



February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019

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## Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I would like to thank all our parents for their patience and understanding during recent district snow days. It's great fun for the kids but finding last minute childcare can be a challenge. I would like to remind parents that when school is open, the ultimate decision as to whether or not your son or daughter attends school on a severe weather day is left up to you. If you decide to keep your child home on a day that the school is open but is experiencing severe weather, please just call the school as usual to let us know you are keeping your child home.

With the weather below zero now for most of our days, we expect students to be showing up to school with warm winter jackets at the very least. When there is snow on the ground students will need boots, gloves, toques and snow pants if they hope to play in the snow at recess and lunch. Cherry Hill Elementary has the policy of going outside every lunch and recess unless the weather poses a health and safety risk. These things include freezing rain, extreme wind and harsh rain downpours. During the winter, please prepare your son or daughter each day under the assumption that they will be playing outside for recess and lunch.

Finally, I'd like to welcome a new teacher to our school, Ashley Arndt, who will be the teacher for Division 10, starting February 19<sup>th</sup>.

Here are a few important dates coming up:

**Feb 15<sup>th</sup>** Pro D day, no school

**Feb 18<sup>th</sup>** Family Day, no school

**Feb 27<sup>th</sup>** Pink Shirt Day, 1pm Assembly

**March 9<sup>th</sup>**, PAC Event: parent painting night

**March 11<sup>th</sup>** Report Cards sent home

**March 12-14<sup>th</sup>** Parent-Teacher Conferences

**March 15<sup>th</sup>** Non-instructional Day, no school

**March 18<sup>th</sup>** First day of Spring Break, no school

**April 1<sup>st</sup>**, School Re-opens, first day back

Thanks,

Shane Sliziak, Principal

## Cross Boundary Renewals

Last week Cross Boundary Renewals were mailed home to our students attending Cherry Hill out-of-catchment. Parents have until March 29 to complete the form and return it to our office. Whether your preference is to have your son or daughter continue at Cherry Hill, or attend their catchment school, the renewal forms must be filled in and completed by the deadline. Although your preference cannot always be satisfied, getting the form completed on time is extremely helpful. If your son or daughter is attending Cherry Hill on a cross boundary but you did not receive a renewal letter, please contact our office ASAP. Thank you to those parents that have already completed and returned their forms.

## MPSD Intensive Core French Program (Grade 6)

Intensive Core French (ICF) is a second-language teaching approach in which students in Grade 6 receive 80% of instruction in French during the first half of the year, and 20% in the second half. This method increases their French skills significantly compared to the regular Core French. This program is for students who will be entering Grade 6 next September and is only offered at Windebank Elementary. Students continue in the ICF program at Heritage Park Middle School in Grades 7, 8, and 9. For more information about the ICF Program you can contact Mr. Adam Kruger, ICF Teacher at Windebank Elementary School.

(604.826.2213/adam.kruger@mpsd.ca). Registration opens Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.

*Please attend our ICF Parent Information Night on Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 in the Windebank Elementary School Library for more information.*

## Pink Shirt Day

This year Pink Shirt Day is on Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. Students and staff at Cherry Hill are encouraged to wear pink to school for the day, as a symbol of our unity against bullying. Last year our PAC sponsored the purchase of t-shirts for our students and staff. This year we are asking everyone to wear pink they already have, either shirts from last year or anything else pink. If your son or daughter does not have a pink shirt and you would like to purchase one specific to Pink Shirt Day,

London Drugs is currently selling them via the CKNW Kids Fund. Please keep in mind that any kind of pink shirt will do for the day. At 1pm we will have an assembly in the gym, with Div. 2 and 3 presentations on our WITS anti-bullying program. Parents are encouraged to attend.

**Formal Report Cards & Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Our next round of formal reporting is set for March 11<sup>th</sup>. Report Cards will be sent home with your son or daughter at the end of the day. Please take the time to review the report card in the presence of your son or daughter. Parent-teacher conferences will follow, running between March 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. These are done after school and into the evening. Scheduling of conferences is left up to classroom teachers so please keep an eye out for messaging from your son or daughter’s teacher outlining conference times and sign-up procedures. Also, if you haven’t done so yet, please sign and return report cards envelopes from last reporting period.

**‘The Elders are Watching’ Schoolwide Art Project**

We are very happy to report that our schoolwide art project is going very well. Ms. O’Soup and Ms. Abbott have been busy in our intermediate classrooms facilitating canvass painting. Division 1, 2 and 3 have completed their paintings and Divisions 4, 5 and 6 are about half way through. We have some amazing artists in our building! Our community art show for the project will be on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Information about the event will be sent out to families to give plenty of time to prepare for it. This is an event parents will not want to miss!

**Cherry Hill’s New Tower Garden**

We are happy to announce that Cherry Hill will have an indoor tower garden very soon. Thanks to our PAC for funding, and our Healthy School Committee for the great idea, we will have fresh veggies growing in our school all year round. The tower garden should be arriving in the next week. Division 3 will get first crack at setting up the garden, but we intend on having all classrooms involved in one way or another. The produce from the garden will be used for cooking classes and will also be made available to our families for use at home. Keep an eye out for the garden in the next few weeks to come!

**Great Things at Cherry Hill Elementary**



Division 1 students working on button blankets at our Aboriginal Cultural Day.



Yoga at The Beach with Ms. Abbott and our ISP program.



Division 2 students working on their ‘The Elders are Watching’ art.