

MISSION STATEMENT:

Within our community we strive to develop enthusiastic, respectful citizens who value diversity and learning and who pursue excellence in a safe and caring environment.

School Goal: to increase students' reading comprehension



ÉCOLE MARY HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1890 Humber Crescent, Port Coquitlam, B.C., V3C 2V7

Phone: 604-942-0264 Fax: 604-942-3157

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

School Newsletter May 2016



Pa Moja

We had a wonderful visit from a student (George) and teacher (Ian) from Kenya as part of our affiliation with Pa-Moja. They spent the day with us. We had an assembly with an Earth Day/Community theme to welcome them to the school where Mr. Barna's and Ms Burton's classes performed a song under the direction of Ms. Citulec. The leadership group did a



play about recycling and how we can contribute to keep the earth green. The Jump Rope for Heart students that participated in fundraising for the Heart and Stroke Foundation were recognized and Liam Kilby was presented with



the scooter he earned for raising over \$500. George and Ian then spoke about



how PaMoja has allowed them to take part in having an education and helping the Ol Peta Animal Conservancy. The students saw pictures of all kinds of animals in the conservancy and watched a short video from our sister school, Mirera Primary in Kenya. George and Ian presented the school with a soccer ball that a student had made out of recycled plastic bags. They use this type of ball as the huge thorns of the acacia trees puncture a regular ball and can't be used. The plastic bag ball will last a long time. The kids had a great time interacting with George and Ian.



Reading Link

The Reading Link group did a wonderful job of representing Mary Hill at the district finals. A huge thank you to Ms Medan who coached and mentored the students throughout this process.

Muffin Morning for Moms

Another great event put on by our wonderful PAC, moms and kids enjoys coffee/juice and goodies and a chance to sit for a few minutes and chat. Thank you to the PAC members who organized and set this up especially Phelesha who was here by 6:30 setting up. :-)



May Day



Members of the Mary Hill student body did a fantastic job at the May Day celebrations. We had our Maypole dancers who did a great job of all the dances and our 4 representatives in the May Day Suite, Princesses Rita Sirsiris and Ana Unger and Lancers Max Baker and Marcus Paul.



Leadership

The Leadership group did a fabulous job organizing and running the used book sale with all proceeds going to Pa-Moja. They raised a total of \$362 which will be added to our donation for Pa-Moja. The student from Kenya, George

helped out at the sale. He asked us where all the books came from and when we said from the community he was blown away. He had fun interacting with the Leadership students that were selling and the students that were coming in to buy books. Leadership's next fundraiser will be a LEMONADE SALE on May 17 at lunch. \$1 per glass, with all proceeds going towards Pa-Moja. Come support our sister school Mirera Primary School!!!!



Clothes for Cash The second round of this fundraiser raised \$465. Thank you to everyone who brought in items to donate and thank you to the parents who organized the two clothes for cash fundraisers this year and for loading up the truck.

Kilometre Club

KM Club was a resounding success with numerous medals and trophies being earned by the participants. Fun Fact - 2571 popsicles were sold during KM club!!!!!! A HUGE THANK YOU to all of the parents that came out to help with this awesome event. 18 days of stamping, yelling, running, tallying results, popsicle selling/eating and more!! We so appreciate all of the time and effort that went into the KM club. We will be having a celebratory assembly where medals and trophies will be given out on May 30 at 1:45-2:30 in the gym. An extra thank you goes to Sylvia Young for stepping up to take this on again this year.

Excel Martial Arts



Excel Martial Arts donated their time to teach all of our students some martial arts for a week during PE time. We then had a fabulous assembly Friday where the students showed off their skills. This was followed by a fundraiser on Saturday at the Excel training center with a movie and pizza. \$652 was



donated to the Mary Hill PAC from this event. We love working with such a great community member. Thank you so much Excel Martial Arts.

Como Lakes

Our students had a great time at the Como Lake Relays on April 13 and the weather held so that the track was dry and we weren't standing in the mud. We took home two rosettes, you can check them out hanging in the hall near the office. Thank you to Mr. Carlson and Ms. Buchanan for coaching and the many teachers and families that came to cheer the kids on.

Track Meet

The district Track meet is this month on Wednesday, May 25. Students who have tried out, met the standards and qualify to attend, will be participating in the district track meet at LaFarge Lake. Practice schedules have been sent home with those students that are participating.



Cadence - artstarts

We had a fantastic performance by the Acapella group Cadence. They showed the students how to use their voices in many ways to create music and had the students and staff singing along. Mme Soh even got to go up and participate in a rendition of "Smoke on the Water" and Mr. Burnett showed off his acapella chops. We greatly

appreciate the PAC sponsoring such a fantastic performance!!!!

EN Public Speaking

We had our English Public Speaking Finals recently and Hunter Ewen was chosen as our grade 4 representative and Mateen Sayami was chosen as our grade 5 representatives at the district zone finals.

FR Public Speaking

We also had our French Public Speaking finals and the following students will be representing Mary Hill at the district zone finals. Gr 2- Morgan Patel, Gr 3 - Jayden DeCouto, Gr4- Dominik Vrba and Gr 5 - Kilara Aragon. Congratulations and good luck!



May 4 - Emergency Release



What can I say, after a lot of lead up and angst this event went off without a hitch. Students and staff were very well prepared and orderly. The parents showed up and were also very orderly ☺ and 95% of the kids were picked up within 30 minutes. While I know this may look different in a real emergency we now know that we will be prepared and able to deal with the release efficiently and effectively. Thank you to everyone.

Community Link - after school program surveys

Please read the info below from our district coordinator for after school programs.

In an attempt to develop a data set that will help us understand better the impact of after school programming on our communities, we have generated a parent and student survey that will gather the information for processing. This data will be used “in-house” and is critical for reporting out on our Community Link grant which is a significant source of money for the district.

We would greatly appreciate feedback from parents/students on the after school programming. We would appreciate it if you would take the time to fill in a survey. Links are below.

#1) Parent survey:

<http://fluidsurveys.com/surveys/sd43-community-school-survey/parent-survey/>

#2) Student survey:

<http://fluidsurveys.com/surveys/sd43-community-school-survey/student-asp-survey-april-2016/>



Have a fantastic month!

Michele Reid Principal

**If Your Child Can Operate
A Smartphone**



**They Can Use Any One
Of These**

menes.com

Mary Hill Calendar

- May 6 Muffin Morning for Moms 8:00am - gym
- May 8 Mother's Day
- May 8 Triathlon - Hyde Creek
- May 12 PAC lunch
- May 13 Provincial Curriculum Day -school not in session
- May 19 Parent/Volunteer Tea 1:30-2:30 in gym
- May 23 Victoria Day - school not in session
- May 25 District Track Meet - selected gr 3-5
- May 25 Welcome to Kindergarten - parent session 7-8 pm
- May 27 PAC lunch
- May 30 KM Club Assembly 1:45-2:30
- June 1 Welcome to Kindergarten student/parent session 12:45-2:15
- June 6 ProD Day - school not in session
- June 9 Welcome to Kindergarten student visit 9-10 am
- June 9 Grade 5 half day at Pitt River
- June 17 Muffin Morning for Dads - 8:00 am - gym
- June 17 Dance Performance 1:45 - gym
- June 19 Father's Day
- June 24 Activity Day and PAC lunch
- June 28 Gr 5 leaving ceremony 8:45-10:10
- June 29 Last day for students
- June 30 Administration Day



SCHOOL NEWS

2016 - 2017 SCHOOL PLANNING

If you know you will be moving over the summer and will not have a child attend Mary Hill Elementary School starting September 2016, please contact the school office at 604-942-0264 or email maryhill@sd43.bc.ca to let us know.

Please note: As we do not know the enrollment numbers and levels for next year we do not know the breakdown of classes. We respectfully ask that parents do not make requests for specific teachers, classes, splits etc. as we do not know what parameters we will be dealing with until the beginning of September. Please know that our staff as a whole does an excellent job of placement and meeting the learning needs of each individual child and this is based on the students that are enrolled and the needs of all of those children as a whole.

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN EVENTS

Welcome to
Kindergarten!

Parent Night Wednesday May 25, 7-8 pm - parents will get information on the kindergarten program and have a chance to ask questions. Please note this is for parents only.

Student/Parents afternoon June 1, 12:45-2:15 pm

- students and parents will get to interact in the gym at a variety of activities, enjoy Storytime with the librarian and have a chance to check out a kindergarten classroom. Siblings should not attend this event please.

Student Visit June 9, 9-10 am - students will have a classroom visit. Parents will drop off their child at the classroom and come pick them up an hour later.



Mural Project - We will be working with the Aboriginal Education Department from now to the end of the year to create a 24 foot by 8 foot mural for the front entrance of the school. We have the wood primed and paint bought and will be starting the painting process with the students soon. Thank you to the parents and staff who have been helping with this. You can see a draft of the mural in the hall near the library.



School District #43 is moving to a new online payment system for parents. This system is a safe, easy and convenient for parents to pay for school fees, field trips, athletic fees and more. We have put a quick access button on the public website (same

spot where you can submit an absence or order through Munchalunch). There is a monetary incentive to having parents sign up. We need 70% of families signed up by the end of June in order to qualify for this. We have 21% signed up right now. We would appreciate your help.

This Sunday, May 8th, 2016 School Challenge and Creek Classic Triathlon



Students and parents are signing up for the triathlon and getting ready to train. Deadlines for getting forms filled in and back to the organizers are next week.

Student distances

Swim 100 meters

Bike 4 Km

Run 1 Km

Adult Distances

Swim 300 meters

Bike 15 Km

Run 4.5 Km

Wear the Eagle Fridays

We encourage students to wear their Mary Hill t-shirts on Fridays to show school spirit and a sense of community. If you are interested in buying a shirt for your child please email Ms Reid. They are \$10 apiece and we have youth sizes Med -XL.



BIRTHDAY BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY

A reminder about the Birthday Book Program.

Students can donate a book to the library to celebrate their birthdays. Their names will be inscribed in the books and we will acknowledge their

gifts at the next assembly. This is a wonderful way to mark your child's birthday instead of bringing treats to school as we have many children with allergies to eggs and nuts and we have to be very careful. Please see Ms Medan for ideas from our wish list. As well Ms Medan has a selection of books that you can purchase through her (these are titles that the students have been asking for. This months donations are: **THE GRUFFALO from Aaron Paddon, STAR WARS REBELS FIGHT THE EMPIRE from Kerri Weisner.** HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO EVERYONE AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS!!!!

Community News

Find attached Next Year's Calendar for Ecole Mary Hill Elementary

District Calendar

Please see the attachment for your chance to give input on the district Calendar for the next few years

We are Harmony Homestay and we work with the Coquitlam school district to provide homestay for international students for long and short term programs. We are looking for host families in

your area to host these students. Host families are paid, they get a cultural experience for their families, and make new friends. Information and an application form can be found on our website www.harmonyhomestay.com and any questions can be directed to Rod rod@harmonyhomestay.com 778 232 1003

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If you have any further questions please contact me via email or 778-232-1003.
If You have any questions about us, please contact the Coquitlam International Dept.
Wendy Clark wclark@sd43.bc.ca
Shawn Silverstone ssilverstone@sd43.bc.ca
Jean Wong jwong@sd43.bc.ca

Thank you,

Rod Carrasco
Assistant Director
Harmony Homestay
Building Global Relationships
www.harmonyhomestay.com
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