

Upper Lynn e-News

September 10, 2023

Important Dates & Reminders for the Week of: September 11 to September 15, 2023

Monday 11	Tuesday 12	Wednesday 13	Thursday 14	Friday 15
	Orange Shirt Orders Due			

Dear Upper Lynn Families,

We begin our year together thinking about the land and the Coast Salish peoples, specifically the Skwxwu7mesh Nation and the Tsleil-Waututh Nation, upon whose traditional territory Upper Lynn Elementary and the North Vancouver School District resides. We value this opportunity to come together as an educational community to learn, share, and grow on this traditional territory.

Last week was a short one, but it was filled with a whirlwind of re-connecting, sharing, and enjoying the lingering nice weather of summer. It was also a week filled with learning new routines, making new friends, and adjusting to a new grade level and new teachers. We have many new students and families who have joined our classrooms. Welcome! We are all learning together as a community, so we continue to ask for and to offer patience, mutual respect, and an open, curious approach as we go slowly during these opening weeks. We are excited to welcome new staff members and we will certainly miss some of our familiar faces from last year.

As we begin the 2023-2024 school year, we acknowledge that every one of us (students, families, staff members) is at a different place in our learning and in our life experiences. We will continue to meet you and your family where you are, with understanding and with a desire to work collaboratively to make this the best learning year ever! Please reach out to your child's new classroom teacher(s) with questions or information when needed.

We are looking forward to a great 2023-2024 school year!

Upcoming Dates

- ☐ Tuesday September 12 – Orange Shirt Orders Due
 - ☐ Monday September 18 – First Full Day of Kindergarten
 - ☐ Monday September 18 – ULPAC Kindergarten Coffee; 9-10
 - ☐ Monday September 18 – ULPAC Meeting: 7-8pm (in-person)
 - ☐ Tuesday September 19 – Photo Day
 - ☐ Wednesday September 20 – Welcome Back Parent Evening; 5:30-6:30 (25 minute sessions)
 - ☐ Thursday September 21 – Hot Lunch Ordering Open
 - ☐ Friday September 22 – Terry Fox Run
 - ☐ Friday September 22 – ULE Movie Night; 7:30
 - ☐ Wednesday September 27 – **Staff Collaboration (Early Dismissal); 2:00**
 - ☐ Friday September 29 – Orange Shirt Day
 - ☐ Monday October 2 – **National Day and Reconciliation Day; Students Not in Session**
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Upper Lynn News

Welcome

We're thrilled to introduce several new and returning staff members to Upper Lynn. Let's extend a warm welcome to them all! Ms. Natacha Sadafi has joined our Learning Support Team as Upper Lynn's dedicated counselor. We're also excited to have Melissa Purich on board as one of our Learning Support Teachers. In the realm of music, please join us in welcoming Mr. Colin Madill as our new Band Teacher – we can't wait to see the impact he'll have on our budding musicians.

Furthermore, Ms. Sarah Ross will be teaming up with Ms. Grendel in a grade three classroom and will also be imparting her French expertise to our Upper grades. It's a pleasure to have her on board.

In a wonderful reunion, Ms. Lyla Rempel returns as our Speech and Language Pathologist, bringing her expertise back to our school. We're equally excited to welcome back Ms. Jennie Nichol, who rejoins us as an Educational Assistant.

Last but certainly not least, we have the pleasure of introducing Mr. MacLeod, our new principal, who will undoubtedly bring new perspectives and leadership to our school community. Welcome, everyone, to Upper Lynn! We're looking forward to an incredible year together.

School Calendar

Our online school calendar will be continually updated throughout the year. Please check our school calendar [here](https://bit.ly/3PaIQPR) (<https://bit.ly/3PaIQPR>) for regular updates. Also, see Upper Lynn's Year Calendar [here](https://bit.ly/3PaA1Va) (<https://bit.ly/3PaA1Va>) for holidays and professional development days. We will do our best to communicate changes through newsletters, the website (www.upperlynn.ca) and by email.

Future Early Dismissal Dates to Note

We have four early dismissal days for our Learning Conferences this year. Please mark your calendars for October 16, 17, 18 and March 12 where students will be dismissed at 2:00pm.

Welcome Back Parent Evening

Join us in meeting the teachers on Wednesday, September 20th. This event is open to parents of both Primary and Intermediate classes. There are two sessions available for parents to attend, and each session will offer the same information. The first session will run from 5:30 to 5:55, followed by the second session from 6:00 to 6:25. We look forward to your presence at this event and hope to see you all there!

Safe Arrival / Student Absences

Please make every effort to let the school know if your child is absent or will be late. This is important information for us to ensure all students are accounted for each day. For information on how to use our SafeArrival application, please see our school's website [here](https://bit.ly/3rm0B5j). (<https://bit.ly/3rm0B5j>)

Medical Alerts and Allergies

If your child has any medical conditions that may need to be addressed at school (allergies, etc.), please contact the office as soon as possible. We will send home the required paperwork. Please ensure required medication, such as an EpiPen, is brought directly to the office.

We are a peanut and nut aware school. Please be mindful of the policy in your child's classroom as we have several students and staff with life threatening allergies to peanuts/nuts.

Fresh Air and Outside Play

As with all North Vancouver Elementary Schools, Upper Lynn students go outside at recess and lunch every day. Research clearly supports that children need regular breaks outside for fresh air and exercise. Please remember to dress your child appropriately for the weather. It will be a very rare occasion to stay inside during breaks, so please make sure to help set your child up for success in their day with necessary rain and outdoor gear. We encourage all students to have an extra set of clothing at school, especially for Primary students. This will save a phone call home in the event of a puddle disaster.

Raising Digitally Responsible Youth

This Parent's Guide to Raising Digitally Responsible Youth (<https://bit.ly/44K0AX5>) will equip you with the knowledge about the most popular applications and trends and will give you a better understanding of your child's internet usage so you can relate to the digital world they live in.

ULPAC News

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- THU 7- TUE 12 SEP: ORANGE SHIRT ORDERING OPEN
munchalunch.com
- MON 18 SEP: PAC MEETING - LIBRARY 7-8PM
- TUE 19 SEP: PHOTO DAY
- THU 21 SEP: HOTLUNCH ORDERING OPEN
- FRI 22 SEP: TERRY FOX RUN (\$1/\$2)
- FRI 22 SEP: ULE MOVIE NIGHT 7.30PM
- WED 27 SEP: EARLY DISMISSAL 2PM
- FRI 29 SEP: ORANGE SHIRT DAY**

Reminders

Student and Family Affordability Fund

Through the Student and Family Affordability Fund (SFAF), the school district is supporting students and their families who are feeling financially challenged due to the rising costs of living.

To request financial support at any time throughout the 2023-2024 school year for expenses such as:

- School fees
- School/course supplies
- Clothing/footwear
- Basic Necessities
- Athletic wear (for school athletics)
- Family food security (groceries)
- PAC hot lunch
- One-day field trips

Please complete the form(s) available on the [Student and Family Affordability Fund](https://bit.ly/3TAg8re) (<https://bit.ly/3TAg8re>) web page and submit the form(s) in confidence to Mr. MacLeod.

Should you have any questions or need support completing the form(s), please reach out to Mr. MacLeod. A Frequently Asked Questions web page (<https://bit.ly/3yXswcQ>) is also available.

Have a great week!

Tim MacLeod
Principal

Lise Grendel
Vice-Principal