



École Ross Road School

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***The School Community of Ross Road strives to support potential for all that values diversity and is built in a safe and caring environment.
Ross Road is welcoming, caring and inclusive. We foster a culture of engaged learners and critical thinkers who are responsible and respectful. As a school community we promote a sense of belonging for all.***

Monday Message

Dear Ross Road Families,

Last week was a very significant week for our Ross Road community and the country as a whole. September 30th, 2021 was the first [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#). At Ross Road, we participated in meaningful learning opportunities throughout the week. We ended the day on Wednesday, in a drum circle led by Squamish Nation Elder K'etximtn (his English name is Alroy Baker). We are humbled and thankful for his teachings.

Health and Safety Reminders

- Please practice proper hand hygiene
- ***New* Masks are required for all adults & students in Grade K-12**
- Complete a Daily Health Check and Stay Home When Sick:
To reduce the likelihood of coming to a school or school district site when ill, all students, staff and other adults (e.g., visitors) are reminded of their responsibility to complete a [daily health check](#) prior to entering the building. There are a variety of tools available to help you complete a daily health check:

Families and students can use the [K-12 Health Check app](#).

- Staff and other adults can refer to the BCCDC's [When to test for COVID-19 document](#).
- Staff, students and families can also use the BCCDC online [Self-Assessment Tool](#), call 8-1-1 or their health care provider

In addition, students, staff and other adults **must** stay home when ill or when required by public health to self-isolate.

[The Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#) outline the requirements for the completion of a daily health check by students, staff and visitors (p. 16); and staying home when feeling unwell or required to self-isolate (p. 17). Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Severe Allergies-Update!

We missed one class by mistake in the last Monday message. Our sincere apologies.

We have a number of members in our school community that have severe allergies when exposed to certain allergens and this could result in severe sickness. Allergies to peanuts and tree nuts are particularly challenging to manage at school and we ask for everyone's support with this.

Individuals in the following classes have severe allergies to nuts that require special attention. We ask that students in these classes do not bring food to school that contain nuts (i.e. peanut butter, muffins/cookies with nuts, granola bars.) Please read the list of ingredients on food packages carefully.

F01 Grade 7: Mme Angelee Bulsara

F05 Grade 4/5; Mme Mahsa/Capelle

F15 Grade Kindergarten: Mme Katy Dowling/Lindsay Storry

E05 Grade 2/3: Ms. Laurel Booker

Furthermore, if your child enjoys products containing peanuts/nuts before coming to school, please ensure that they add hand washing to their routine before coming to school. Even a small amount of peanut oil can easily be transferred to crayons, books or equipment that can pose a risk for a child with an allergy.

Reminder: New District Absence Reporting Procedures

Please continue to use the new system and report your child's absence *in advance* using any of these three options, which are available to you 24 hours/day, 7 days a week:

- **SchoolMessenger app.** Use your mobile device to download the SchoolMessenger app, available at the Apple App Store, the Google Play Store or go.schoolmessenger.ca.
 - The first time you use the app, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Important: Use the same email address your school has on record.
 - Select **Attendance**, then **Report an Absence**.
- **SchoolMessenger website.** Open your browser and go to go.schoolmessenger.ca.
 - The first time you use the website, select **Sign Up** to create your

account. Important: Use the same email address your school has on record.

- Select **Attendance**, then **Report an Absence**.
- **Automated phone system**. Call the toll-free number 1-833-259-7295 and follow the prompts to report an absence.

Individual Photo Orders

Your child will be bringing home a form with a QR code today specific to them. Please read the letter carefully for directions on how to see the photo and make an order.

Photo retakes are scheduled for: Oct 25. Please contact your child's teacher if your child needs a photo retake.

Reminder: Pick-up/Drop-off

For the safety and wellbeing of all Ross Road community members, **please follow the parking bylaws and posted speed limits**. Please be respectful of our Ross Road neighbours when you drop-off or pick-up your child. Do NOT block driveways or crosswalks and do NOT allow children to get in/out of cars while in the middle of the road. The area in front of the primary playground on Bushnell is NOT meant for parking but rather for children to hop in or out of a vehicle. If you need to walk your child to class or pick them up at the door, please find a suitable parking spot. Please do NOT enter the roundabout (at the end of Bushnell) and travel past the crosswalk as there is no place to park ,to pick-up, or drop-off your child.

We encourage students to walk or roll to school. For families that need to drive, you are encouraged to take an extra 5 minutes to park farther away from the school. **We are so thankful to the Ross Road PAC that purchased new bike racks and scooter racks that are now located all over the school to safely lock up bikes and scooters.**

Reminder: The Card Project

The students are putting the finishing touches on their masterpieces for The Card Project! This local small business makes beautiful, custom greeting cards, notebooks, tote bags, mousepads and tea towels with children's art. If you want to order items made with your child's art, you must complete the online consent form. Please go to www.thecardproject.ca to sign up. The final deadline for the online consent form is this Friday, October 15, 2021. Sign up to get a free card made with your child's art and to be able to purchase other items made with your child's art.

Reminder: Hot Lunch (MunchaLunch)

To order, please follow this link: [MunchaLunch](#). The first lunch will be on October 8th. Orders for this date had to be completed by Oct 1st.

Important Dates:

October 5: World Teacher's Day

October 7: Hoedown (COVID safety plans in place)

October 11: Thanksgiving

October 18-22: Waste Reduction Week

October 20: PAC Meeting 7pm (virtual)

October 21: The great Shakeout earthquake drill

October 22: Provincial Pro-D (no school for students)

October 25: Photo Retakes

October 26 & 26: Cheakamus Grade 4 & 5

Kind regards,

Kate Lechleiter, Principal

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Bridget O'Brien-Kopacek, Vice Principal

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