



Alderson Elementary News

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Website: www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/alderson

November 29, 2024

Hi Alderson Families,

Occasionally in our newsletter I will add some information about an important conversation we are having with our students at Alderson. This week I would like to take some time to let you know about a concerning trend at many schools – including Alderson - with the hopes that you will work with us to help your child understand why it is not permitted at school.

Please remember that our **Winter Concert** is on **Tuesday, December 17th** from **1:30-2:30**. All parents are encouraged to attend!!



The “Roast Battle” Trend

A popular trend among Grade 3-5 students is the participation in “roast battles”. Roast battles, where participants exchange insults, have gained popularity in recent years in the media. Children engage in these battles to entertain and get a laugh from their peers. Please help us to communicate this to our community by having a conversation with your child.

Here are a few reasons why roast battles are not acceptable at school:

- **Promotes Negative Behaviour:** Roast battles often involve making fun of someone's appearance, behavior, or personal traits. This creates a hostile environment for students. By normalizing insults and put-downs, roast battles encourage negative behavior and attitudes among students. This goes against the values of respect and kindness we are trying to instill at Alderson.
- **Emotional Impact:** Not all students have the same level of resilience. What might seem like a harmless joke to one person can be deeply hurtful to another, leading to emotional distress and a negative impact on mental health.
- **Distraction from Learning:** Schools are places for education and personal growth. Roast battles can distract students from their studies and create an atmosphere of tension and conflict, which is not conducive to learning.

In addition to roast battles, students may misuse the phrases like "just kidding" and "no offense" to excuse unkind comments. While the use of these phrases might seem like a way to soften the blow, they do not erase the hurt caused by the initial remark. These phrases can create a culture where students feel it's acceptable to say hurtful things if they add a disclaimer. We are letting our students know that the use of these disclaimers does not erase the unkind comment.

Schools have a responsibility to provide a safe and supportive environment for all students. Roast battles often result in harassment, body shaming, and/or discrimination. At Alderson we are working to nurture a kind and caring community. Please take some time with your child to ask them if they are hearing this type of thing happen among their peers. Check in with them to see if they have ever felt hurt by these types of comments directed at them by their peers.

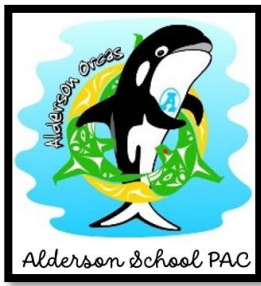
As always, if your child is struggling with fellow students being unkind to them, please be in contact with their teacher to ensure that we are aware of this behaviour at school.

Upcoming Events



For information about future events please check our online calendar. As information about each event becomes available, it will be added to the calendar item. Click on the item to read more.

[Alderson Online Calendar](#)



Alderson PAC

(Parent Advisory Council)

A **HUGE** thank you to our PAC for the work they do to raise money for our school, and for running the special events that bring our community together. These events are a lot of work – please do your part. You can send them an email if you can help out.

If you have questions about a PAC initiative please email them at:

AldersonSchoolPac@gmail.com



Hot Lunch

Don't forget to put in an order so your child does not miss out!!

If your child would like hot lunch but money is tight for you right now, please speak to Ms. Dryer (sdryer@sd43.bc.ca)

Munch-A-Lunch!

Lunch Date	Order By Date / Time (will auto-close after) [Timezone: PDT]	Lunch Theme
Wed, Dec 04, 2024	Tue, Nov 26, 2024 8:00 PM	12/04 (Wed) - Pizza Pizza
Wed, Dec 18, 2024	Tue, Dec 10, 2024 8:00 PM	12/18 (Wed) - Subway



Winter Weather Ahead!!



Please ensure you are aware of the procedures when snow happens. I have posted everything you need to know on our website here:

[Winter Weather Ahead](#)





YMCA Kids Club Before & After School Care

The YMCA Kids Club licensed before and after school care program offers children in our school community with a safe and welcoming environment to connect with others and participate in productive and enjoyable activities.



For more information or to register,
visit gy.ymca.ca/childcare.

YMCA Kids Club

In need of before and after school care? The YMCA Kids Club program serves families in our school community and currently has spaces available. The Y understands that time gaps before and after school can be a challenge for parents, which is why its licensed Kids Clubs programs offer school-aged children a safe and inviting environment to connect with others and participate in enjoyable activities.

To learn more about YMCA Kids Club and to register your child for before and after school care, contact ymcakidsclub@bc.ymca.ca or visit gy.ymca.ca/childcare.



Anita Strang

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