

The Current - Monty Middle Newsletter

Edition #3 November early addition, 2021

November Monthly Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			Sorry do not send food to share on Friday Oct 29th	29 Halloween events Pumpkin carving results Costume contest Minute to Win It Kahoot Student government meeting online 330pm
1 First Day of new Explorations class	2	3 Photo Retakes 8-12pm	4	5 Student government meeting online 330pm Wear Team Colours
8	9	10 Virtual Remembrance Day Assembly	11 Remembrance Day No School	12 Wear Team Colours Student government meeting online 330pm
15	16 Virtual Zoom PAC meeting 7pm Halloween photos shared by admin.	17	18	19 Twin Day Top 5 Challenge Student government meeting online 330pm
22	23 Gr 7 Immunizations (missed in gr 6)	24	25	26 Wear Team Colours Student government meeting online 330pm
29	30	Dec 1	Dec 2 Gr 6 Immunizations	

Mrs. Husband's For Your Consideration

Making the most of Halloween.



Vaccines have allowed many people in Fraser Health to return to a routine that is closer to normal. In the community we can choose what we want to participate in based on our own level of comfort which is determined by our own unique family circumstances.

Schools serve the entire community and children are required to attend. While things are changing in the community many public health orders remain in place that require schools to ensure that

- We maintain space
- We supervise all student interactions
- We track and record all interactions for the purpose of contact tracing.
- Masks are always worn inside except when seated eating or behind a barrier.

We are focusing on what we do have and trying to make the most of every day. Children take their lead from us, the adults. Our attitude impacts them and their ability to find things to feel grateful for and not be overwhelmed by the changes we continue to live with.

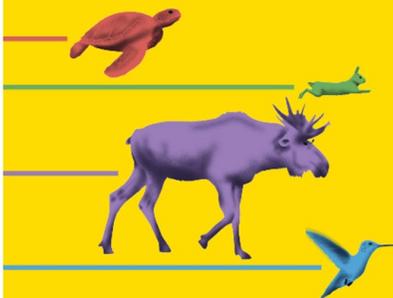
At school Halloween will be different and we are counting on us all to focus on what we can do safely. We are asking everyone to help us make the most of the day. Please encourage your child to come to school on Friday in a costume get into the spirit of the day. The Green Team staff have organized a day of fun to bring some silliness and laughter to everyone.

Pumpkin carving entries were due Wednesday and have been advertised everyday on the morning announcements

- Scariest
- Most creative/ concept
- Most challenging (some close up photos may be needed)
- Book character



Everyone is moving forward at their own pace



Consider others

As we start to put the pandemic behind us, some of us will be taking it slower than others. Be respectful and kind as you consider others' situations and personal choices.

We are also holding class and school level costume contests in the following categories and have gift card prizes to win.

- Scariest
- Most original/ homemade
- Funniest
- Group

The school wide costume and Kahoot contest will be held virtually. The day will end with school wide virtual event and yes of course there are prizes to win 😊

Please continue to respect the public health orders, it is not a time to let our guard down. What we do outside of school is as important as what we do while at school.



Volleyball Schedule

We are super excited to once again offer Volleyball. While it is not the same it is a step forward. Click [here](#) to see the Volleyball Schedule.

MONTGOMERY IS MOVING TO BRING YOUR OWN LEARNING DEVICE

In the last four years École Montgomery Middle staff have committed to the use of technology for the purpose of learning not entertainment. Gaming, listening to music, and other forms of entertainment are to be saved for home.

This past year, we began the gradual transition to students **Bringing Their Own Learning Device (BYOLD)** to school. Currently we have 14 of 20 advisory classes participating in this district program. At this point we have loaned over 100 laptops to families to provide a borrowed device for the year.



To help us expand the BYOLD program to the remaining grade 6/7 classes in our school, we encourage families to consider budgeting and planning to purchase laptops for students as Christmas or birthday gift. We will continue to have devices to borrow for families in need but as the program grows the availability of devices will be prioritized. It is important to note however that our policy around gaming and technology as entertainment will not change.

If you are interested in reading more information about our BYOLD program, please visit our [school website](#).

If you are looking at a purchasing a device in the near future, we recommend the following:

Device Recommendations:

- Keyboard
- Protective case
- Minimum 10" screen
- A camera for stills and video
- 8GB RAM memory or higher
- *Optional: Stylus*
- *Optional: An extra charge cord – one stays plugged in at home, one for the student's backpack*
- *Optional: Touchscreen / ability to annotate (i.e. Math)*

Christmas Market

The Annual PAC Sponsored Monty Christmas Market generates funds to purchase x-mas hampers for families in need in our community. Families donate new items or almost new household items. These items are organized by a team of parent volunteers and students purchase affordable items in late November as gift for their family members/ friends.



Unfortunately, due to COVID we are not able have this wonderful tradition. This year if you would like to help support a family in our community through gift cards please donate online through school cash online.

Learning Priorities, staying focused on what matters most.

While school is not the same, we are so fortunate to be attending in person and to be closer to normal than last year. Teaching and learning have also changed. Students continue to have less group work and shared materials. As a result of more limited time due to COVID procedures such as hand washing and eating in their class we have had to set some teaching and learning priorities.

These include a focus on,

- Physical Health Education
 - Social Emotional Learning
 - Well being
- Literacy
- Numeracy

While all courses will be taught, these areas will receive the most instructional time. I have had the privilege of working at the elementary, middle and secondary levels as a school administrator. When students enter high school, they will have an opportunity to begin a new language (eg. Spanish) or continue with French 9 which is taught as a beginner course. Students can also wait and enroll in a Beginner Language 11 later in high school.

These options do not exist in numeracy or literacy. Falling behind in either student well-being, numeracy or literacy has the greatest impact on their future options and success for students. As a result, these are our priority areas for the 21/22 school year.

Student Government



This week Montgomery's Student Government begins, virtually. One student from each advisory class has been selected to represent their class. Our first order of business is to set new priorities to make our second year of COVID a positive one by including student voice in the planning.

Montgomery Virtual Open House

Thank you to the over 250 parents who participated in our first ever Virtual Open House. It was a very positive experience for both staff and our community. Thank you for being so supportive as we learn new skills to keep connected and keep parents informed.



Virtual Three-Way Conferences

We were able to connect with the vast majority of families for the three-way conference process. Thank you for making time to meet with us. Please email your child's teacher if you were unable to meet.



School News Parent Education Sessions

“What Makes our Kids Click?” Keeping Kids Safe and Healthy Online November 25th 7-8pm

During their interactive presentation, Dave Sands and Rob Heinrichs will help parents/ caregivers understand children’s use of technology and how to work together to keep kids safe online. They will address key issues including.



- digital expectations
- screen time
- addiction
- digital wellness

Parents will leave with a framework to support their parenting skills and empower them to play a vital role in supporting their children online without being an expert in technology.

Dave Sands is in his 30th year as an educator and is presently the Principal of Technology Implementation with the Coquitlam School District. Dave is a strong advocate for safe and effective use of technology to support of student learning. He holds a Masters degree from SFU in Technology and Curriculum and shares his expertise on several Provincial and District technology committees. Dave is a father of four children and is passionate about parenting and regularly shares his experience and expertise with educators and parents throughout the province.



Rob Heinrichs is a Technology Support Teacher supporting staff and students throughout the district in the use of educational technology. He has been teaching in SD 43 for over 20 years at both the Elementary and Middle school levels. Rob has a Masters degree from S.F.U. in Educational Practice. Rob’s passions include integrating technology into teaching in meaningful ways and empowering student learning and digital citizenship. As a father of four, he understands the importance of nurturing a healthy and balanced digital lifestyle.

TCO2 Presentation

(Taking Care of Others & Taking Care of Ourselves)

TCO2 is teaching students in small groups about keeping safe from being exploited online on various apps and social media platforms. Please join us virtually to hear about the information that was shared with your child. This is a great way to open a conversation about important and hard to talk about topics. TCO2 is providing is also a virtual information session for Parents/Guardians.

The workshop addresses current information on sexual exploitation, including:

- Definition of sexual exploitation
- Warning signs of recruitment and luring
- The use of technology in exploitation/trafficking
- Recruitment tactics used by exploiters
- Links between gangs and exploitation
- Recognizing healthy relationships both online and in-person
- Barriers to exiting an exploitative situation
- Local community resources
- How to seek help

Facilitators empower youth to think critically by talking to them about current trends related to exploitation and human trafficking.

To participate in this workshop, please use the link below to join in on the **Zoom meeting Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 7-8pm.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85857176307?pwd=Wm5pamhrVGVmNWZwNU1jUk9LWVpvQT09>

Meeting ID: 858 5717 6307

Passcode: 480641

PAC News and Events

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 9th, 2021 - 7:00pm – online

email Danielle Nicholson montymiddlepac@protonmail.com and she will send you a Zoom invite.

Welcome to our 2021/22 PAC Executive:

President: Danielle Nicolson

Treasurer: Kim Cameron

Members at Large: Manjit Herar, Christine Friend

District PAC Rep: Sabine Sengmueller

Highlights from Last Meeting: Discussions and decisions are being made on PAC;

- Donated aprox. \$200 in Canadian Superstore gift cards to the school Breakfast/Lunch Club
- We will not send out a request for Parent Donations this year; but we will have to do at least one fundraiser in order to fulfill the requirement for the Community Gaming Grant that we receive
- Question and Answer Time – School Operations during Covid 19
- Principal report and update on school events and school goals. Photo gallery of school lunch activities.

Minutes and Agendas of previous and upcoming meetings are posted on the school website under the heading Parents/PAC.