



# COMO LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

1121 King Albert Ave., Coquitlam, B.C. V3J 1X8

Ph: (604) 936-1451

Email: comolake@sd43.bc.ca



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### BY MRS. DEVON ROSS

Dear Como Lake Families,

It is hard to believe it is already the beginning of November and we are 20% of the way through the school year. Students are well into their coursework now, and many projects have already begun. Science classes are learning about different body systems such as respiration and circulation and I have seen a number of very well done assignments highlighting the students' learning of these scientific processes. The novel we are all reading as a school "Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library" is also a big hit. Our Genius Hour All Play is beginning next week where students have signed up to engage in a variety of projects that follow their passions. Please make sure you ask your children about their projects. We have also purchased a number of new library books. Please encourage your child to visit our Library Learning Commons and check out a book to enjoy during evenings and weekends. There are lots of excellent choices.

Outside of academics, classes have started field trips. All teams went swimming in October and had a wonderful time. Many thanks to our families that have volunteered to chaperone on field trips. We are still looking for more volunteers and you can sign up by completing the Volunteer Application Form on [School Cash Online](#) and by also providing the school with your Vulnerable Sector Criminal Record Check (school will provide a letter upon request to waive the fee for the criminal record check to volunteer applicants). If you can help, that would be greatly appreciated.

For Athletics, many thanks to our volunteer staff coaches. Students have been able to enjoy swimming, volleyball, and cross-country this term. Our swim team and cross country teams did very well in the district meets and made us all proud. Special kudos to Bilisuma who won the Grade 6 District-wide gold medal in cross-country. Volleyball games are still underway with some final district playoffs coming soon for Grades 7 and 8, with Grade 6 happening today.

## Principal's Message Continued...

As we discussed in the last newsletter, our Action Plan for Learning identifies three different goals. One of the goals we have been discussing quite a bit with students is our goal on fostering a sense of belonging and self-regulation while also focussing on our connectedness and community of care.

As a school, we have talked a lot about kindness and respect. We have discussed how each student can work towards filling the buckets of others by caring and being their first smile of the day. We have students of all abilities and from many backgrounds in the school. Through our interactions, we are really trying to focus on how we are inclusive of all as we are all interconnected as part of the same community.

We have had a fun and festive day for Halloween for all staff and students. I was very pleased to hear that many of our students and even their older high school siblings went trick or treating on Halloween night. I really enjoy seeing students of all ages dressing up and trick or treating. It is great to see them all engaging in positive behaviour as they hang out with their friends and families and fill their candy buckets and bags.

As a final note, I just have to thank the students and families again for the kindness I have experienced in my first few months at Como Lake Middle. You have been so welcoming and I really appreciate the smiles I receive every day.

We look forward to seeing you at the 3-Way Conferences on November 5th and 6th. If you have not already signed up, please reach out to your child's core teacher. We also have a PAC Meeting on November 12th and all parents are welcome to attend.

I hope you a wonderful weekend!



# IMPORTANT DATES:

## NOVEMBER



### Friday, November 1

- Grade 6 Routine Immunizations
- Grade 6 Volleyball Tournament at Citadel Middle



### Tuesday, November 5

- 3 Way Conferences (Student/Parent/Teacher)
- 2:00 p.m. Early Dismissal



### Wednesday, November 6

- 3 Way Conferences (Student/Parent/Teacher)
- 2:00 p.m. Early Dismissal



### Thursday, November 7

- Genius All Play 12:55 – 2:55 p.m.



### Monday, November 11

- Remembrance Day
- School Closed



### Tuesday, November 12

PAC Meeting at 7:00 p.m. (Virtual and in-person)



### Thursday, November 14

Genius All Play 12:55 – 2:55 p.m.



### Thursday, November 21

Genius All Play 12:55 – 2:55 p.m.



### Thursday, November 28

Genius All Play 12:55 – 2:55 p.m.

**Calendar is available on our website under the heading 'On the Calendar'**

**Como Lake Website**





## CROSS COUNTRY

Como Lake cross country teams did very well in the district meets and made us all proud. Special kudos to Bilisuma who won the Grade 6 District-wide gold medal in cross-country!



## Your stuff misses you too

Small and valuable items lost such as earbuds, jewelry, etc, are kept in the office. We have a small collection of items waiting for their rightful owner. All other items such as clothing, waterbottles, containers, etc, can be found in the "Lost & Found" located in the hallway near the office. Items are collected frequently as we accumulate lost items quickly. Please remind students to check for items lost regularly and please LABEL all items with your student's name!

**Unclaimed items will be donated to Big Brother regularly.**

## DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME



Daylight saving time will end this Sunday, November 3 at 2:00 a.m. Remember to change your clocks back one hour!



## GENIUS HOUR All Play

Every Thursday during the month of November is Genius Hour All Play! The opportunity for our students to engage in personal passion projects, with the support of our teachers, is very special. It is always amazing to see the level of engagement our students have in the work that they are doing when the work is a project of their choosing. Please encourage children to be prepared with all the items required for Genius Hour All Play on Thursdays to ensure the activity is a success.

## 3 WAY CONFERENCES



Parents/Student/Teacher Conferences will be held on **Tuesday, November 5** and **Wednesday, November 6.**

**Students will be dismissed at 2:00 p.m. on both days.**

# STUDENT ATTENDANCE



The morning bell rings at 8:35 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and at 8:55 a.m. on Wednesdays. Students are expected to arrive to school on time, giving them the opportunity to prepare for learning (getting their materials organized, removing outdoor wear, going to lockers, etc.). When students arrive late for school, not only is the classroom disrupted, but also the student misses out on receiving important classroom instruction and information shared from our morning announcements.

If students will be late, absent, and/or leaving early, please submit an Absence Report under "Quick Links" on our school website: <https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/comolake/>

If your child needs to be dismissed early, we ask that you please inform the office ahead of time. Please make sure we have a time when your child is leaving school. 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. Please note that your child will not be allowed to leave early until the office gets a verbal or written permission from a parent.

\*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.) subside.



## Reminder



### ITEMS FROM HOME

Please remind students to have all items needed to have a successful day at school:

- forks/spoons needed for lunches/snacks
- water bottle
- rain gear
- label all items with student's name

Como Lake is on Instagram!



SCAN ME



@COMO\_LAKE\_MIDDLE





## COMO LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL PAC



[comolakemiddlepac@gmail.com](mailto:comolakemiddlepac@gmail.com)

### PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST PAC MEETING

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 @ 7 P.M.**

Meeting will be held In Person at the School Library as well as Zoom. A link for zoom will be emailed closer to the date to all families.



## KATESLEM AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Kateslem after school program runs 5 days per week after school until 5:30 pm. This is a free program but requires a commitment to attend of 4 days per week, staying the full time. Our program is not a daycare and has been running out of Como Lake for over 15 years. It is a youth program geared towards learning essential life skills, trying different activities, cooking, baking, gardening, homework help, and much more. There are also field trips when funding is available. There is limited space as we only have room for 20 youth at this location with snacks provided. If you are interested in joining or are looking for more information, please contact our Kateslem Executive Director, Karyn Bell, at (604)316-8412 or [karynskateslem@yahoo.ca](mailto:karynskateslem@yahoo.ca)

### PAC DONATION PROGRAM 2024-2025

Every year, our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) raises funds for learning materials, based on school goals; sports equipment for classrooms, intramurals, and extra-curricular activities; library materials; emergency preparedness supplies; technology equipment and many other "extras". These items are all made available for use by our children, as a result of PAC fundraising initiatives.

PAC Donations can be made on **School Cash Online**.

100% of your donation goes directly to the school for items your child will use. You may choose to donate any amount. Business donations are also welcome.

Please note that only donations of \$25.00 or more, will receive an income tax receipt from the school district, which are provided early in the new year.

## STEAM Projects Kick Off at Como!

We are thrilled to announce the start of our school-wide STEAM projects! This year, our students will have the opportunity to dive into three different STEAM projects, each spanning 10 Thursdays for 2 hours. These projects are designed to ignite creativity, foster collaboration, and enhance critical thinking skills.

### Project Highlight: Carnival Games 🎪

One of the projects this year is Carnival Games. In this project, students will work in small groups to design, build, and host their very own carnival games. This project connects to real-world issues by allowing students to explore the concepts of physics, engineering, and mathematics in a fun and interactive way. Students will learn about the mechanics behind carnival games, such as probability, force, and motion, while also considering the social aspects of hosting an event. They will understand how events like carnivals can bring communities together, fostering social interaction and engagement.

But that's not all! This project is packed with opportunities to develop essential employability skills.

Teachers will act as employers, guiding students through the process of presenting the math and science concepts behind their games.

**Business Management:** Students will learn to manage their "business," ensuring they stay profitable by tracking costs (materials and labor) and analyzing the profitability of their games.

### Here's what our students will be doing:

**Design and Build:** Students will brainstorm, plan, and construct their carnival games. Students will have the freedom to choose the type of game they want to build, which will allow them to express their creativity. They can decide on the game's theme, materials, and rules, as well as how they will present their game to their peers at the carnival. This choice will empower students and enhance their engagement in the project.

**Host a Carnival:** Once the games are ready, students will host a carnival for their peers and teachers. The final product will be a carnival game created by each group, which will be showcased at a school-wide carnival event. Additionally, students will prepare a presentation to explain the science and math behind their game, which they will share with attendees, making their learning visible to a broader audience.

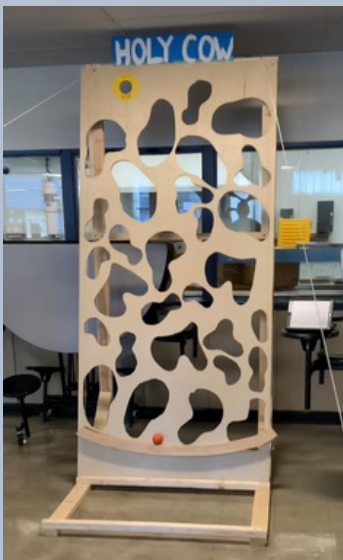
This hands-on experience will not only be fun but also educational, helping students understand the real-world applications of math and science while developing teamwork and business skills.

Stay tuned for more updates on our STEAM projects and the amazing work our students are doing!

We can't wait to see the innovative and creative ideas our students come up with. Let's make this a fantastic year of learning and discovery! 🚀

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Best regards,  
Chris MacDicken





# MYED BC PORTAL CORNER

## Verification Form:

This form contains demographic information that each family has shared with the school upon registration. If any of the information is incorrect, please print the form and write the updated information. The form can then be sent to the office for us to make the necessary changes on our MyEd system.

The Student Verification Form will be found under the "Published Reports" section of the MyEd Family portal.

## Login TO MYED BC Portal

Access to the portal can be found HERE. It is best practice to go to our school website and click on "MyEdBC Family Portal" under "Quick Links." Avoid using google to search for MyEd BC because it often takes you to a different link and it won't work properly!

Your MyEd BC Login is 43-youremailaddress. Please note that every three months, the system requires you to create a new password. This is for security purposes and we suggest you have your passwords written down somewhere safe to refer to! If you can't remember your password, you can request for a Password Reset when logging in (see below).



You can reset the password for MyEd Portal by clicking on "I forgot my password"

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW?

## CHANGE IN HOME ADDRESS?

Home address changes must be reported to the office along with 3 of the required support documentation from the following:

- BC Driver's License
- Long Term Tenancy Agreement - showing name & address
- Property Purchase Agreement - showing name & address
- Income Tax Statement - showing name & province of residency
- Property Tax Statement - showing name & address
- Utility Bill
- BC Vehicle Registration
- Canadian Bank Account Statement - showing name & address
- Canadian Credit Card Statement - showing name & address

SchoolCashOnline  
by KEV GROUP

OPT-IN to receive e-mail notifications for new fees/permission forms assigned to your child and updates on school related activities on School Cash Online. To do this, log on to your account, and click on "My Account", then scroll down to "Manage Email Notifications." Check that the box is marked indicating that you want to receive email notifications. You may also select the preferred language for e-mails from School Cash Online here.

<https://sd43.schoolcashonline.com/>



The Day of the Dead is celebrated in Mexico and other parts of Latin America. The festival is celebrated to remember loved ones who have died. It also helps people accept and deal with the idea of death. It takes place over two days, on November 1 and 2.

Good wishes to families who celebrate the Day of the Dead. Feliz día de los Muertos!



Many families celebrate Diwali, the festival of lights. People light oil lamps and candles on the day to symbolize the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil. The annual festival tends to fall between October and November and this year, Diwali is celebrated on Thursday, October 31 until Friday, November 1.

Wishing endless joy, prosperity and warmth to your home and family this Diwali. Happy Diwali!



On **Monday, November 11**, we honour those who gave their lives to serve our country. School is closed on this day.

From the last Friday in October to Remembrance Day, Canadians wear a Poppy to honour and remember Canada's Veterans. The Royal Canadian Legion Poppies will be available to students on November 8. Please send some change with your child to school on this day to help raise funds to support Veterans and their families in need.

## DENTAL PROGRAM

Here is a list of dental resources for the 2024/2025 school year. Families may be eligible to apply for the following programs if they do not have private dental insurance:

1. Healthy Kids Program - children under the age of 19 years may be eligible for basic dental services.
2. Canadian Dental Care Plan - children under the age of 18 years who do not have access to a private dental insurance plan.
3. UBC Dentistry - offers a free dental program for children 12 years and younger. Please see the attached application form.
4. Affordable dentistry options for children - Fraser Health Authority



### UBC Dental Program

Dental Treatment for Children  
Ages 0-12 without Dental Coverage

Children may be eligible to receive free dental care with the UBC Children's Dental Program.

- Supervised UBC dental students ("dentist or dental hygienist in training") provide dental exams and treatment
- A parent / caregiver must accompany their child to the appointments
- Appointments are Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons at: UBC, Noble Biocare Oral Health Centre, 2151 Westbrook Mall UBC Campus, Vancouver.
- School bus transportation is available for families who need a ride to and from the UBC dental clinic.

If you are interested and would like more information, please call your local Health Unit.

Health Units with Dental Staff	Phone	Fax
Abbotsford Health Unit	604-864-3400	604-864-3410
Burnaby Health Unit	604-918-7605	604-918-7630
Chilliwack Health Unit (Hope, Agassiz)	604-702-4900	604-702-4901
Guildford Health Unit	604-587-4750	604-587-4777
Langley Health Unit (Cloverdale)	604-539-2900	604-530-8138
Maple Ridge Health Unit	604-476-7000	604-476-7077
Mission Health Unit	604-814-5500	604-814-5517
North Delta Health Unit (South Delta, Newton, White Rock)	604-507-5400	604-507-4617
North Surrey Health Unit	604-587-7900	604-582-4811
New Westminster Health Unit	604-777-6740	604-525-0878
TriCities Health Unit	604-949-7200	604-949-7211





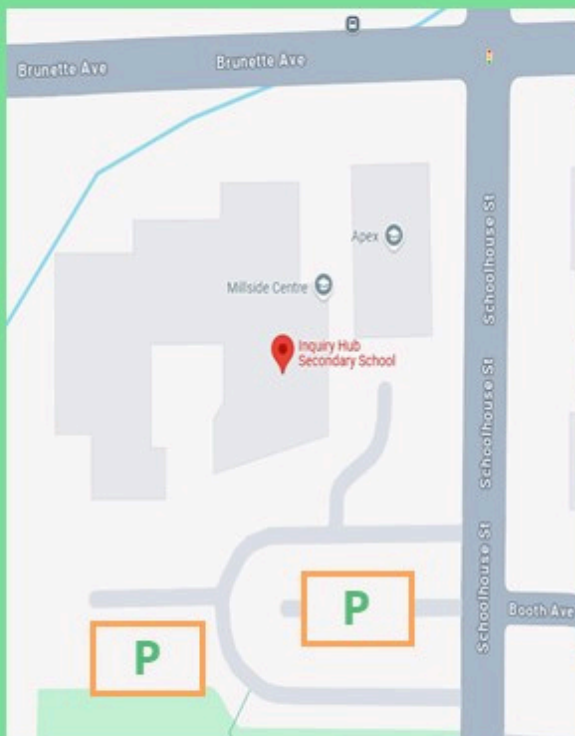
# Come to iHub OPEN HOUSE

Inquiry Hub Secondary  
1432 Brunette Ave, Coquitlam  
(Parking access via Schoolhouse St.)

Wednesday Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>  
6:00pm to 8:30pm (show at 6:30)

We're the  
**Dream – Create – Learn**  
School.

**[Inquiryhub.org/open](https://inquiryhub.org/open)**



Inquiry Hub is School District 43's award-winning, inquiry-based, public secondary school. We're looking for motivated learners; students who want to, and can, make a difference.

So, we're inviting you to an open house where students and teachers will share their school, their creations, and what it's like to learn at Inquiry Hub.

Please RSVP at  
[inquiryhub.org/open](https://inquiryhub.org/open)

Wednesday Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm

Inquiry Hub at Millside Centre,  
1432 Brunette Ave.  
Coquitlam B.C. V3K 1G5





**Talons Tutoring**  
Gleneagle ConX Leadership

**ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A TUTOR?**

SIGN UP FOR FREE TUTORING SESSIONS FROM  
DATES NOV 15th-JAN 17TH  
TUES-FRI, 4:15-5:00pm @GLENEAGLE SECONDARY  
SCHOOL



SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP!!

### WHAT IS TALONS TUTORING?

Talons Tutoring is a free tutoring service organized by Gleneagle Secondary School in which volunteer tutors from our school come in Tuesday-Friday's to help middle-school students in the SD43 district. Our goal is to provide accessible tutoring in core subjects, music, and foreign languages to students who may need academic assistance or want to learn more than they learn in school!

### WHAT SERVICES DO WE OFFER?

Core subjects (TUES-FRI):

- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- English

And we NOW offer assistance in extra skills such as:

MUSIC (WED ONLY):

- Piano
- String
- Wind/Brass

FOREIGN LANGUAGES (FRI ONLY):

- French
- Mandarin



*Winter is here.  
let the shopping begin!*

**Charles Best Secondary  
Winter Market**

**Friday November 15, 2024**  
**School Gym 5:30-9:30pm**  
2525 Como Lake Avenue, Coquitlam, BC

Delicious Food, Desserts & Drinks;  
plus over 70 Amazing Vendors!!

**Entry By Donation**  
Proceeds support Charles Best AfterGrad 2025