

The Current - Monty Middle Newsletter

Volume # 2 September 9th 2013

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Monday,	Sept. 10 th	Beginner Band Class Begins @ 7:50 Rights Respecting School Week Activities Explorations Term 1 Begins School Wide Assembly – The Power of Circles
Tuesday,	Sept. 11 th	Rights Respecting School Week Activities Community Circles Session # 2 @ 1:15 Advanced Band Class Begins @ 7:50
Wednesday,	Sept. 12 th	Rights Respecting School Week Activities Beginner Band Class @ 7:50 Band Instrument Rental Meeting @ 7:00 – 8:00 in Band Rm.
Thursday,	Sept. 13 th	Rights Respecting School Week Activities Advanced Band Class Begins @ 7:50
Friday,	Sept. 14 th	Rights Respecting School Week: Spirit Day Activities Community Circles Session # 3
Monday,	Sept. 17 th	Beginner Band Class @ 7:50 every Mon/ Wed
Next Week: Tues. – Gr. 6 Immunizations @ 9:00 – 1:00 / Wed. – Individual Photo Day with MJM Studios @ 9:00 – 12:30/ Wed. – September PAC Mtg. @ 7:00 in the Library/ Fri. – School Professional Development Day		
Two Weeks: Tues. Sept 24 th @ 6:00 Parent Open House and Hot Dog Roast		

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McFaul's Chat and Chew: The Power of Circles

Over the past year our staff community has been investigating the use of circles as a means to open discussions and build understanding about our school culture, our rights as young citizens and our ability to openly communicate with each other. We have done staff book clubs focusing on Restorative Circles, we have had staff representatives attend professional development workshops on using circles in class meetings and we have had parent evening workshops on restitution and the use of circles in small and large groups. Our aim with all of these learning opportunities is to help our

student population build stronger capacities for understanding the perspectives of others, for lessening the negative impact of stereotypes, biases and discrimination and to enhance each students understanding of their rights and responsibilities to each other as a community member. By looking into our Canadian First Nation Aboriginal cultures we have seen the many diverse uses for how circles work to empower individuals through their use of voice and reflective practices. So we have taken our whole population and have divided them into smaller groups; whereby, every teaching adult in our building is connected to a group of 18/19 students as their facilitator for our weekly Community Circle Groups. All throughout the school we have staff and students sitting in circles designed to mingle all grades from different teams to form a group of new connections with a weekly driving question to share and respond to about personal or global issues. This first week we focused on the individuality of our first name and we asked students to do some research as to the meaning of their name and where the selection of their name may have derived from, be it family history or cultural identities. Through this sharing our community learned much and to support this learning we will expect all community members to continue the wearing of their nametags for one more week to help all become more familiar with each other in hopes of creating a more connected environment. Building relationships with more people so that your child has a better chance of connecting to other students and adults in our building to foster positive relationships that enhances their commitment to learning and to be directors of their own learning. This is just some of the power of circles.

Culture Beat: Events and Activities.

New Staff to Know – Please peruse the following changes in our community and as you read you can see why our circle groups become more significant with the addition of new staff along with our addition of 102 Gr. 6 students.

We welcome:

Office Staff:

Mrs. Mary Lowther – Head Secretary

Mrs. Patti Kristjanson – 20 Hr. Secretary

Teachers:

Ms. Megan Carruthers – School Counselor/ Student Services/ Montessori

Mrs. Rachel Graham – Gr. 7/8 Team Sicily

Mr. Nick De Vita – General Music/ Band/ Student Services

Custodians:

Mr. Jean Alexandre – evening custodian

Ms. Shannon Skryp – evening custodian

Beginner and Advanced Band Times – The Band schedule is listed below and we have had our first general meeting last Thursday evening for those students/ parents interested to learn about new opportunities. If you missed this meeting and would like to find out more information about Band in the morning classes please feel free to contact Mr. De Vita at the school or @ ndevita@sd43.bc.ca

We do welcome new students in any grade to join Beginner Band and if you feel that your child has an extensive playing experience with their chosen instrument then Mr. De Vita will do an assessment to determine the best placement for your child based upon their skill level.

➤ Beginners Band will be Mon./ Wed. @ 7:50 – 8:40

➤ Advanced Band will be Tues./ Thurs. @ 7:50 – 8:40

The school is open and accessible for students to arrive slightly earlier in order to allow them time to prepare to get to their locker and get to band on time. This Wednesday from 7:00 – 8:00, we have the Instrument Rental Meeting for those students/ families needing information to rent musical instruments.



Photo to the left are names of all of our students in Gr. 6/7/8 as displayed on the entrance bulletin board by Ms. Sviatko.

Gr. 6 Public Health

Immunizations – Forms were sent home from the Fraser Health District detailing the recommended shots that will be done at Monty on Tuesday Sept 17th. Our public health team will have stations set up in our Mat Rm. to provide a safe and quiet area for our students to receive their required shots. If you have any concerns about the immunization process and what types of shots, we ask that you peruse the info letter sent to all Gr. 6 students and contact the Fraser Health District @ 604-777-8730 or feedback@fraserhealth.ca

Student Accident Insurance

Forms – These forms are available at the office if you wish to pick one up to provide additional protection and safety for your child while at school. This service is set up with a private insurance company and does not have any direct connection to the school or Coquitlam Board of Education.

Explorations Begin – Term One begins today and every students will

have the opportunity for 9 week sessions to work through Home Arts (Clothing/ Foods), Tech Ed (Woodwork and Drafting Design), Art and General Music. These classes are truly hands on and will involve many projects that are related to their particular fields. Please see an email that was sent out last week by Mrs. Tige Rains our Foods teacher on informing her of any allergies or unique food concerns that your child may have. This is an additional safety check for Mrs. Rains to ensure that you are aware of the cooking activities and food sources will be used in this course work.

Home Arts Supplies – We will be adding the programming of Clothing Crafts and Foods to our regular Exploration schedule for all students. To help with this we ask if you have any of the following items cluttering up your space and you'd like to donate them to Monty for craft projects, please have your child bring and leave them in the sewing room. Items gratefully accepted:

felt/ ribbon (minimum 12 inch long pieces)/ yarn/ buttons/ beads/ google eyes/ fun fur/ tulle
100% cotton fabric (Minimum 1m pieces! please)

For Art classes: Newspapers...no flyers, just the black and white stuff. / small nails (one inch?) / cereal boxes/
string, embroidery floss, or yarn/ wire,/ small pieces of wood (like 1 X 4s)

We thank you in advance for your gracious donations to help our Home arts program.

Food and Vegetable Program - The BC School Fruit & Vegetable Nutritional Program (BCSFVNP) grew from an idea formed in 2004. Similar programs in the USA and the UK were having great success providing students with fresh local fruit and vegetable programs in their schools. With the help of our 951 volunteers and incredible partners we now provide fresh fruit and vegetable snacks every other week, 13 times in the school year, to over 525,000 students. Many of those students are now making fruits and vegetables a part of their regular diet – both at school and at home. They are learning that eating fresh, local products supports our local farmers and the economies of rural regions. They are also learning first-hand about the health benefits of eating fresh fruits and vegetables, while finding out how great they taste. If you have any food concerns about allergies please contact your child's teacher to let them know about the possible concerns. Otherwise our students will be eating cucumbers, apples and peppers for snacks over the coming weeks. For more info check out the following website: <http://www.sfvnp.ca/for-parents.php>

School Supplies – Please see the school website: www.montymiddle.ca under Parents and click on School Supplies. These are suggested items for our students and some teachers may present more specific request for certain supplies.

Bell Schedule – Please see the school website: www.montymiddle.ca under About Montgomery and click on Bell Schedule. There are some slight changes to our school start and end times that you will need to note.

1. Mon – Thurs. Band begins at 7:50
2. Mon – Thurs. Regular start time is warning bell @ 8:40 in class @ 8:45 end of day is @ 3:05
3. Fri. with the late start at 9:00 and ends at 2:55

PAC News and Events: Our First PAC Mtg. is on Wednesday Sept. 18th @ 7:00 – Please see an adjoining email coming your way today with a strong plea for parental support to complete the need for a full Executive for our PAC. All you need to do is attend, listen to the topics of debate and concern and hopefully you will feel inclined to share your opinion so that we can hear all perspectives on how best to support our school.

Community News:



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Notice to Parents/Guardians

New Cases of Measles in Fraser Health

Since August, there have been four confirmed cases of measles across the Fraser Valley. Measles has been circulating in the Abbotsford/Chilliwack area for likely the past two months. More recently, cases have also been identified in Burnaby and Surrey, which means the risk of exposure to measles is more widespread.

Why is Measles a Concern?

Measles is a serious infection caused by the measles virus. Measles can cause severe illness and complications such as pneumonia, brain damage, blindness, and deafness. Among the most serious potential complications is brain inflammation (encephalitis), which occurs in approximately one in 1,000 cases. Approximately one in 3,000 cases will die from measles.

What are the symptoms of Measles?

People infected with measles have symptoms of fever, cough runny nose, and red and inflamed eyes. These symptoms are followed by a rash, which starts first on the face and neck, and spreads to the chest, arms and legs, and lasts at least three days. Spots may also appear inside the mouth and look like small grains of sand on a red base.

How is Measles Spread?

Measles is a very contagious disease. It spreads easily through the air when an infected person breathes, coughs, or sneezes, and can survive in the air for several hours. An infected person can spread the measles virus even before they know they are sick, and can spread the virus from four days before their rash until four days after their rash.

What should you do if you/your child develop(s) symptoms?

If you or your child develops a fever and cough or other symptoms that may be measles, you or your child should stay at home and keep away from others who may not be immune. You or your child should be examined by a doctor. It is best to call ahead so that you or your child can be seen quickly and not expose other people by sitting in a waiting room for any period of time.

Protection

The most effective protection against measles is two (2) doses of MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) vaccine after one year of age to all those born after 1957.

If you or your children have not received 2 doses of measles vaccine after one year of age we encourage you to contact your Family Physician or local Public Health Unit to book an appointment. The vaccine is also available at some local Pharmacies and can be given there to adults and children over five years old.

Please call your Pharmacy or visit the FH website for a map of Pharmacists offering the vaccine (<http://www.fraserhealth.ca/>). We also recommend making sure your child is up to date for all of their other immunizations.

For more information on measles, please visit http://www.bccdc.ca/dis-cond/a-z/_m/Measles/default.htm

Fall Programs and Events at Place des Arts

1120 Brunette Avenue, Coquitlam | 604.664.1636

Place des Arts Fall Session Classes

Place des Arts has many great fall session classes geared towards middle school youth. Registration is now open and may be done by phone at 604.664.1636, in person at Place des Arts, 1120 Brunette Ave., Coquitlam or online at www.placedesarts.ca where you may also view the full 2013/14 program guide.

Music: Group Guitar, Fiddling Ensemble, Mixed Wind Ensemble, String Quartet, Taiko Drumming, Drum Set, Singing Fundamentals; plus private music lessons in a multitude of instruments and voice.

Dance: Contemporary Dance (13+ years), Modern Repertory Choreography (12+ years), Lyrical (12+ years);

Theatre Arts (Drama II (11-13 years), On-Camera Acting (8-12 & 13-17 years) Musical Theatre II (10-12 years) Musical Theatre Company Performance Class (13-17 years);

Visual Art: Drawing & Painting, Cartooning, Animation & Anime, Anime Manga, Animation Studio, Baroque Gilding, Mixed-media, Fibre Arts, Pottery wheel throwing;

Literary Arts: Creative Writing II (11-14 years)

Place des Arts Family Open House

Saturday September 14, 2 to 4PM

Admission: Free!

Discover the world of art at Place des Arts annual Family Open House. Enjoy fun arts & crafts activities, take a tour of the centre, participate in hands-on teacher demos, win fabulous door prizes and get a discount on class registration during the event (1 per family). Programmers will be available to answer questions.

Family Day at PdA: A Canada Culture Days Event

Sunday, September 29, 1:30 – 3:30PM

Admission: FREE!

Gather up the family and celebrate Canada Culture Days at Place des Arts. Tour three exhibitions, meet the artists and participate in several all-ages workshops! These include a *Visual Language Workshop* where, under the guidance of artist Joy Kirkwood, you'll use letters, words, sentences and pages from books to translate projected images of artist Alan Maples photographic exhibition *Colors of Rajasthan* into works of art, works of literature, or both. The Van Goh Café will be open serving light snacks and beverages. Don't be intimidated by art, get engaged in it! Reserve your spot online at placedesarts.ca or by calling (604) 664-1636.

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