



# eNews

September 24, 2021

**Mission Statement:** We strive for personal excellence and promote enthusiasm for lifelong learning. We participate in and share responsibility for creating a caring, safe and respectful community, while encouraging and maintaining positive relationships.

**Déclaration de Mission:** Nous visons l'excellence personnelle et la promotion de l'enthousiasme pour l'apprentissage pour toute la vie. Nous participons et partager la responsabilité de la création d'une communauté aimante, sécuritaire et respectueux , tout en encourageant et maintenir des relations positives.

## Upcoming Events:

- Sep. 24** Non-Instructional Day – No school for students
- Sep. 30** Truth and Reconciliation Day – No school for students
- Oct. 11** Thanksgiving – No school for students
- Oct. 15** Photo re-take day
- Oct. 22** Non-Instructional Day – No school for students
- Nov. 3** Student Led- Conferences (early dismissal at 1:54 pm)
- Nov. 4** Student Led Conferences (early dismissal at 1:54 pm)
- Nov. 11** Remembrance Day – No school for students
- Dec. 16** Reports Go Home
- Dec. 17** Schools Close to Winter Break
- Jan. 4** Schools Re-Open after Winter Break

All COVID-19 updates, procedures and correspondence can be found at the following link [COVID-19 Restart Plan MCM](#). All email correspondence related to COVID-19 from Mr. Graham can be found here.

*Calendar dates are constantly being updated so please keep an eye on our website and for e-mail updates throughout the year.*

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/School/maplecreek/>

***“We don’t just go to School, We go to Maple Creek”***

## Message from the Administration

Happy September. We hope you all had an enjoyable, relaxing summer and are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead for the 2021/ 2022 school year. It certainly has been a challenging start with lots of work prior to the school year to get things rolling for our students. We have been very pleased with our start up and have been focussing on setting the routines around safety and establishing our learning expectations and the roll out of explorations and the upcoming intramurals athletics and band. Thanks to our parents for your fantastic support as we started up the school year.

A special welcome goes out to all our new families. We truly believe that education is a three-way partnership between the student, the school, and the home and it is by working closely together that we feel we can set the best path for success for your children. We are also easily available by phone or email. We are looking forward to working with you and your children. To our returning families, welcome back and we hope you continue to make Maple Creek the special place it is!

A regular electronic newsletter will be distributed twice per month so please be sure to watch for this as it provides you with information about what life is like at Maple Creek Middle. Newsletters are sent out electronically for those who have access to email and copies are available at the office. We also have a very handy website that promises to provide you with a wealth of information, including things like supply lists, updates, calendar items, virtual presentations to help folks get to know our school better, etc.. You can check it out at: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/School/maplecreek/>.

Maple Creek prides itself in educating the whole child; it is part of our mission statement. Academics will always play a focal role, but we also highly value educating the body (athletics), the arts (drama, art, music, visual arts) and the social well-being of our students (character, empathy, understanding, giving, and supporting). Throughout the first few hectic weeks, we have been right on track with what our mission at Maple Creek is - educating the whole child.

There will be important paperwork that needs to be completed and we thank you in advance for your help in ensuring that the forms are completed in a timely manner!

Once again welcome to the new school year and we look very forward to working with you to provide enriching learning experiences for your children.



Mr. A. Graham - Principal  
[agraham@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:agraham@sd43.bc.ca)



Mr. I. Robertson – Vice  
[irobertson@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:irobertson@sd43.bc.ca)

*"At Maple Creek, we celebrate our Diversity"*

---



## “To Do” items for Parents

### Student Activity fees (Online Payment)

This year **student fees are \$35.00** (which is payment for student agendas, locks and locker rental, student leadership activities, team and school-wide days and cultural performances). In keeping with the other middle schools in our District, there is an **Athletic/Club fee of \$15.00**. This helps to offset the cost of maintaining equipment, uniforms, paying referees, tournament costs, outside facility rentals and some special events. The fee is for any students participating in our extracurricular activities. We are asking parent to pay for their fees online by following the instructions below:

### SCHOOL CASH ONLINE EXPLAINED:

Here at **Maple Creek**, 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**. Last year, as a 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 backpacks!

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 Brochure on how to register for your account:

<https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/maplecreek/Documents/School%20Cash%20Online%20Brochure-How%20to%20get%20started.pdf>.

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

*Although we do encourage all parents to set up an online account, we do recognize that some families are not able to do so. If you are one of these families, please contact our office to advise them by simply emailing or telephoning.*

---



## More to do items for parents...

---

- **Student Information Verification Form (will be sent home with your child):** Please take the time to check over your student registration form to ensure that all information is accurate and current, especially contact information such as phone numbers and your address. Please note any necessary changes directly on the form, return it to the school and we will make these changes in our student information system. **NOTE: IF THERE ARE NO CHANGES, YOU STILL MUST RETURN THE FORM TO THE SCHOOL.**
- **District Policies Forms:** Please complete via your [School Cash Online Account](#).
- **Parent E-Forms (Volunteer):** Please complete via your [School Cash Online Account](#). **\*We cannot take volunteers at this time, however, when we are able to, we will have your information on file.\***
- **Parent Criminal Rec. 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 cannot take driver volunteers at this time, but when we are able to, we will have your information on file.** Please access the following letter to get your fee waived at your local police department: [CRC Letter 2021](#) 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](#)
- **Medical Alert Form: (Online at [www.sd43.bc.ca/school/maplecreek](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/maplecreek)).** Click on "Parent eForms". *If your child has any special medical considerations that you would like us to be aware of please print the e-form online and return it to the office.*

---

## **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 Maple Creek 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 **604-464-8581**, use the **"Absence Report" function on our school website under "Quick Links"** or email at [maplecreekattendance@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:maplecreekattendance@sd43.bc.ca).

If your child will be arriving late, you **must** also inform the office. If your child will be dismissed early, we as 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, please come to the office to let us know you are here and we will call your child to the office so that you can sign your child out.

**\*Reminder: please do not send your child to school if they are experiencing any of the symptoms listed on the daily health check.\***



## **COUNSELLOR'S CORNER!**

Welcome to Maple Creek Middle School, and welcome back to all our returning grade 7 and 8's to another exciting and eventful year. My name is Vanessa McCall and I am the School Counsellor. I am fortunate to be at the school every day so that students and parents have the opportunity to access my services. There are a few different ways that students can come speak with me. I am located in the office area and students are encouraged to leave me a note (I have notes by my door that they can write their name and div. # on and slip it under my door); they may speak with their teacher, or you can always contact me via email or telephone. I am more than happy to speak with you should you have any questions, concerns or inquiries about your child and their overall wellbeing. Also please don't hesitate to reach out if you would like some support and other resources to help both your child and your family thrive during the middle school years. Last year was certainly unique and brought on some unique challenges that all our students faced with ever-growing resiliency, strength and bravery. It has been wonderful and positive to see all our students continue to adapt and thrive given all the new rules and regulations we all had to follow. I look forward to another amazing, successful, eventful and fun filled year at Maple Creek, and to connecting with you and your children 😊.

***Vanessa McCall -Maple Creek Counsellor***

### **Top 10 Keys to Middle School Success**

- #1 Sleep well.** Teens and young adults should be getting 8 to 10 hours per night. Enough sleep is critical for your body and brain to function well.
- #2 Eat right.** Healthy and balanced meals give your body and mind energy to work well throughout the day. Take extra time and effort to make sure you're not only eating enough but eating a mix of everything you need!
- #3 Do your homework.** Making a habit to do your homework each night will help you practice skills and be ready for your quizzes and tests. Find a consistent time each night after school to spend a little time on homework so that you can then enjoy the rest of your evening with your family, sports, activities or relaxing.....
- #4 Pay attention in class.** Focusing and using your time wisely is one of the best ways to stay ahead in middle school. Nut break and lunch time is the best time to socialize with friends and get a chance to get outside for some fun and fresh air.
- #5 Get involved.** Unfortunately, at this time we've had to put our extra -curricular groups and activities on hold, but stay tuned for the future and upcoming opportunities. Getting involved in school activities, leadership groups, sports and different clubs can really help you feel like part of the school community and become more successful in school.
- #6 Ask for help.** Whether it is academic, social or emotional help, there are adults at the school ready and willing to help support you. Seek out and ask for help when you feel you might need it.
- #7 Make goals.** Give yourself something that you want to attain by the end of the month and even year!
- #8 Think positive.** Things are going to get tough and overwhelming at times. It's important to stay optimistic and know that you CAN do whatever you put your mind to, and there are lots of adults at school that are here to help support you.
- #9 Stay organized.** A little organization goes a long way in middle school. Writing down your homework in your planner and keeping your binders, duo tangs and locker organized will help keep all your supplies and work organized so that you can be more successful in your daily routines.
- #10 Take risks.** Middle school is the time when you start to grow up and figure out who you are in the world. Take risks and be brave, try something new even if you're a little scared and hesitant. Feeling nervous about trying new things is your brain and bodies normal and natural way to keep you on your toes, alert and learning.

---

## BIKE SECURITY AT SCHOOL



Did you know that we are an award-winning Travel Smart school? We are proud of the number of students who use a means other than their parents driving them to get to school. Many 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 in the bike cage.

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. We do lock the caged area where the bikes are stored during the day to ensure their security.

---

## VALUABLES AT SCHOOL



We would like to ask parents to discuss the issue of bringing valuables eg. 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 unattended knapsacks 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.

---

## 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 Mr. Ryan or Mr. Graham.

---

## SCHOOL OFFICE PHONES



The office phones will only be used by students for emergency purposes or with the permission from 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.**

## CELL PHONE POLICY AT MAPLE CREEK



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 or to listen to music while doing their work.

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 Maple Creek parents to refrain from texting or calling their children's cells with information that requires an immediate response, so the students aren't put in a position of disobeying our school policies. 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.



## Wildlife Alert Procedures for Maple Creek

### 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 advised of bear sighting in neighbourhood if sighted near 2:54 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.  
Coquitlam RCMP 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.

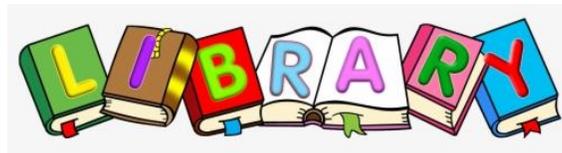
Students enter the school via the nearest unlocked exterior door. Move calmly towards entrances. Students then proceed to their classrooms once they are in the school. Coquitlam RCMP and Conservation Officers are contacted immediately for assistance or further instructions.

**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's 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://wildsafefbc.com/>- this is a great resource**



Welcome back everyone for another exiting year in the Maple Creek Middle Library Learning Commons. We are still setting up protocols for book circulation for students and hope to be able to start letting students take books out in the next few weeks. Just a reminder to any students that still have books out from last year they can return them to the box outside the library. I look forward to helping all the students find a book that they are interested in reading this year.

The goal of the Maple Creek Library Learning Commons is for students to learn to self-select books which are appealing and appropriate for them to read. Students in middle school are becoming more adept at choosing books that are appealing for them as they branch out in their reading interests. Since middle school students encompass a wide variety of ages and maturity levels, books selected for the Maple Creek Library Learning Commons are typically designated for grades 5-8 or for grades 8 and up, otherwise known as Mature Reads books. Mature Read books may contain content that is for more mature readers, such as language, violence or mature situations. These books are designated on our bookshelves with a square, red Mature Read sticker for student awareness. Students are informed about the possible mature content of these books at the time of

checkout. Included in that discussion is the point that if they choose to check out these books, they are conveying to the library learning commons teacher that they have their parent's approval to do so. If a parent does not want a student to check out Mature Read books, it is up to them to have that discussion with their child.

**Mrs. Roberts – Librarian**

## 2021-2022 Core Teachers

GR	TEAM	DIV	TEACHER		GR	TEAM	DIV	TEACHER
8	1	1	John Turenne		6/7	4	15	Jill McClean
7/8	1	2	Ivana Tasic-Nicolic		6/7	4	16	Tiffany Gaudin
7/8	1	3	Felisha Chuter		6/7	4	17	Darren Domingo
8	1	4	Dimitri Dedes		6/7	5	18	Laura Wigman
8	1	5	Leah Sue-A-Quan		6/7	5	19	Sonya Kim
8	2	6	Canaan Chan		6/7	5	20	Laura Principe
8	2	7	Jeff Kwok		6/7	6	21	Mason Foulkes
7/8	2	8	Dana Asher		6/7	6	22	Janice Kaplan
7/8	3	9	Erin Lynch		6/7	6	23	Michel Obadia
6/7	3	10	Sheri Riahi / Lani Caron		6/7	6	24	Britt Suchynsky
6/7	3	11	Eric Shepherd		6/7	6	25	Daniel Bowes
6/7	3	12	Nicole Pederson					
6/7	3	13	Laine Klimko					
6/7	4	14	Laurie Ince					

"At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents."

Jane D. Hull

NEW STAFF TO MAPLE CREEK MIDDLE

- **Team 1:** Welcomes Ms. Chuter
- **Team 3:** Welcomes Ms. Klimko
- **Team 4:** Welcomes Ms. McClean
- **Team 5:** Welcomes Ms. Principe
- **Team 6:** Welcomes Ms. Suchynsky
- **Expos:** Welcomes Mr. Smith,
- **Student Services:** Welcomes Ms. Siano
- **EAs:** Welcomes Ms. Wallace, Ms. Clarke & Ms. Saloojee (LISW)
- **Caretakers:** Mr. Cho and Mr. De Ocampo

## TRAFFIC CONGESTION AT MAPLE CREEK



If you have tried to pick up your children after school, you already know that there is a congestion problem with traffic in front of the school in the loop. We have a few suggestions to improve the congestion level.

1. Let your children walk and cycle home, or if that is not possible arrange a different pick-up location such as the turn-around at the south end of Ozada, or through the path at the east end of Lincoln.
2. If you are picking your child up in front of the school pull right up behind the car in front of you and keep moving up so that there is a continuous flow.
3. Do not stop in the narrow area of the driveway between the speed bumps. There can be no cars stopped in this area as it limits the driveway to one lane that creates a congestion problem. This area needs to be kept clear. Please do not drive over the first speed bump unless there is room for your car to move up.
4. Your children can walk to your car safely on the outside of the loop or through the middle section of the circle.
5. You should not be double parking cars so that your children can get in the car. You must only pick up your children when you are parked on the right side of the driveway, up against the curb.
6. Cars should also not be left unattended for any reason. If you need to park, please park in the side parking lot. Traffic congestion is a problem for a short period of time each day approx. 2:40-3:05 p.m. Fridays and rainy days are extremely busy. Please do your part in helping keep our driveway safe for the students and the drivers.

---

## SCHOOL CALENDAR 2021 - 2022

Schools Open	Tuesday, September 7, 2021
Non-Instructional Day ( <b>Common District Day</b> )	Friday, September 24, 2021
Truth and Reconciliation Day	Thursday, September 30, 2021
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 11, 2021
Non-Instructional Day <b>(Common District/ Common Provincial Day)</b>	Friday, October 22, 2021
Remembrance Day Stat Holiday	Thursday, November 11, 2021
Schools Close for Winter Vacation (last day in session)	Friday, December 17, 2021
Winter Vacation Period	Monday, December 20, 2021 – Friday, December 31, 2021
Schools Re-open after Winter Vacation	Tuesday, January 4, 2021
1 <sup>st</sup> School Based Pro-D Day	Monday, January 31, 2022
BC Family Day	Monday, February 25, 2022
Non-Instructional Day ( <b>Common District Day</b> )	Friday, February 25, 2022
Schools Close for Spring Vacation (last day in session)	Friday, March 11, 2022
Spring Vacation Period	Monday, March 14 – Friday, March 25, 2022
Schools re-open after Spring vacation	Monday, March 28, 2022
Good Friday	Friday, April 15, 2022
Easter Monday	Monday, April 18, 2022
Non-Instructional Day ( <b>Common District Day</b> )	Friday, April 22, 2022
2 <sup>nd</sup> School Based Pro-D Day	Friday, May 20, 2022
Victoria Day	Monday, May 23, 2022
Last Day of School for all Students	Wednesday, June 29, 2022
Administrative Day	Thursday, June 30, 2022



3700 Hastings St Port Coquitlam, BC V3B 5K7  
Phone: 604.464.8581 Fax:604.937.8045  
Office Hours: 8am - 4pm  
Email: [maplecreek@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:maplecreek@sd43.bc.ca)

To all Maple Creek parents/families:

Re: Fundraising Campaign for Maple Creek Middle School

The Maple Creek Middle School PAC (Parents Advisory Council) is asking each family to make a **one-time donation** at the start of this school year to help raise \$5,000 to fund various school activities throughout the 2021/2022 year that are not otherwise funded.

Funds raised will benefit students directly by providing the wish-list items determined by the school to support an enriched learning environment for all students. Last year funds raised paid for classroom supplies, equipment, events and outings, as well as many other items. We are suggesting a donation of \$25 per student, or \$40 per family, but will be grateful for any amount you can provide.

Donations can be made via the KEV School Cash Online system and an email will be sent when this item becomes available. Alternatively, you can pay by cash or cheque. Please attach the bottom portion of this form and submit it with the cheque to the office. **Please make all cheques payable to "Maple Creek PAC".**

If you have any further questions, please contact the PAC Chair at [maplecreekpac@gmail.com](mailto:maplecreekpac@gmail.com). Thank you in advance for your support and generosity!



-----  
**Detach and return to school classroom or office with student:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosing: \_\_\_ Cash or \_\_\_ Cheque

Per Family Donation Amount: Check One  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 one student  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$40.00 family  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in)

Tax Receipt requested in the name of: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Tax receipts must be requested at time of donation and are issued before Feb 28, by the Coquitlam School Board Finance Department for donations of \$25 or more. Please indicate above if you require a tax receipt.*



# THE GO-GIRLS! PROGRAM IS NOW OFFERED ONLINE!

This is a fun, safe, virtual program for youth in grades 6 - 8 focused on connecting with peers and trained volunteer mentors in a group setting.

This program offers games, activities, and discussions around relevant topics such as: friendships, problem solving, active living, social media, and balanced eating.



FREE



VIRTUAL,  
USING ZOOM



MAKE  
FRIENDS



GAIN CONFIDENCE  
& SELF-ESTEEM

“GO-GIRLS! HAS TAUGHT ME  
HOW TO BE CONFIDENT AND  
STAND UP FOR MYSELF.”



This program is run through Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland and is monitored by staff.

## WANT TO REGISTER?

Contact Vanessa Gale at  
vgale@bigsisters.bc.ca or 604-836-2122



Big Sisters  
OF BC LOWER MAINLAND

# HELP US ALL STAY SAFE

**SIGN UP TODAY AND PAY  
SCHOOL FEES ONLINE**

<https://sd43.schoolcashionline.com>

