

The Current - Monty Middle Newsletter

Volume #3 Monday Oct. 6th 2014

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Monday,	Oct. 6 th	Student Government Election Week - Advisory Reps Application Forms Available Monty Dog Show Registration Forms – available @ Lunch
Tuesday,	Oct. 7 th	Community Circles Intro Session @ 2:00 Monty Dog Show Registration Forms – available @ Lunch
Wednesday,	Oct. 8 th	Oct. PAC Mtg. @ 7:00 in Library Band Registration Evening @ 7:00 in Band Rm – postponed from last week Monty Dog Show Registration Forms – available @ Lunch
Thursday,	Oct. 9 th	Monty Dog Show Registration Forms – available @ Lunch Band Rental Night @ 6:00 7:30
Friday,	Oct. 10 th	Monty Dog Show Registration Forms – available @ Lunch Community Circles Session # 2 @ 9:50 Gr. 6 & Admin Assembly @ 2:05
Monday,	Oct. 13 th	Thanksgiving Holiday
Next Week: Wed. – Lockdown Drill – Code Yellow; Thurs. - Annual Monty Dog Show @ 3:30		
Two Weeks: Wed. – We Day Vancouver All Day; Fri. – Provincial Professional Development Day		

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McFaul's Chat and Chew: Empowering Voice/ Effective Listener

On the first day of school when the students filed on in for their one hour of attendance Ms. Holden and I met many of the students at the front door. We heard, "Hello's, Welcome back's and did you have a good summer," coming from all angles as the kids entered the building. The one key ingredient that we heard no matter the word choice was that our students value the fact that they have a voice. From some of the smallest Gr. 6 students we heard the power in their voice that I am present and that I have a say in my educational future.

As a community of educators we believe very strongly in our students learning to use the full potential of their voice and also learning to develop the fine skills of being an effective listener. We have all known many people who speak loudly and mostly for their own view. They at times have not been graced with the temperament of being an effective listener. Someone who can acknowledge others for their diverse opinion, who can repeat back the key points of the other person's point of view and who identifies with the speaker through respectful gestures of being a compassionate listener. Through many vehicles we strive to develop these two points like any symbiotic relationship; whereby, the two points work together to benefit one another.

In our Community Circles, we emphasize the right to speak when it is your turn and the more balanced right to hear what others have to say. Through our Student Government we focus on empowering students to take a leadership role by being the conduit of information and questions for their classroom constituents. Through our leadership programs – ROCKS Crew, Me to We Club and our Athletics and Fine Arts programs and our morning Public Address announcers we provide opportunities for students to try different roles and to give them the chance to share their voice in these varying capacities. The teacher role in all of these situations is to balance the sharing of these numerous voices through encouragement on one hand and temperament with the other the art of hearing and being heard. Like most Tweens, finding the balance in life is the struggle part and that is one great reason why we have middle schools to work in developing that fine balance of empowering voice and enhancing listening.

Special Note:

This past week we shared with you the sad news of one of our students suddenly passing away. Adam Kong was a student at Monty for the past two years and his older sisters also attended here. He was a young man full of energy and friends. We have heard the African proverb that, "it takes a village to raise a child," this also holds true for the other end, that it takes a village to grieve the loss of a child. There are no words, there are no flowers, there are no foods, that will make the death of a child easier to comprehend or accept. However, we, as a community, can help support the Kong family by allowing them to grieve and not be burdened by the impending costs of funeral arrangements and loss of wages. They are a family who needs to be with each other, who need the very community they live in, to surround them and support them. We as friends, neighbours and community, have a need to "help" and by having a Trust Account, we all can heal, knowing that this family has one less worry.

The Kong family is humbled and grateful by this outpouring of support- emotionally and financially.

You can support the Trust Account through the following information:

Vancity Credit Union
Branch 30
Account 196246

Culture Beat: **Events and Activities.**

On-Line E Forms – In order to complete the full registration package for our students we need you to go to our Monty Middle website: montymiddle@sd43.bc.ca and click on the E-Form Button to access the various forms that are required for all students and families. Your support in this area makes our school run more efficiently and helps with communication. If you do not have access to a computer or internet capabilities you can come to the school and we can set you up or make an appointment at your local library for computer time.

Band Rental Night – The folks from Long and McQuade will be present on Thursday evening to help match your child up with the best instrument for them to explore in their music education. This is the night after the Band Registration happening this Wednesday and postponed from last week due to Mr. De Vita being ill. Both the Wed – Band Registration and the Thursday Instrument Rental night are critical for a smooth start to your child's musical education. Please be able to attend both nights in a row. Please contact Mr. De Vita at the school for more info or at ndevita@sd43.bc.ca

Music Registration Night!

Do you play an instrument? Do you want to learn to play an instrument?
Do you like to sing?

Come to the Music registration night!

You may sign up for Beginner Band, Advanced Band or Choir

Do you play Piano? Guitar? Bass? Drums? There may be opportunities for you to play these instruments with the Choir.

POSTPONED FROM LAST WEEK

Wednesday Oct. 8th at 7 PM in the Music Room

Athletics – With the challenging start to the school year our district wide athletic programs have had to make some alterations to their overall schedules. We look forward to offering a full complement of teams in the upcoming seasons. Information about volleyball teams for this fall season will be coming out this week for students to sign up and join in on the practice schedule for their grade level team. Encourage your child to listen to the daily announcements and ask amongst their friends as to when meetings and practices will be held in the forthcoming days.

Monty Dog Show – Registration forms will be out the week of Oct 6th for students and families to sign up for the 11th Annual Monty Dog Show. Showtime is Thursday Oct. 16th @ 3:30 – 4:45 with an entrance fee of \$5.00 to have your opportunity to win some trophies in the categories of Best Recall, Best Small Jumper, Best Fetch Most Loyal along with others and the most coveted recognition of Best in Show. You will need to have your dog on a leash as with many dogs present some dogs get very excited. If you feel that your pet is not able to cope with the stress of large crowds, numerous dogs and a fairly high level of noise then we ask that you respectfully consider not registering for the safety of your pet and all involved. The category of Most Obedient helps all to enjoy the afternoon so please consider what is best for your pooch.

PAC News and Events:

Emergency Preparation Issue – Some of you may have heard that our Emergency Preparation Container was once again broken into just before the end of the school year. The dedicated work that was put forth by Ms. Sky Ashmore and her team of support was assaulted with the crime of breaking and entering the bin and theft of \$4000.00 - \$5000.00 worth of safety and survivor goods. Ms. Ashmore worked throughout the year to re-stock and supply the container for our school needs. The PAC worked extra hard to ensure the safety of this valuable bin by moving its position to be more visible and by installing a stand along alarm. The individuals who did this crime are professional and knowledgeable about the use of these bins and only removed the hardware items that have resale value versus the soft items like water, toilet paper and plastic bags. Our PAC will be reforming its approach to how best to re-stock these stolen supplies of shovels, hammers, propane tanks, sport canopies, emergency radios, portable fold away toilets and other significant hardware. Your support in this area of either donating goods of this nature and volunteering time to help in the re-supplying of the container would be greatly appreciated.

It's that time again.... ☺

The PAC Welcomes ALL Parents to our:

**[PAC Meeting, held on Wednesday, October 8th
in our School Library from: 7pm to 9 pm.](#)**

We invite you to come on out and spend some quality time with us as we work together and focus our efforts to foster and support continuous improvements at our Monty Middle School Community. **Feel free to bring a Friend too!!**

We had a wonderful turn out in September, and we are hoping to see more of the same in our up and coming meetings for 2014/15 year.



If you have any questions about PAC please do not hesitate to email us at:

084-pac@sd43.bc.ca

Community News:

Lower Mainland Green Team:

Would love to see our students participate in planting native plants and remove invasive plants on Oct 16th at Coquitlam River Park!

On Thursday **Oct 16 2014 from 9.15am-noon we'll be at Coquitlam River Park, planting native species and removing invasive plants** (they outcompete with our native species. Invasive plants are the second biggest threat to habitat after habitat loss) For more info and to sign up click [HERE](#)

There is NO COST to participate. Spaces are limited. Our invasive removals are most suited to those aged 12 and up. Plantings are suitable for all ages.

The [Lower Mainland Green Team](#) is an environmental program where volunteers get together and participate in local conservation and restoration activities such as removing invasive non-native

plants, planting native species, and cleaning up shorelines in Municipal, Regional and Provincial parks. We also harvest and prepare vegetables at non-profit educational farms. It's a great way to: make a tangible impact on the environment; meet like-minded people; learn about the environmental issues facing parks; connect to nature; learn to become a leader and work as a team; gain volunteer hours; and have fun! No experience is necessary. Instruction, tools, gloves and refreshments are provided! Please join us at <http://www.meetup.com/the-lower-mainland-green-team>. Our calendar of volunteer work parties is [HERE](#). If you need more information please email lyda@greenteamsCanada.ca

Walk to School Week News:

IWALK transit promotion

From October 6-10, all elementary school students and high school students with valid GoCards can ride across the entire transit network for free. This offers a fantastic opportunity for field trips and walking events for children of all ages.

With the late start back-to-school, some Grade 8 students may not have GoCards in time. Nevertheless, TransLink and operating company staff have been asked to allow all elementary and high school students to ride for free. Most grade 9-12 students will have GoCards that are valid until October 31.

Thrifty Foods...



Smile Cards are Back - NOW!



Montgomery Middle School's application for the **Thrifty Foods Smile Card** fundraising program has been approved and **YOU** can help us raise funds every time you shop any Thrifty Foods store! All funds raised through this program, this school year, will go towards new and additional **FITNESS EQUIPMENT!**

If you don't know...Thrifty's Smile Card is like a pre-purchased gift card. You "load" or "pre-purchase" an amount of money onto this card and when you shop at Thrifty Foods, you use this "loaded card" to pay for your purchases. All money you load onto the card is available to be spent at **ANY** Thrifty Foods store. There is no cost to you for the card and Montgomery Middle will benefit by receiving a full **FIVE PERCENT** of **ALL** the money that is loaded onto these Smile Cards!

You can re-load your card over & over, and are encouraged to do so, throughout the school year!

Last year we raised \$1,692.44 with this "behind the scenes" program and we're hoping to reach our \$2,500 limit, this year!

If you still have a Smile Card from our school from last year or previous years, please load it and start using it again - it is still valid. If you have lost your card or are a new family to our school and would like to participate in this awesome fund raising program, please keep reading!

1. To order your Smile Cards just click the link at the bottom titled, "Order Smile Cards Here". You will be directed to an email message where you need to include the following information:
 1. your name;
 2. the number of cards you would like to receive and;
 3. your child's name (teacher &/or division if you know it) so we can send the cards home with your child.

Or; if you prefer, you can contact the program coordinator by phone or email below, as well.

****Remember to ask your neighbours, friends and relatives, if they too would like to help generate funds for our school, by having their own Smile Cards. Or; maybe you want to load a card and give it as a gift...Christmas is coming!**

2. Once you receive your Smile Card, it can be loaded at **ANY** Thrifty Foods store, at the Customer Service counter or through a cashier using your debit card, credit card or cash. If you choose to load your card through a cashier, please note that it will be a separate transaction and **MUST** be done prior to ringing through your groceries.
3. Use your card to pay for your purchases at **ANY** Thrifty Foods store! Keep it safe – it represents CASH and re-load it when it is empty! **ALWAYS ASK FOR YOUR CARD BACK.**

Sometimes cashiers will assume you no longer need the card if it is empty. Only cards issued through our school (electronically attached to Montgomery Middle) will benefit our school.

If you should happen to lose your Smile Card once it is loaded, contact Thrifty Foods ASAP so that your lost card can be "frozen".

Program Coordinator: Dalene Schulz - phone: 604-970-8174 or Email: dalene-schulz@shaw.ca



[ORDER SMILE CARDS HERE!](#)



Thank you for supporting your children and this great program!

