

Dear RC MacDonald Community,

Spring is all around us! What a delight to see all the children growing and bursting with energy and enthusiasm for all manner of school activities both in classrooms and beyond.

We were fortunate to have Team One Martial Arts provide two lessons to each division early in April. Thank you to Rochelle Lee and the Martial Arts team for volunteering their time to provide this exciting opportunity for students.



Looking around the school you will notice that Inquiry Learning continues with class projects: incubating chicken eggs, learning about the BC mining industry, growing potatoes and peas, learning about invasive plants, gardening to promote butterflies and bees.

Congratulations to the Como Lake relay teams. The girls team placed 3rd overall and was featured in the TriCity News. [Tricity news April 22, 2019](#)

Thank you to staff and parents who were able to meet with Tremendous Trees and SD43 Manager of Grounds Stephen Watt. We learned more about the trees and what we might expect both onsite and across the lower mainland in the coming years as trees struggle to survive the sustained dry weather patterns typical over the past several summers. Please read the “Forest” section of the newsletter for more information.

As move through the month of May many student activities are taking place: Mathilda rehearsals, Track Attack, Sphero Competition, and the grand finale – Hip Hop Week!

Cheers to a memorable May,

Theresa Roberts, Acting Principal

PAC AGM – THURSDAY, MAY 27TH – 6:30PM - 8:00PM

Our PAC AGM is coming soon on May 27th from 6:30pm – 8:00pm in the library. Come early at 6:15 and meet the current PAC executive. It will be a great time to chat and meet some new people at the school. There will be babysitting available in the gym. Hope to see you there!

PAC Volunteers are needed for the 2019/2020 School year. If you are interested in volunteering with our PAC please sign up for the position(s) you are interested in by May 27th. The sign-up sheets are located on the PAC Bulletin Board across from the school gymnasium. For more information please contact Michele Mihailoff, PAC President, via our PAC email address rcmac.pac@hotmail.com. Please note that PAC positions can be shared.

CLASS BUILDING

As we begin to approach the end of the year, planning for next year is starting. Planning and building classes are very comprehensive activities and something we spend a lot of time on at RC MacDonald. We will begin with teachers individually looking at all students learning needs and peer relationships. Once this process is completed, we begin to look at building classes with respect to balancing learning and social-emotional needs and doing our best for each of our 147 students and taking into consideration the rules for class size and composition. If there are specific learning or peer issues that you would like the school to know of, please feel free to write or email Mrs. Roberts a letter and she will include it as a part of the deliberations into our class building process. **Specific teacher requests will not be considered in our class building.**

PITCH IN EVENT

Eve Gauthier organized a “Pitch In” event on Saturday April 27th. Many thanks to Eve and her crew who spent the windy day clearing the garbage from the lands adjacent the school just next to Lund Avenue. Please see the video here: [Pitch in Canada- RC MacDonald Event](#)

FOREST

RC MacDonald staff and parents met with SD43 Grounds Manager Stephen Watt, TreeMendous Tree Arbourist Davis, SD43 Principal of Facilities Initiatives Devon Ross and CTA President Ken Christenson on Wednesday April 24th. Thank you to Elaine Foo for speaking on behalf of the PAC and to Michelle Wise for speaking on behalf of teachers. The SD43 Grounds Department has emphasized that safety of students is their chief priority. As such, the forest work over the next few weeks is a continuation of the removal of unhealthy trees to the side and front of the school yard. It will not impact our Primary Forest Program. The Lower Playground will be closed during some of the work. Log seating will be added around the former hockey box and class sets of three-foot wooden rounds will provide flat discs for students to use in the Primary Forest Program. Stewardship of the Forest may continue to be a topic of discussion both for students in classrooms and parents on the playground. Should you have further questions or concerns please contact Mrs. Roberts anytime.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

At the end of June, we will be having a pizza lunch delivered to RC MacDonald to celebrate our Grade 4 and 5 volunteers.

Each year we ask students to volunteer for jobs that supplement the school environment and community. The leadership activities include: Equipment Monitors, Assembly MC’s, Lunch Monitors, Morning Announcements and Treat Sale Monitors.

All of these volunteers do jobs that help the school run smoother and be more engaging for students. The benefits of the volunteering go beyond the benefits it brings to the school. It provides an opportunity for students to contribute to their school and community, not because they must, but because they want to.

We are both proud and appreciative of the volunteer spirit our students demonstrate.

COMO LAKE RELAYS

Many of our grade 4's and 5's from RC Mac participated in the Como Lake Relays on April 17th (and the early morning practices beforehand!). This was a huge success with all of our athletes running their best times, showing our big hearts and once again proving that we are the “*Little School That Could*”! Extra congratulations to the Grade 4 girl team of Vanessa and Cara, who ran with two girls from James Park Elementary and who placed 7th in the relay.

A big thank you to all of our parents who brought our students to the lake in the mornings for practices the past few weeks, and for watching their children run a fantastic race on Thursday. We also want to say thank you to the teachers who organized this event: Ms. Olund, Ms. Huggins, Mr. Fitzgerald and Ms. Watson. We truly appreciate all of you.

ATTACHMENTS:

- [SD43 Summer Camp Brochure](#)
- [Fraser Health Measles letter to parents 29 Apr 2019](#)
- [Central Community Craft Fair – May 3](#)
- [Spring Sports Day – May 5th @ Poirier Sport & Leisure Centre](#)
- [Link to SD43 Summer Learning website](#)

COMING UP AT R.C. MACDONALD:

DuffleBag Theatre Performance (9:15 am - Gym)	May 9	Thursday
Mother's Day	May 12	Sunday
Classroom and Panorama Photos (9:00 am)	May 15	Wednesday
Lunchbox Theatre Performances "Matilda" (1:15 pm & 4:00 pm – Gym)	May 16	Thursday
Victoria Day	May 20	Monday
Pro-D Day – School Based (students do not attend)	May 21	Tuesday
District Track Meet	May 23	Thursday
PAC Hot Lunch **changed from May 17**	May 24	Friday
PAC AGM Meeting (6:30 pm – 8:00 pm in the Library)	May 27	Monday
Hip Hop Week	May 27-31	Mon-Fri
Hip Hop Performance (1:10 pm - Gym)	May 31	Friday
Welcome to Kindergarten Event @ 1:30	June 5	Wednesday
Parent Appreciation Breakfast (8:45-9:45 am)	June 12	Wednesday
Early Dismissal @ 2:00 pm	June 12	Wednesday
Father's Day	June 16	Sunday
Grade 5 Leaving Field Trip	June 21	Friday
K/1 Camp Out	June 21	Friday
Talent Show	June 24	Monday
Sports Day	June 25	Tuesday
Grade 5 Leaving Ceremony (1:15 pm - Gym)	June 26	Wednesday
Final Report Cards go home	June 27	Thursday
Last Day of School	June 27	Thursday

The RC MacDonald calendar is [online](#) – all events that have been confirmed are available for you to see at a glance. Please revisit our site as ***we will continue to add special event dates as they are confirmed.***