



THUNDERBIRD NEWS

December 8, 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE ADMIN

Dear Parents/Guardians and Community members,

It's hard to believe that the Winter break is right around the corner! For us, the old adage, "Time flies when you're having fun" certainly applies each and every day at Eagle Mountain Middle! We all totally agree that our time spent in this school community continues to be especially rewarding. Great staff, great parents, and great kids are the perfect ingredients for success! We hope this past calendar year has been equally as rewarding for you and your family!

Report cards were issued via MyEdBC last week (Wednesday) and we hope that they will inspire some worthwhile conversations at home. Celebrating successes, goal setting and an honest examination of "how to improve" are important components of the reporting process. But most important, is the need for positive communication between home and school. We strongly encourage you to continue to contact your child's teacher(s) whenever you have questions or concerns.

A big thank you must go out to all parents for the wonderful support you demonstrate for your children. We know that this is an exceptionally busy season, yet all the time spent working with your children on homework, talking about school, and helping them through their educational journeys is incredibly valuable for them as well as for us. This allows us to continue to work together with you to help each child achieve their own personal success. It's challenging being a parent, but the rewards are worth the investment!

We would like to thank all those folks who are donating items for our various fundraising activities during this season. Your generosity is very much appreciated. A big thanks to all those involved for providing substantial funding for hampers for several families in our community. Also, thanks to our PAC executive and volunteers who support the work we do here and provide the students with opportunities like the upcoming Winter Market. You are awesome!

On behalf of the Eagle Mountain Middle School Staff, we wish you and your families a safe, happy and healthy holiday and wonderful New Year.

Mr. Andrew Graham - Principal

Ms. Kirsten Paterson- Vice Principal



FAREWELL TO SARAS MUDALIAR – HEAD SECRETARY

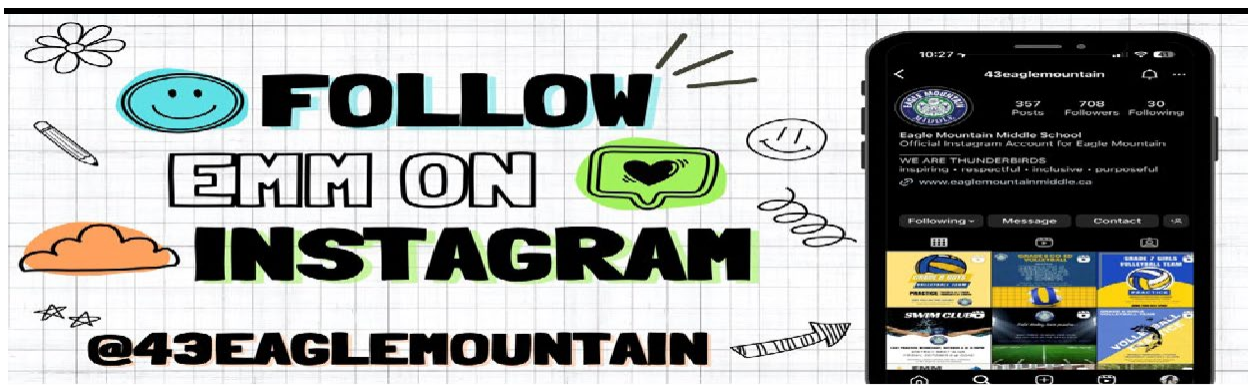
We wish our Head Secretary, Saras Mudaliar, all the best for her upcoming retirement. Her last day as an SD43 employee is January 5th and her last day as an Eagle Mountain Middle School Staff member, is December 22nd.

Saras began working in School District 43 in 2011 as a casual clerical and started full-time at Eagle Mountain Middle School in 2015. Prior to that she was clerical at Archbishop Carney Secondary School

She will be dearly missed by the Eagle Mountain Middle School community. We all wish her well as she will now have more time to pursue and enjoy her passions along with spending more quality time with her family, especially her granddaughter, Charlotte.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW HEAD SECRETARY – ROSANNE HUTCHINSON

Ms. Hutchinson will start as our new head secretary on January 8th. She currently works at Minnehada Middle School and has also worked at Scott Creek Middle and Monty Middle.



PAC NEWS



PAC is looking for volunteers to help out with the upcoming Winter Market, being held at the school, during school hours, on December 13th & 14th. For anyone unfamiliar with the Winter Market it is a chance for Eagle Mountain students to participate in making some holiday themed crafts that they can keep or use as gifts. Students will participate with their class on one of the above two days and on the alternate day will have a holiday themed movie day with candy, popcorn & hot chocolate provided by the PAC.

In order for the market to be successful we need a lot of helpers! Please see the jobs listed below and let us know if you can help by emailing the PAC at 110-PAC@sd43.bc.ca. Thank you to everyone who has already emailed to indicate that they can help!

- **Setup:** Tuesday, December 12th from 3-4:30pm.
- **Market days:** Wednesday, December 13th & Thursday, December 14th during school hours. If you can join us for a whole day that's great – but we'll also take helpers that can only come for an hour or two. Just let us know when you're available.

The activities will be held on December 13th and 14th, during school hours in the gymnasium. Admission ticket is available on schoolcashonline for \$25. (Any family needing assistance with this cost can contact the office.)

On one of the days, students will make a variety of gifts to give to important people in their lives (eg. ornaments, cards, gift bags, holiday decor). On the other day of the activities, students will have a movie day in their classroom which will include a mixed candy box, chips and hot chocolate (PLEASE HAVE YOUR CHILD BRING THEIR OWN MUG).

Thanks in advance for your help – the Winter Market Organizing Committee



Driving and Keeping our Kids Safe

Have you noticed our speed limit signs and speed bumps in our upper driveway leading to our school? Do you know the speed limit leading to our school on and from East Rd is 30 km/hr?

Do you know the speed limit once you enter our school property is 20 km/hr?

If needed, have you adjusted your driving habits once you have entered our school zone?

Did you know that it is the law to drive within the speed limits in school zones and on school property?

Thanks to those who are adhering to our school zone traffic speed limits and if you aren't, please adjust and keep help our kids and other rivers safe.

Winter Weather Ahead!

Schools are not routinely closed due to snow or other inclement weather conditions. All schools in School District 43 (Coquitlam) will remain OPEN, if possible, during winter weather, including snowfall.

However, on occasion, a district-wide or partial-district closure is required due to extreme weather. Partial-district closures affecting individual schools may occur due to the very different geography within our school district. If there is a partial-district closure affected schools will be identified.

The decision on schools remaining open or needing to be closed, because of extreme weather, occurs **before 6:30 a.m.** so that families can plan and make alternate arrangements.

Any district-wide or partial-district closure will be decided and communicated by 6:30 a.m. via the School District 43 website

www.sd43.bc.ca and CKNW AM 980 radio, CKWX 1130 radio and CBC (690) radio.

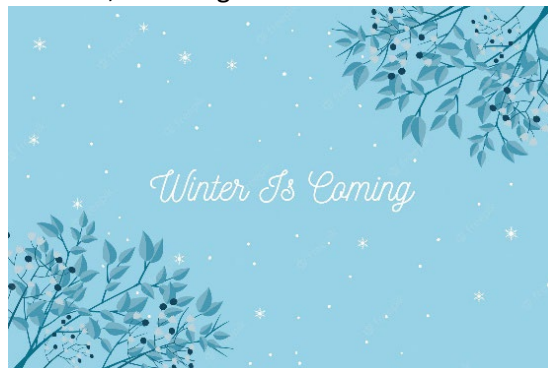
While the District tries to make the best decision with the information available, the weather does change quickly. Therefore, when schools remain open, decisions to stay at home during challenging weather conditions should be made by each family.

Extreme weather can also impact transit. Transit schedules may face significant changes or cancellations due to the weather conditions. Parents seeking information on transit schedules need to consult the Translink website: <http://www.translink.ca/>

We encourage families to continuously check the School District 43 website for updates and changes: www.sd43.bc.ca

Learn more about SD43's process for emergency and inclement weather status updates at:

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/NewsEvents/Pages/EmergencyInformation.aspx>





Hello EMM families! 2023 is rapidly drawing to a close and many of our students are looking forward to having some down time over the winter break. We encourage families to help their children set a daily screen time limit over the holidays and also schedule interactive "IRL" activities like playing board and card games, going for walks, playing sports, doing fun outdoor activities, and making memories with friends and family. Setting up a regular routine is a great way to help your children cope with the transition out of school. It will also help them

feel prepared when they head back to school in the new year. Wishing you a wonderful and relaxing holiday!

Stephen Balnave, School Counsellor
sbalnave@sd43.bc.ca or 604-469-1133

AMBASSADORS ADVENTURES

EMM SPIRIT WEEK

EMM SPIRIT WEEK
DECEMBER 18 TO DECEMBER 22

MON DEC 18 PJ DAY 	TUES DEC 19 FESTIVE GEAR 	WED DEC 20 RED & GREEN 	THURS DEC 21 UGLY FESTIVE SWEATER 	FRI DEC 22 HOLIDAY HOEDOWN (WESTERN)

It's the season for EMM spirits to shine bright...Eagle Mountain will be participating in our annual holiday spirit week to celebrate our last week of school together before winter break. Students are welcome and encouraged to participate in our festive fun by coming to school dressed up.

Divisions will earn spirit points for a chance to win our spirit trophy at the end of the year!

PINK SHIRT DAY T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST

Calling all artistic and creative Thunderbirds! We are looking for our latest and greatest t-shirt design for EMM's Pink Shirt Day t-shirts this year. If students are interested in having the chance to create a t-shirt design for our school, they need to check in with Ms. Chen for details and they must submit their unique design by Friday, December 22 at 3:00pm, at the latest.

Designs will be voted on by our staff and the chosen design will be released for purchase school-wide sometime in January. Shirts will then be distributed before Pink Shirt Day in February.

TWECS (Third World Eye Care Society)



T. W. E. C. S.



Our school will be collecting eyeglasses and sunglasses for local charity T.W.E.C.S. (Third World Eye Care Society).

T.W.E.C.S. goes on eyecare missions helping developing countries, they provide eyecare and glasses; so, people can study, go to school, work, and so they function every day. In early 2024, T.W.E.C.S., along with an Eagle Mountain student, will be travelling to Virac in the Philippines. They hope to provide thousands of eyeglasses to those in need.

There will be a labelled box in the front foyer. Thank you in advance for your donation!

For more information, please visit <https://www.twecs.ca/>.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE EXPLAINED:

Here at **Eagle Mountain Middle**, we are now only accepting online payments to minimize the physical handling of cash. encourage all parents to pay for their child's fees through our **School Cash Online Program**.



As District, we implemented that all mandatory School Policy Forms, parent volunteer forms, and permission forms are also done through your online account. The online payment process is easy, reliable, and a secure way to pay for all your child's field trips, student fees, yearbooks, and other various items. The program will also provide you with a transaction history, so you can keep track of what you have purchased.

As we are also a **GREEN SCHOOL**, this process also eliminates paper waste as we now have electronic permission forms attached to all field trip payments. This will also eliminate sending cash with your child, and permission forms getting lost in your child's backpack!

If you are already registered for this program, great! If not, no worries we can help you along the way. Please visit the following link to see a to register for your account:

<https://sd43.schoolcashionline.com>

Once you have registered your account, make sure to log back on and add all your children. All children who are registered in SD43 can be added to your account. All you need is their name and birthdate!

BIKE SECURITY AT SCHOOL

Some of our students are riding to school on their bikes once again this year. Please remember to lock your bike, with a strong and solid lock, on the racks in front of the school or in the courtyard in the bike racks. Locking your bike up will go a long way to prevent it from being moved or stolen. Be sure to put the lock through the frame and wheel.



VALUABLES AT SCHOOL



We would like to ask parents to discuss the issue of bringing valuables e.g. large amounts of money, personal electronic devices such as: ipods, cell phones, game gear, video games/equipment, or even jewelry to school. It is very unfortunate and frustrating when personal items get damaged or go missing from backpacks or classrooms and we would like to eliminate students from experiencing the disappointment of losing something dear to them by asking them to safeguard these items if brought to school. Please note that we do not reimburse for lost or stolen valuables but will investigate purposeful damage or theft.

FIRE DRILLS, EARTHQUAKE DRILLS AND LOCKDOWN DRILLS

Every year, we have three earthquake drills, three fire drills and at least two lockdown drills. Many of you are familiar with fire drills and earthquake drills, but some of you may not be familiar with lockdown drills. A lockdown is when we close and lock all exterior doors to the school, close and lock all classroom doors and have students sit down in the classroom as a group silently. The door windows in each classroom also get covered so nobody can peer in. Essentially, anyone who could enter the school would find the school locked up and silent with no evidence of any adults or students being present. The purpose of such a drill is to be prepared for any number of potential emergencies that may arise where we need students to be in a safe, secure area where they cannot be seen, heard or found. Being prepared for a potential emergent situation is prudent planning; however, this may cause some anxiety for some students. We recommend you sit down with your child and discuss the rationale behind a lockdown drill. At the school level, we discuss the rationale, answer any of the students' questions and have a debrief to clarify or answer any further questions after the lockdown. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Paterson or Mr. Graham.



CELL PHONE RULES AT EAGLE MOUNTAIN

It is the school's policy that students are not to use their cell phones in the school during school hours. The only exception is when specific permission is given in class by a teacher for the purpose of using the phone to search for information for a specific project.

Any student found repeatedly using their cell phone during school hours will have their phone confiscated and, in the future, stored at the school's office during school hours for a specified period (eg. 1 month).



With this information, we would like to ask our Eagle Mountain parents to refrain from texting or calling their children's cells during school hours with information that requires an immediate response, so the students aren't put in a position of disobeying our school rules. Instead, please remind students to check their cells after school for messages that possibly

could have been left for them by you or leave a message at the office for them to pick up, only if plans are changed.

If your child is sick during school, he or she needs to come to the office and use the office phone to contact a parent for a pick-up. Also, parents remember to call us back @ 604-469-1133 to let us know you are on your way and the designated place for pick-up. Remember, your child will not be allowed to leave till you contact the office.

SPORTS NEWS

EMM Intramural T-Shirt Sales

They come in Neon Yellow, Purple and Red. Quantity is limited. If your child would like one, please go do schoolcashionline, see the sizes, colours, a picture of the t-shirt that's available and purchase it.

There will be no opportunity to try on sample T-shirts. If you have any questions, please send Mr. Nordby an email at anordby@sd43.bc.ca.

NOTE THAT ALL PURCHASES WILL BE EXCLUSIVELY ONLINE.

EAGLE MOUNTAIN MIDDLE SCHOOL WINTER SCHEDULE 2023-24

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	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7:30-8:25		Wrestling (Martin, McConville, Murray)	Gr. 8 Boys Basketball 7:45am-9am (Nordby, Keeler)	Gr. 7 Boys Basketball (St. Prix)	
LUNCH 12:10- 12:40	Gr. 6 Coed Basketball (Nordby)	Intramurals (Nordby)		Gr. 6 Coed Basketball (Nordby)	Intramurals (Nordby)
3:00-4:00	Gr. 7 Girls Basketball (Coupe, Bro)	Gr. 7 Basketball Games	Gr. 8 Basketball Games	Wrestling (Martin, McConville, Murray) Wrestling Meets	Gr. 7 Boys Basketball (St. Prix)

4:00-5:00	Gr. 8 Boys Basketball (Nordby, Keeler)				Staff Basketball in the gym
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Wildlife Alert Procedures for Eagle Mountain

A. Daily Procedures:

1. All doors will be locked.
2. Exterior garbage cans emptied.
3. Principal/supervisor visually checks playfield prior to students being dismissed at recess and lunch. Staff on supervision always keep a watchful eye.

Emergency Actions

B. Bear Sighting off of school grounds:

1. Phone call from neighbour or parent received. Time and location of bear sighting are noted.
2. Announcement made to notify school if sighting is near a dismissal time.
3. Students kept indoors if time of bear sighting is near a break time (recess, lunch)

Students and parents will be advised of bear sighting in neighbourhood if sighted near 2:53 pm. Students walking or biking are reminded to be alert and go in pairs. If there a risk, administration may reroute students or hold students and inform parents to pick students up at the school.

C. Sighting of wildlife on school grounds during instruction time:

1. Staff report wildlife sightings to the office.
2. Announcement made to notify school that a bear is on school grounds.
3. Students kept in at recess and lunch.
Port Moody Police Department and Conservation Officers are contacted immediately for assistance or further instructions.

D. Sighting of wildlife on school grounds if students or staff are outdoors (Morning; Recess; Lunch or Afterschool)

If sighted by supervising staff, a whistle is blown/students notified.

Announcement made asking everyone to proceed indoors.

Students enter the school via the nearest unlocked exterior door. Move calmly towards entrances. Students then proceed to their classrooms once they are in the school. Port Moody Police Department and Conservation Officers are contacted immediately for assistance or further instructions.

E. If You See wildlife:

Remain calm; don't panic. Often the wildlife is simply looking for food and will move on if it finds nothing to eat. Keep away from the wildlife and go inside – bring all children inside. Never approach the wildlife and do not run from the wildlife. Do not act submissively by crouching down or whispering. Warn others of the wildlife presence, but don't do it by yelling. If the animal climbs a

tree, keep people and pets away. When things quiet down, the animal will come down and leave. This usually happens after dark when the animal feels safe. When the animal is safely out of the area, check the area to ensure there are no attractants available.

Staff, students and parents are instructed to not approach the bear or cubs.

<https://wildsafebc.com/>- this is a great resource

School Fruit and Vegetable

Nutritional Program

This year, we are excited to announce that Eagle Mountain Middle will be participating in the School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program brought to us by the BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation. Once a month, students will be provided with a piece of fruit or a sampling of a locally grown vegetable. Should your child not wish to participate, he/she opt out at any time. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate contact Ms. Bro via email (mbro@sd43.bc.ca).



**SCHOOL FRUIT
AND VEGETABLE
NUTRITIONAL
P R O G R A M**

can
to

2023-2024 Core Teachers

Team	Div	Assignment	Room	Teacher
Bear	1	6/7	218	Wendy Chen
	2	6/7	220	Charissa Wong
	3	8	219	Christina White (M/T/Th/F)/Anders Nordby (W)
	4	8	221	Jarod Fong
Eagle	5	6/7	222	Avie Basson
	6	6/7	232	Vania Huang
	7	8	223	Louisa Perro (T/W/Th/F)/Lauren Au (M)
	8	8	225	David Grender
Orca	9	6/7	235	Ross Namdari
	10	6/7	233	Andrea Shim-Ping/Jen Budd (Alt. Th)
	11	6/7	234	Irvin Samson
	12	6/7	236	Stephen Spagnuolo
Wolf	13	6/7	231	Andrea Coupe (M/T/Th/F)/Kevin Keeler (W)
	14	6/7	229	Danielle Murdoch (M/T/Th/F)/Daniel Martin (W)
	15	7/8	230	Suzanne Clements (M/T/Th/F)/Lauren Au (W)
	16	8	228	Jenn Moody
Raven	17	6/7	226	Kelly Murray (M/W/Th/F)/Martin Bro (T)
	18	6/7	224	Sara Keeler (M/T/Th/F)/Nicole Van Veenendaal (W)
	19	6/7	303 (Portable)	Breana Sievenpiper (M/W/F)/Nicole Van Veenendaal (T/Th)
	20	8	301 (Portable)	James McConville

YOUR OFFICE TEAM

Mr. Andrew Graham	Principal
Ms. Kirsten Paterson	Vice-Principal
Mr. Stephen Balnave	Counsellor
Ms. Grace Gallaccio	Youth Worker
Ms. Saras Mudaliar	Head Secretary
Mrs. Melissa Newbery	Student Records Secretary

IMPORTANT DATES

December	12	Newsletter #4
	22	Last day of classes before Winter Vacation
	13/14	Christmas Market
	25-Jan 8	Winter Break
January	8	School re-opens after Winter Break
	19	Newsletter #5
	29	School Based Non-Instructional Day - no classes
February	16	Newsletter #6
	19	School Closed – BC Family Day
	23	School Closed - District Non-Instructional Day
March	15	Last day of classes before Spring Break
	18-28	Spring Break
	29	Good Friday
April	1	Easter Monday
	2	School re-opens after Spring and Easter Breaks
	14	Newsletter #7
	19	District Non-Instructional Day - no classes
May	16	Newsletter #8
	17	School Based Non-Instructional Day – no classes
	20	Victoria Day
June	14	Newsletter #9
	28	Administration Day - School closes

HAPPY HOLIDAYS





Youth Club

The City of Port Moody's **Community Services** and **School District 43** are excited to team up to offer great programs! Meet new friends, stay active and have fun.

For youth in grades 6-8

Eagle Mountain

Register NOW!

Food Lab

You will gain basic kitchen skills and enjoy yummy food while exploring how science and cooking are intertwined.

37813 Wednesday, Jan 17-Mar 13 3-4:15pm

Environment Club

You will explore the topics of environment and social justice. Activities will focus on caring for the planet, oneself and the community.

37812 Thursday, Jan 18-Mar 14 3-4:15pm

Visit portmoody.ca/signmeup to register.



portmoody.ca | 604.469.4556

PORT MOODY
CITY OF THE ARTS



Holiday Camp for Youth



Wednesday-Friday, Dec 27-29

Tuesday-Friday, Jan 2-5


9am-3pm Recreation Complex

Activities may include:

For youth
ages 11-15
years

Laser tag	Rock Climbing	Swimming
Bowling	Baking	Snowtubing

Visit portmoody.ca/signmeup to register NOW!

 @pomoyouth | portmoody.ca/Youth | 604.469.4556

PORT MOODY
CITY OF THE ARTS