



October 8th, 2019

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Dear Parents/Guardians;

As we say in ‘education talk’, the honeymoon period is now officially over. Having said that though, I am so proud of all our students as they have had quite an amazing transition back into school life. Routines are well established and the real work has begun! While my hat goes off to all our talented and hard-working staff, I must also acknowledge the hard work that is going on at home. I have been very impressed with the amount of parent engagement at Cherry Hill, whether it be our family reading mornings, month end assembly, Welcome Back BBQ or Terry Fox Run. The level of parent involvement has really improved over previous years. Educational research consistently indicates that the stronger the relationship between home and school, the greater the achievement for our young learners. *With this in mind, I would like to call attention to our Parent Teacher Interview Evening coming up very quickly (evening of October 16th).* I encourage parents to take advantage of this opportunity to learn about how your son or daughter is doing so far this year. Please see the separate section of this newsletter for more details about the event.

We have a few important dates coming up:

- Oct 7th** Art Club begins, 2:23 library
- Oct 9th** Coding Club begins, 2:23 library
- Oct 10th** Homework Club (lunch) & Lego Club (2:23) begin
- Oct 14th** Thanksgiving, no school
- Oct 15th-18th** Book Fair
- Oct 16th** Parent Teacher Interview, 2:30-7:30
- Oct 23rd** Books for Bedtime, 6pm-7pm
- Oct 25th** Pro D Day, no school
- Oct 29th** Art Start (How Raven Stole the Sun), 1pm in gym
- Oct 31st** Halloween Celeb. & Month End Assembly (10:30am)
- Nov 7th** Remembrance Day Assembly (time TBD)
- Nov 11** Remembrance Day, no school

Cherry Hill Book Fair

Our librarian, Ms. Huffer, has been busy planning our upcoming Book Fair. We will be hosting our annual fall Scholastic Book Fair from Tuesday, October 15 to Friday, October 18. The fair will be open at lunch time daily from 12:05pm to 12:30pm and again after school from 2:25pm to 3:15pm. *The book fair will have extended hours on Wednesday, October 16 for parent teacher conferences and will be open from 2:25pm to 7:00pm.* Cash or debit card are accepted. We are also still looking for volunteers to help out if you can. Thank you to those volunteers that have already put their hands up!

Parent Teacher Interviews: October 16th, 2:30-7:30

A reminder that this year at Cherry Hill we will be piloting a new format to our Parent Teacher Interviews. Our interview time for the entire school is October 16th, from 2:30-7:30pm. Please keep a look out for messaging from your son or daughter’s teacher as to how to sign up. We are having our interviews earlier than many schools in the district because we feel this will give parents feedback about student progress with ample time before our first formal reporting in December. This will allow students (and families) to make appropriate changes to improve success before their first report cards. If you are unable to make parent-teacher conferences for any reason, I encourage you to contact your son or daughter’s teacher to come up with an alternative day/way to discuss this year’s progress. If you have any questions or are unsure how to sign up for a conference time, please contact the classroom teacher or office.

Improving Reading Engagement

DEAR/Flashlight Fridays & Home Reading

This year at Cherry Hill one of our schoolwide goals is to improve literacy engagement for our students. As part of this plan, two new endeavours are being rolled out in October: a schoolwide Home Reading Program and DEAR/Flashlight Fridays. For the Home Reading Program, each classroom will encourage students to read at home each night and track it on a log sheet (each classroom has their own logging procedures). As students complete reading at home, cherry cut-outs will be awarded to students as a way track engagement and learn a little about each book being read here. The cherry cut-outs will be posted around the school as a way to show off how much reading is happening at Cherry Hill and tell a bit about each book. A Home Reading Program bulletin board is set up near the gym for our community to learn more about this program. DEAR stands for ‘drop everything and read’ and will occur every Friday from 8:35-8:50. All people in the building will be asked to stop what they are doing, and join in on some schoolwide reading. Students who do a great job reading will have the privilege of joining up in our gym for flashlight reading in the dark (Flashlight Fridays!). We encourage parents to support their children in both the Home Reading Program and DEAR. Parents are also welcome to join their children on Flashlight Fridays for some spooky reading in the dark!

Books For Bedtime School Event

Books for Bed Time is quickly approaching. The event will be held on October 23rd, from 6-7 pm in our school gym. Pre-school to Grade 2 children and their parents are invited to attend (parents must stay at the event with their children). We

will have many activities this year including crafts, stories, and educational games. Children are strongly encouraged to wear Halloween costumes! Each child that attends will receive a gift bag to take home!

Healthy Schools Moment: LIVE 5-2-1-0

LIVE 5-2-1-0 is an initiative from BC Children’s Hospital that promotes healthy behaviours among children. It’s a simple, easy to remember message to help kids and families adopt healthy habits. The 5 stands for five servings of fruits and vegetables per day. The 2 stands for no more than two hours of screen time a day. The 1 stands for at least 1 hour of active outdoor play, and the 0 stands for no sugary. Following these four guidelines everyday will improve both physical and mental health in our young learners. Please see click on the link below for a video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9K0LSgGjwY>

Together we can help kids Live 5-2-1-0 every day!

Change in Late Arrival Policy

Another reminder that we are implementing a new late arrival policy this year. If a child arrives at school late (and their designated entrance is closed and locked) they are to enter the front entrance of the school but report directly to their classroom if it is between 8:30-8:45. If a child arrives after 8:45 they will need to report to the office for a late slip before going to class.

School Cash Online

Cherry Hill School uses School Cash Online for all school purchases. Such purchases can include field trip fees, planners, supplies, etc. **We do not accept cash payments for school purchases.** Please visit our school website (www.cherryhill.mpsd.ca) to register your son or daughter. It is very important to enter registration information (student name, birth date, email, etc.) in the exact same way it was reported on our school registration form. For technical assistance, please visit Marion Bok, our school secretary. (please note, our PAC events and fundraisers still take cash).

Parking Lot Reminder

Please drive very slowly in the parking lot and avoid stopping in the **No Parking** zones where you block in other drivers. Whenever possible, please meet your child down one of the walkways to Best or Kudo. Please do not block driveways. Do not park or stop in the designated bus stop zone. Please remember, your convenience cannot come at the price of a student’s safety. Thank you for understanding.

Star Fish Backpack Program

The Star Fish Backpack Program is a Rotary sponsored program that aims to provide food for families on weekends. Children in the program receive a backpack of food on Fridays and are asked to return the empty backpack on Mondays. If you, or anyone you know could benefit from this program please contact the principal of Cherry Hill. We currently have open spaces in the program. If you would like to donate to the program, please visit <https://starfishpack.com/> for more information.

Great Things At Cherry Hill



Grade 1 students wearing orange on Orange Shirt Day to show that Every Child Matters.



Cherry Hill’s Green Team for 2019-20.



Buddy classes working hard to clean school litter!