Shannon Dryer([sdryer@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:sdryer@sd43.bc.ca)).

**October 13—Sushi**  
**October 27—Subway**  
**November 17—White Spot**



Take care,

*Anita Strang*

Principal,  
 Alderson Elementary  
[www.sd43.bc.ca/school/alderson](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/alderson)  
[astrang@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:astrang@sd43.bc.ca)  
 (604) 939-8301



**1080 Winslow Ave., Coquitlam, British Columbia V3J 0M6 ● Phone 604-939-9201**

October 6, 2023

### **A Message to SD43 families: Safe and Appropriate Halloween**

Halloween across all schools in SD43 is a fun and festive day which brings the school community together. Typically, the time around Halloween is incident-free and very respectful.

From time to time, a few students “in character” push the boundaries of what is socially acceptable, or what is appropriate behavior in schools, sometimes at the expense of others. With that in mind, for student safety and school climate reasons, and to ensure that every student and adult in our community enjoys the time around Halloween, we would like your assistance in reinforcing these guidelines with your children:

- Students in costume should be easily recognizable and/or identify themselves to any staff member when queried. Also, students “in character” are to conduct themselves appropriately. Behaviors which intimidate, harass, or humiliate members of the community do not contribute to a fun, festive, and safe environment.
- Replica weapons (guns, knives, etc.) are inappropriate, as are costumes which are hyper-sexualized, or costumes which depict elements of sexual exploitation.
- It is also important to note that costumes which portray negative stereotypes or that demean or make fun of any group of people are inappropriate. Costumes should not make light of anyone’s religious, cultural, ethnic or racial group.

As a reminder, by law and School District expectations, the use and possession of firecrackers or fireworks at school is strictly prohibited. This pertains to students before, during or after school, on or offsite.

With respect for each other, we can avoid any disruption to school communities in the form of vandalism and/or disrespectful, potentially dangerous behaviour. Students and parents need to be mindful that inappropriate behaviour will be addressed by school administration under the authority granted by the BC School Act and with the involvement of police where appropriate.

Please refer to these readily available public websites for more information:

<https://www.coquitlam.ca/286/Fire-Safety-Tips>

<https://www.portcoquitlam.ca/city-services/fire-emergency-services/fire-safety-information/>

<https://www.portmoody.ca/en/city-services/fall-safety-tips.aspx#Halloween-Safety>

Have a safe and happy Halloween.

Sincerely,

Patricia Gartland  
Superintendent/CEO