

**Walton
Elementary**

Walton Elementary School

Volume 3, Issue 2

October 9, 2015



and once signed by both teacher and students it signifies a shared activity and acts as the 'social glue' which binds everyone together."

Classes will begin this process this fall. We hope to unveil our Class Charters in the spring. Each Class Charter will reflect the needs of the class and their social/emotional readiness for the conversations.

Watch for more information!

Yours truly,

Mr. C. Mah

Class Charter: Words to Live By

How do we want to feel when we are at school?

Last Spring, our staff created a Staff Charter. This work was important to help prepare our teachers for the conversations with our students.

We are moving farther along our Social Emotional Learning journey by creating Class Charters for each class.

The Class Charter, created by the students themselves, outline the way they want to be treated at school. Class Charters aren't rules. It sets the expectations for how they should treat each other in order to feel safe and focused on learning.

Why is it important?

The Class Charter creates a culture within the class of dealing with emotions and conflicts in a positive manner. It reduces the amount of time children spend in conflict and, hopefully, allows more time for learning. The more we can regulate our emotions means the more time spent on learning.

UNICEF Canada defines Class Charters as,

"A way of making the rights of the child real and meaningful to students based on where they are now in their own lives. The process of developing the class charter can serve to unite the class. It develops a sense of ownership of the classroom and learning. Once developed the charter becomes a point of reference for the class"

**Pro. D.
Friday,
October
23.
School
Closed**

Stay in Touch

- School Website: www.sd43.bc.ca/walton
- PAC Website: www.waltonpac.ca
- School Twitter: [@waltonSD43](https://twitter.com/waltonSD43)
- PAC Twitter: [@waltonSD43PAC](https://twitter.com/waltonSD43PAC)
- Check your email daily!

Election Day, Monday, October 19th

Walton Elementary will be used as a polling station for the October 19th Federal Election. We anticipate very heavy traffic around our school. Please plan on parking on the street and walking your child to school. Our parking lot may be blocked off due to the increased traffic. We are also expecting heavy foot traffic through our school on Election Day.

Richmond School Yard Society at Walton

The Richmond School Yard Society will be working with several classes at Walton Elementary to bring hands-on gardening experience to the school. Ian Lai will be working with the students in Mrs. Dupuis, Ms. Cui, Ms. Howells and Ms. Biedka's classes.

The program has strong connections to curriculum and brings real-life experiences for these students to our school! Each class will work with Mr. Lai once a month.

There are plans to create flower beds on our school front lawn, as well as utilizing our inner courtyards for growing vegetables.

Special thanks to the Walton PAC for supporting this project. Parents Mr. Tung and Mr. Woods have been instrumental in bringing the Richmond School Yard Society to Walton Elementary!



Early Dismissals at Walton

Walton Elementary will dismiss early at four times of the year. Due to the nature of the Mandarin Bilingual Program, the students in those classes will be affected by additional dismissals. Students will dismiss at 1:45pm on these days. Please contact your daycare providers and notify them of these dates.

- Parent Teacher Interviews, Wednesday, December 9 (All Students)
- Parent Teacher Interviews, Thursday, December 10 (Mandarin Students only)
- Parent Teacher Interviews, Wednesday, March 9 (Mandarin Students Only)
- Parent Teacher Interviews, Thursday, March 10 (All Students)
- Student Led Conferences, Wednesday, April 27 (All Students)
- Student Led Conferences, Thursday, April 28 (All Students)

Youth Chinese Test

Last May, we invited students in Grade 4 and 5 to write the Youth Chinese Test. This is an on-line test, sponsored by the Confucius Institute of Coquitlam. It is a standardized on-line test that is regularly used as a tool in the Edmonton school district.

Our Grade 4s wrote the YCT 3 test. Our Grade 5s wrote the YCT 4 test.

We wanted to know how our program was doing compared to the Edmonton School District. You may recall that several Walton staff visited Edmonton last November to learn more about their Mandarin Bilingual Program. The Edmonton school district has hosted their program since 1984!

Using results from Meadowlark and Kildare Elementary in Edmonton, we were able to make comparisons to our program.

The information below is as summary of our achievement!

Average YCT 3 (Grade 4) score at Walton is 174/200.

Average YCT 3 (Grade 4) score at Meadowlark is 178.9/200

Average YCT 4 (Grade 5) at Walton is 189.8/300

Average YCT 4 score at Meadowlark is 243.6/300

At Walton, our overall average score is 76%

The overall average score at Meadowlark is 87%.

Kildare Elementary reported that 97% of their students passed the YCT at all levels.

At Walton, overall, 77% passed.

All of the Grade 4s passed at Walton. Only 43% of the Grade 5s passed.

Our Mandarin teachers analyzed the results to try and explain why our Grade 5s did not do as well as we expected. Here is the analysis:

- 1) the Grade 5 students received one less year of Mandarin instruction
- 2) students had no experience in typing Mandarin pinyin. There was a lack of computer time available last year
- 3) teachers only had one month to prepare our students for the exam
- 4) not enough materials to prepare for the writing section of the exam

We hope to work with the Confucius Institute to offer the test again to our Grade 4s and 5s.

The Walton Wildcats are Back!

Walton Elementary is sponsoring a Grade 5 Volleyball team this fall. The emphasis is on fun and participation. The team will be practicing several times a week in anticipation of playing games with neighbouring schools! We are hoping to host games at Walton. Spectators are welcome!



October 2015

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

| | | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|---------------------------|----|------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| | | | | 1 <i>PAC Swap Meet</i> | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 <i>Picture Day</i> | 6 <i>PAC Hot Lunch</i> | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 <i>Thanksgiving</i> | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 <i>Election Day</i> | 20 | 21 | 22 <i>Interim Reports</i> | 23 <i>Pro.D.</i> | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 <i>Halloween Dance in evening</i> | 31 <i>Halloween</i> |

November 2015

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

*Remembrance
Day Assembly
at 10:45am*

*Remembrance
Day. School
Closed*

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

School Closed

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

December 2015

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|--|---|---|----|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 <i>1st Report Card</i> | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 <i>1:45 Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Interviews for ALL</i> | 10 <i>1:45 Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Interviews for Mandarin Program Only</i> | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 <i>Winter Concert Time TBA</i> | 18 <i>Last Day before Winter Break</i> | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 <i>Christmas Day</i> | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 <i>New Years Eve</i> | | |

School Re-Opens Monday, January 4th

Walton PAC presents

WALTON MONSTER MASH FAMILY DANCE

Date: Oct. 30th, 2015 @ 7-10pm

Price: Children (2 and under) - free

Children (3-17 yrs old) - \$5 each

Adults (18+ yrs old) - \$8 each

Location: Walton Elementary Gym

This Walton PAC hosted Family Dance will be spook-tacular for the entire family! We encourage everyone to come in costume and dance to music by the interactive DJs from Beyond Sound Entertainment. There will be prizes to give away, concession, photo booth to capture the memories and more!

Limited tickets will be available so watch for ticket sales!

claire's

The Walton Monster Mash Family Dance is a family-friendly event and we encourage everyone to come dressed in their favourite costumes (including the adults!), wear their dancing shoes and be prepared to have fun! Maybe you'll be lucky and win a prize or two! Come check out the photo booth to commemorate the evening!

However, in order to have fun we need to make sure we have some rules and regulations to keep everyone safe. Please be mindful of the following:

- All children must be accompanied by an adult (18+yrs). No more than 5 children will be permitted with one adult.
- No alcohol
- Costume rules are the same as during school hours. Please keep your costume accessories (swords, guns, light sabres, fairy wands, etc.) at home (Walton PAC/Walton Elementary School will not be responsible for lost items).



Please visit www.waltonpac.ca for more info on this and other upcoming events!



October 6, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Walton Elementary will celebrate Halloween on Friday, October 30th. All classes (Kindergarten to Grade 5) will rotate through activity stations in the morning. We will then celebrate Halloween with a Primary Sing-Along between 1:00-1:30pm. Families are welcome to join!

- Children choosing to wear a costume must come to school dressed in their outfit. There is no time or space in the building for children to change during the day. We are asking parents to send children dressed in costumes that are appropriate for elementary-aged children.
- We are asking that all props, such as swords and guns, be left at home. Props can be a distraction during the day, but there is also a chance that these items will be lost or damaged at school. Any props that are brought to school will be held by the teacher until the end of the day.
- We have many children with allergies and dietary concerns at Walton. Please contact the teacher in advance before sending treats or food to school to be shared. This is particularly important if your child's classroom is a "Nut Free" zone. Food or treats that are unexpectedly brought to the classroom may not be handed out due to health concerns.

Regards,

Mr. C. Mah



2960 Walton Avenue,
Coquitlam, BC
V3B 6V6

Phone: 604-941-1962
Fax: 604-937-8040
Email: walton@sd43.bc.ca

WALTON ELEMENTARY

A Learning Community

www.sd43.bc.ca/walton



Ms. Biedka, Ms. Suen, Ms. Thiara and Ms. Ditricks classes visited the Laity Pumpkin Farm on Thursday, October 8th. Thanks to the Walton PAC for supporting the field trip by funding the school bus.



The Kindergarten Classes Visit the Pumpkin Patch!

