



COMO LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE BY DAVE CYR

Dear Parents/Guardians,

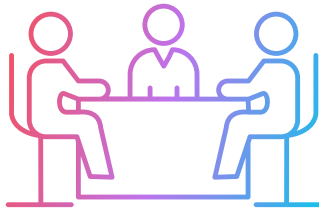
The month of October, although short, was full of incredible experiences for our students. Presentations, STEAM, Indigenous language lessons, Athletics and Mountain Riders sign up all took place during this month. We were also part of a community wide event when we welcomed the Hazel Trembath students and staff to their new setting at the Winslow Centre. The response from our students when the call was sent out to prepare for the arrival of the elementary children was inspiring. Many adults were left with tears in their eyes as they watched the young ones come off the buses to the cheers from all of Como's population. I consider myself incredibly lucky to work with such a compassionate and supportive team.

As we start to roll into November, it is important to remind you of the impact that the changes in weather patterns will have. Students need to arrive at school ready for colder days and possibly wetter ones. If we have heavy snow days during the month, please refer to the

district websites for any updates on school status. The month of November also brings our 3-way conferences. This will be your first opportunity for you and your child to meet with the teacher to go over where your child has shone and where they need to challenge themselves in their learning. Please ensure you have your time set for these conferences.

As always, I remind you to check out school website for updates on life at Como and all calendar items that are approaching in the short term.





3 WAY CONFERENCES

Parents/student/teacher conferences will be held on Tuesday, November 7 and Wednesday, November 8.

Students will be dismissed at 2:00 p.m. on both days.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME



Daylight saving time will end this Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 2 a.m. Remember to change your clocks back one hour!



LATE ATTENDANCE

Morning bell rings at 8:35 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and at 8:55 a.m. on Wednesdays. Students are expected to arrive to school on time, giving them the opportunity to prepare for learning (getting their materials organized, removing outdoor wear, going to lockers, etc.).

When students arrive late for school, not only is the classroom disrupted, but also the student misses out on receiving important classroom instruction and information shared from our morning announcements.

If students will be late, please submit an **Absence Report** under "Quick Links" on our school website:

<https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/comolake/>

NOVEMBER IMPORTANT DATES:



Tuesday, November 7

- Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences
- Early Dismissal at 2:00 p.m.



Wednesday, November 8

- Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences
- Early Dismissal at 2:00 p.m.
- TCBY Fundraiser (orders due on KEV Nov. 3)



Friday, November 10

- School Closure Day (No School)



Monday, November 13

- Remembrance Day
- School Closed



Tuesday, November 14

- PAC Meeting in person and via zoom at 7:00 p.m.

Calendar is available on our website under the heading 'On the Calendar' at

<https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/comolake/Pages/default.aspx#/=>



Small and valuable items lost such as earbuds, jewelry, etc, are kept in the office. We have a small collection of items waiting for their rightful owner. All other items such as clothing, waterbottles, containers, etc, can be found in the "Lost & Found" bin/table (hallway in front of the office). Items are collected every second Friday as we accumulate lost items quickly. Please remind students to check for items lost regularly and please LABEL all items with student's name!



COMO LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL PAC



comolakemiddlepac@gmail.com

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR PAC MEETING

Tuesday, November 14 – 7pm

In Person and on ZOOM

Thank you for the Parents who stepped up so that Como Lake Middle PAC has a full Executive Team!

ZOOM Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87288597503?pwd=OWZGT3dlemk5VTh3ZzFRVkpHeWgyOT09>

Meeting ID: 872 8859 7503

Passcode: 192323

Reach out to us at comolakemiddlepac@gmail.com

Executive Team

Chair: Tanja McAffer

Treasurer: Jacquie/Remya

DPAC Rep: Carolyn/Haley

Secretary: Carolina & Laurie

WHY JOIN A PAC MEETING?

- A seat at the table
- Your voice matters
- Get connected with the Como Lake Middle School community (parents and staff)
- Your contribution makes a difference
- Support those who support your children
- You get to hang out with Mr. Cyr and Mr. Bird

On Going Fundraisers

All proceeds go towards events/items for the students & teachers!



Como Lake Middle PAC Frozen Yogurt Sale

Wednesday, November 8 - \$5 each

Back by popular demand! Como Lake Middle PAC invites all the students to enjoy TCBY Frozen Yogurt on Wednesday, November 8. The flavors available will be cookies 'n' creme, pina colada, peach, mango sorbet and dole pineapple sorbet. For your convenience, please place your order through School Cash, if your child(ren) brings cash it MUST be the correct amount of \$5 as there will be no change available.

All proceeds go to the PAC for STEAM initiatives at Como Lake.

PAC DONATION PROGRAM 2023-2024

At Como Lake Middle School our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) works in close partnership with our School Faculty and Administration to provide all of our children with the best school experience possible. As a PAC we support many student activities such as educational speakers, classroom teacher enhancement funds, and field trip transportation subsidies all of which are in our PAC budget.

For several years now our PAC has offered this voluntary **PAC Donation Program** as one of our fundraising options to support these student activities. This program was created in response to concerns about door-to-door sales. This option offers families a safe, no hassle way to support our school community each year.

ANY donation amount is greatly appreciated through School Cash. A tax receipt can be issued. (Please note the minimum amount for a tax receipt is \$25.00, as with most non-profit, charitable organization thresholds.)

Important Note: Students will NOT be excluded from activities if their family is unable to, or chooses not to participate in the PAC Donation Program.

A MESSAGE TO SD43 FAMILIES: SAFE AND APPROPRIATE HALLOWEEN

Halloween across all schools in SD43 is a fun and festive day which brings the school community together. Typically, the time around Halloween is incident-free and very respectful.

From time to time, a few students "in character" push the boundaries of what is socially acceptable, or what is appropriate behavior in schools, sometimes at the expense of others. With that in mind, for student safety and school climate reasons, and to ensure that every student and adult in our community enjoys the time around Halloween, we would like your assistance in reinforcing these guidelines with your children:

- Students in costume should be easily recognizable and/or identify themselves to any staff member when queried. Also, students "in character" are to conduct themselves appropriately. Behaviors which intimidate, harass, or humiliate members of the community do not contribute to a fun, festive, and safe environment.
- Replica weapons (guns, knives, etc.) are inappropriate, as are costumes which are hyper-sexualized, or costumes which depict elements of sexual exploitation.
- It is also important to note that costumes which portray negative stereotypes or that demean or make fun of any group of people are inappropriate. Costumes should not make light of anyone's religious, cultural, ethnic or racial group.

As a reminder, by law and School District expectations, the use and possession of firecrackers or fireworks at school is strictly prohibited. This pertains to students before, during or after school, on or offsite.

With respect for each other, we can avoid any disruption to school communities in the form of vandalism and/or disrespectful, potentially dangerous behaviour. Students and parents need to be mindful that inappropriate behaviour will be addressed by school administration under the authority granted by the BC School Act and with the involvement of police where appropriate.

Please refer to these readily available public websites for more information:

<https://www.coquitlam.ca/286/Fire-Safety-Tips>

<https://www.portcoquitlam.ca/city-services/fire-emergency-services/fire-safety-information/>

<https://www.portmoody.ca/en/city-services/fall-safety-tips.aspx#Halloween-Safety>

Have a safe and happy Halloween.

Sincerely,

Patricia Gartland
Superintendent/CEO





MOUNTAIN RIDERS

BY MR. MACDICKEN AND MS. CASSIE BERMEL

The Ski and Snowboarding program sign up is underway. We are still waiting for Mt Seymour to send us the links for the families who chose to purchase a rental pas and participate in all ten days (Green and Red forms). We will send the link out to those families as soon as we get them. The Gold, Blue, and Pink groups should all be able to access their information on our Kev cash online system. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact both Chris MacDicken and Cassie Bermel at

cmacdicken@sd43.bc.ca and cbermel@sd43.bc.ca



Support our Como Lake Leadership crew initiatives by donating your recyclables to the Return-It depot using School phone number: 604-936-1451.

Reminder

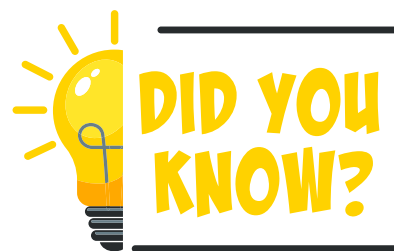
ITEMS FROM HOME

Please remind students to have all items needed to have a successful day at school:

- forks/spoons needed for lunches/snacks
- waterbottle
- rain gear
- label all items with student's name



This month, Lakers committed their time and effort in preparing for our welcoming of Hazel Trembath into our community. On Monday, October 23, Lakers demonstrated what our credo is all about.



OPT-IN to receive e-mail notifications for new fees/permission forms assigned to your student and updates on school related activities on School Cash Online. To do this, log on to your account, and click on "My Account", then scroll down to "Manage Email Notifications." Check that the box is marked indicating that you want to receive email notifications. You may also select the preferred language for e-mails from School Cash Online here.

<https://sd43.schoolcashionline.com/>