



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Heritage Mountain Elementary School
 125 Ravine Dr., Port Moody, B.C. V3H 4Z1 ☎ 604-469-6407 📠 604-937-8017
www.sd43.bc.ca/school/heritagemountain

We acknowledge we are on the unceded traditional territory of the Kwikwetlem First Nation, which lies within the shared territories of the Tsleil-Waututh, Katzie, Musqueam, Qayqayt, Squamish, and Sto':lo Nations.

DECEMBER 2023

November 24, 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Nov 27 Art Starts Performance 1:30	Nov 28	Nov 29	30	DEC 1
4 SHARE Food Bank Donation Drive begins!	5 Fuel PAC Hot Lunch	6	7 PAC Meeting 7pm	8
11	12	13 Christmas Concert 1:00pm	14 Christmas Concert 1:00pm	15
18	19 Boston Pizza PAC Hot Lunch	20	21	22 Last day of school! PAC Pancake Breakfast PJ Day Report Cards online at end of day
December 23-January 7 WINTER BREAK				
Jan 8 Welcome Back to School!	Jan 9	Jan 10	Jan 11	Jan 12



PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE

November 24, 2023



Hello HME Families,

Tis the season for...illness, unfortunately. As usual around this time of year we have many students away sick. Thank you for your consideration in keeping your child home when they are showing signs of cold, flu, or respiratory viruses. This is so important to stay home when not feeling well to keep us all safe and healthy. If you have to administer medicine to your child for being symptomatic, then they are not ready to return. If they do not have their typical energy level or appetite, then they should be home resting. We have been dealing recently with an increase in staff absences as well, and on some days we are not getting replacements for Education Assistants, Noon-hour Supervisors, or Teachers. This also puts a strain on all staff and our ability to run programs and support as scheduled. Thank you for your support and understanding.

We are looking forward to our December special events coming up. The Christmas Concert is on Dec 13 and Dec 14, both days starting at 1:00pm. Having our concert during these days enables us to have our Music Teacher Mrs. Baker and all of our EAs supporting, to make it a successful and smooth experience for the children. We also have the PAC sponsored Pancake Breakfast on the very last day of school. Students will be organized by classes and grouped together at different times through the morning starting at 9:15am and the last groups ending at 11:20am. This should be a great new experience for our community. Don't forget that it's also PJ day or feel free to wear a Christmas sweater day on the last day for some extra fun and bring the holiday cheer!

Sincerely,

Mr. Sclater

What's Happening at Heritage Mountain Elementary



Help Needed!

We need help on Tuesday December 5th to set up our stage for the Christmas Concert. If you are able to help out at 3:00 in the gym we would really appreciate it.



SHARE Food Bank Donation Drive

HME has a wonderful history of donating tons of food to our local SHARE Food bank. This year, SHARE has asked us to do things a little differently. Even though they receive large quantities of food, there are some very real challenges with food drives throughout the community, including:

- Large quantities of damaged or expired food being donated and then ending up in the landfill
- A mismatch between items most needed by those who use the food bank and items donated
- Large amounts of non-perishable or less nutritious foods being donated, versus SHARE's current focus providing meat, milk, eggs, fruit, and vegetables to the families visiting the food bank

When SHARE receives monetary donations, they use those funds to buy items in bulk (increased purchase power of every dollar donated) and focus on what is most needed by those they serve every day (meal supplements for seniors, perishable foods, infant formula, and culturally appropriate items for everyone).

Starting in December (with more information coming soon), HME will embark on a new way of giving to our local food bank. We will be collecting cash (coins and bills) at school as well as online. There will be information sent home to the school community, as well as reminders in planners during the month of December. We will update our students regularly with our growing tally, and likely have information in the hallway and on announcements regarding what we've collected.

Winter Concert – Weds December 13; or Thurs December 14

Please plan to attend **ONE** of our Winter Concerts. All students will be part of our Winter Concert. We are offering two identical concerts. Because of gym capacity concerns, we ask that you attend only one concert. All concerts will begin at **1:00pm** (Doors open at 12:30pm). Families are asked to line up at the West outside gym door and not come through the main office doors.

Important Information

Report Cards – parent portal

www.myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/logon.do

Report Cards will be published on Friday December 22nd in the afternoon. **Prior to December 22nd** please ensure that you have logged into your myed account (parent username format will be “43-youremail”) and that your password is current. Your password expires after 90 days and must be reset – use the “I forgot my password” option.

Reminder that your password must be a minimum of 8 characters, a number, and upper-case letter and a special character.

Report Cards do not stay on the portal indefinitely. If you would like to keep a copy of the report card please download and save a copy prior to January 26, 2024.

Have you moved?

Please inform the office if you have moved AND submit two documents to show your new address (purchase agreement, rental agreement, utility bill, drivers license). We need two of those documents for verification. It is important that we have the correct information on file for your child. Please contact Mrs. Godin in the office for more information.

You're invited to learn more about Kindergarten for September 2024

Hear all about Kindergarten and Kindergarten Programs of Choice: Reggio Emilia, Montessori, French Immersion, and Mandarin Bilingual
Tuesday, November 28, 6:30-8:00pm
SD43 Education Learning Centre, 1080 Winslow Ave., Coquitlam

2024 Kindergarten Registration

2024 Cross Catchment

2024 Programs of Choice

Kindergarten registration for children born in 2019 happens ONLINE between February 6 – February 8th, 2024.

Cross catchment applications happen ONLINE between February 9-14

Registration for “Programs of Choice” (Early French Immersion, Late French Immersion, Montessori, Mandarin, Reggio) happens ONLINE between January 11-17

Winter Weather

As a general expectation, parents are to be advised that schools are open. If parents believe the local conditions are unsafe, they may keep their child at home or arrange his/her early dismissal. If schools are to be closed before morning classes begin, an announcement will be made by 6:30 a.m. on the school district website, school websites.

Announcements will be made on local radio stations CKNW (980), and CKWX (1130) by 6:30 a.m. if possible. During the full day closure, all district organized transportation of students will be cancelled. Wherever possible, the decision will be announced the previous day to enable parents more time to make alternate arrangements for their children.

- *Always have your child well prepared to go outside with proper winter weather gear (Warm jacket, boots, gloves, toque, umbrella).*
- *On days where the school grounds are very icy and dangerous for walking, we may need to change the play areas or have the students stay inside for safety.*
- *Please use caution walking to school. We make sure to do our best to clear and salt a walking path, but proper footwear is essential.*
- *When driving, please remember to plan ahead and use patience when entering the drop off lane because of slippery conditions, and watching for pedestrians leaving and entering vehicles.*

Lost & Found!

Has your child lost a coat? Hat? Vest? Jacket? Water bottle? Our LOST & FOUND area at the front of the school is OVERFLOWING!

Please stop by just inside the main office doors and have a look at the L&F clothing rack – and a reminder – putting your child's name into coats/jackets makes it so much easier to get their clothes back to them.



Important Dates to remember!



Thurs Jan 11-Weds Jan 17

Programs of Choice online applications

Thursday Jan 18

Early dismissal 1:50pm

Monday Jan 29

School Based Pro-D –no school for students

Tues Feb 6-Thurs Feb 8

Kindergarten Registration online

Fri Feb 9(9am)-Weds Feb 14 (4pm)

Cross Catchment applications online

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) Heritage Mountain Elementary School School Calendar 2023-2024

Schools close for Winter vacation (last day in session)	Friday, Dec 22
Winter vacation period	Monday, Dec 25 – Friday, Jan 5
Schools re-open after Winter vacation	Monday, Jan 8
School Based Pro-D Day	Monday, January 29, 2024
BC Family Day	Monday, Feb 19
Pro D Day	Friday, Feb 23
Schools close for Spring vacation (last day in session)	Friday, March 15
Spring vacation period	Monday, Mar 18 – Thursday, Mar 28
Good Friday	Friday, Mar 29
Easter Monday	Monday April 1
Schools re-open after Spring vacation	Tuesday April 2
Pro D Day	Friday, Apr 19
Victoria Day	Monday, May 20
School Based Pro-D Day	Monday, June 3
Last day of school for all students	Thursday, June 27
Administrative day	Friday, June 28

Early Dismissals one hour earlier than normal dismissal:

Thursday January 18 1:50

Wednesday April 10 1:50

Wednesday May 8 1:50 for student led conferences

Thursday May 9 1:50 for student led conferences