

Dear RC Mac Parents,

Thank you for the generous welcome into your school community. The first few weeks of school are a chance for everyone to meet new people and reconnect with familiar faces. There is nothing quite so special as being greeted by the smiling faces of students, staff and parents in and around the school. RC MacDonald is truly a special place!



Students have settled into classes and our teachers have gotten the year off to a terrific start. The BOKS program has begun on Tuesday and Friday mornings to offer extra physical and brain boosting activity to grade 2/3 students. Our Terry Fox campaign continues through to Thanksgiving. We are hoping to raise \$2500 or more towards Cancer Research.

Thanks to our PAC group for the energy and dedication to volunteering at school events for September. The school would not be the same without you! Some PAC initiatives so far include: Welcome Back PAC BBQ, Healthy Hair Program, Fruit & Veggie Program, PAC Hot Lunch, The Terry Fox Run and our first Treat Sale of the year.

For the month of October we are looking forward to an Art Starts performance on Wednesday October 17th at 9:15am – families are welcome. On October 23rd and 24th parents and students are invited to the school for Fall Conferences. When you come to the school please view the “SD43 Communicating Student Learning” display at the front entrance. I will be pleased to engage in discussion around upcoming changes to report cards in our school district. Finally, we look forward to the end of month bringing Halloween fun and the “We Scare Hunger” campaign led by our Me2We students.

As Thanksgiving approaches I will take the opportunity, on behalf of the RC Mac Staff, to wish all our families and their extended families and neighbours a wonderful weekend together.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Roberts Acting Principal

ORANGE SHIRT DAY



Orange Shirt Day is an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come. In schools we acknowledge Orange Shirt Day on the last Friday in September. If you are unfamiliar with Orange Shirt Day and Phyllis’ Story please access this link www.orangeshirtday.org

At RC MacDonald we are talking about Orange Shirt Day using the slogan of "Every Child Matters" which connects to both Acts of Kindness and our theme of "The Story of Us."

The history of Canada and First Nations is part of the Social Studies curriculum and as such will be covered at different times during a child's school years. This will be done using age appropriate texts and learning resources. If you are interested in learning with your child here is a link with age appropriate books.

www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous/10-books-about-residential-schools-to-read-with-your-kids-1.3208021

FALL CONFERENCES – October 23rd and 24th

Parents are invited to sign up for Fall Conferences. Look for a Fall Conference Sign Up Form in your child's planner in the second week of October.

Please note: This is an opportunity to tour the school and connect with your child's teacher about the initial first weeks of school. Although this is not a formal report teachers, parents and students may begin to discuss the student's social-emotional and/or academic goals.

New this year: We are working towards increasing student voice and participation in conferencing at the school. Please feel welcome to bring your children to the conference. Students will be prompted to tell you about the daily classroom and school routines "A Day in Life of Grade X" and also show you what they are most proud of learning so far this year.

SD43 Updated Report Cards: A Communicating Student Learning display will be near the front entrance during the Fall Conferences for parents to view and discuss. Please take a moment to have a look and ask Mrs. Roberts any questions regarding changes to reporting in School District 43.

FOUNDATION SKILLS ASSESSMENT– Grade 4

Grade 4 students will be writing the FSAs during the month of October. The FSA consists of reading, writing and numeracy assessments both on paper and online. Parents will receive the FSA results later in the school year for their child. The FSA results are not part of the regular reporting and assessing by teachers in the school. Should you wish for your child NOT to participate in the FSAs please contact Mrs. Roberts.

WE SCARE HUNGER CAMPAIGN – October 30th -November 2nd



As part of our ongoing school objective to teach children to think of others we are going to do our "**We Scare Hunger**" campaign to collect food for those who need a bit of help. The food will be donated to SHARE.

Food will be collected from October 22 – October 31. Donation boxes marked with Division numbers 1 through 7 will be located in the hallway outside the office.

Members of our school's Me to We team will be counting up the number of items brought by each class. This will be divided by the number of students in each class. The class which donates the most per student will win an ice cream party – and a sticker sheet for those who cannot have ice cream.

HALLOWEEN- Wednesday October 31st

Students, Staff and Parents are looking forward to Halloween Fun! We are planning a Pumpkin Run in the morning and a Costume Parade in the afternoon. Regular clothes should be worn for the morning. We will change into costumes for the afternoon. Please send your child to school with a costume they can put on by themselves. Please keep in mind that costumes worn to school must follow these guidelines:

- Fake/Costume weapons of any kind are not permitted
- Masks/Hoods must be removable for safety and so we can see our students
- Keep "scary" to a minimum - please remember what the costume might be like for youngest students



COMING UP AT R.C. MACDONALD:

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| Thanksgiving Day - NO SCHOOL | Oct. 8 | Monday |
| Art Starts Performance 9:15-10:10 - Families are invited to attend | Oct. 17 | Wednesday |
| PAC Hot Lunch | Oct. 18 | Thursday |
| Provincial Pro D Day – STUDENTS DO NOT ATTEND | Oct. 19 | Friday |
| ➡ Early Dismissal @ 1:45 ⬅ for Fall Conferences (2:00 to 4:00) | Oct. 23 | Tuesday |
| ➡ Early Dismissal @ 1:45 ⬅ for Fall Conferences (2:00 to 6:00) | Oct. 24 | Wednesday |
| PAC Meeting – Library 6:30pm-8:00pm | Oct. 25 | Thursday |
|  Treat Sale (Recess) | Oct. 26 | Friday |
| Photo Retakes (9:05 AM) | Oct. 29 | Monday |
|  Halloween Pumpkin Run 11:35-12:15 | Oct. 31 | Wednesday |
|  Costume Parade (1:20) (<u>children change into costumes after lunch</u>) | Oct. 31 | Wednesday |
| Remembrance Day Assembly (11:00 AM) | Nov. 8 | Thursday |
| Curriculum Implementation Pro D Day – NO SCHOOL | Nov. 9 | Friday |
|  Remembrance Day | Nov. 11 | Sunday |
| Remembrance Day Holiday – NO SCHOOL | Nov. 12 | Monday |
| PAC Meeting – Library 6:30pm-8:00pm | Nov. 19 | Monday |
| PAC Hot Lunch | Nov. 23 | Friday |
| Community Run 9:45-10:15 and  Treat Sale (Recess) | Nov. 30 | Friday |
|  School Skating (Poirier Arena, times TBA) | Dec. 3 | Monday |
| LAST DAY of BOKS program for Grades 2 & 3 | Dec. 7 | Friday |
| PAC Hot Lunch | Dec. 14 | Friday |
| Christmas Concert (times TBA) | Dec. 19 | Thursday |
| First Formal Report Card Goes home | Dec. 20 | Thursday |
|  Last Day of School before Winter Vacation | Dec. 21 | Friday |
| Schools Re-open after Winter Vacation | Jan. 7, 2019 | Monday |

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.*** Our website is:

<https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/rcmacdonald/Pages/default.aspx>