



October 20th, 2020

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Fall weather is in full swing now and is considerably different than it was 6 weeks ago when school started. We typically go outside for breaks, rain or shine, so please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the possibility of rain (boots, a water-proof jacket with a hood, umbrella for example). With that said, we do stay inside if there is torrential rain and/or thunder/lightening.

It was great seeing so many parents at our October virtual assembly. In addition to honouring our students of the month (Respect), we also unveiled our school values: Respect, Belonging, Wellness, Courage and Growth. We've changed our 'Gotcha Tickets' to reflect our school values. Gotcha Ticket draws have resumed on Friday afternoons so if you see that your child has come home with a new book that means they did something great here at Cherry Hill!

We have a few important dates coming up:

Oct 23rd Pro D, no school

Oct 26th PAC Meeting, 6:30 pm

Oct 30th Halloween School Festivities

Nov 3-5 Parent-Teacher Conferences

Nov 3-13 Virtual Book Fair

Nov 10th Remembrance Day Virtual Assembly (10:50am)

Nov 11th Stat Holiday, No School

Nov 20th Early Dismissal (Schedule A 11:00am/Schedule B 11:15am)

Dec 4th Not in Session, No school

Parent Teacher Conferences: November 3rd-5th

As we indicated in previous school communication, Parent-Teacher Conferences will run this fall between November 3rd and 5th (2:30-7:30 each night). Like last year, we are offering them earlier than other elementary schools in Mission as we feel a 'mid-term' conference is more valuable to families to communicate achievement and growth areas before December report cards (as opposed to after). Due to Covid-19 safety precautions, we cannot offer conferences on the same night for all classrooms. Instead, we will be spreading them out over three nights with 2 Learning Groups offering conferences each night. Divisions 5, 6 (Learning Group 3) and Divisions 11, 12, 13 (Learning Group 6) will offer conferences on November 3rd. Divisions 5, 6 (Learning Group 2) and Divisions 9, 10 (Learning Group 5) will offer conferences on November 4th. Divisions 1, 2 (Learning Group 1) and Divisions 7, 8 (Learning Group 4) will offer conferences on November 5th. Teachers are busy this week sending information out to

parents about these conferences (many of you may have already received emails or letters from your classroom teacher). We do have some Covid-19 health and safety precautions this year which include the following:

- parents **must** sign-up for conferences in advance (instructions on how to do so will be communicated to families by classroom teachers this week)
- drop-ins will not be allowed
- teachers will not be offering 'open-house' style conferences
- attending adults must complete a health check upon arrival
- masks for adults are greatly appreciated
- physical distancing and hand hygiene protocols will be in place
- virtual Zoom meetings will also be offered in place of face-to-face meetings upon request by the parent or teacher

Please keep a look out for messaging from your son or daughter's teacher this week with directions on how to sign up. If you are unable to make parent-teacher conferences for any reason, we 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 directly.

Cherry Hill Book Fair

Our librarian, Ms. Huffer, will be sending details out soon about our Virtual Book Fair this year. It will run between November 3rd and 13th. Parents will have online access to order books and other merchandise. The main difference is that we will not have a physical book fair set up in our library as we have in the past. Please keep a look out for upcoming information from Ms. Huffer in the near future.

Halloween Festivities

This year Cherry Hill Halloween festivities will be held on Friday, October 30th. Children are encouraged to dress up in costume. The only thing we ask is that any play weapons and full-face masks (sounds a little ironic saying that this year) stay at home. These items can be extremely distracting in the classroom. Like past years, we will have a jack-o-lantern contest on the 30th. Families will be invited to bring carved pumpkins to the main entrance of the school for display and judging. Prizes will be offered for various categories. Details around this contest will be emailed out early next week. In the afternoon we will do a virtual costume parade. Parents will be emailed a Zoom link next week should they wish to attend. The virtual parade will start at 1:30pm. Several classrooms will likely have small Halloween parties. Parents, please keep in mind that if you wish to contribute a party snack, it needs to

be individually pre-packaged by the manufacturer (ie, wagon wheels or something like that).

Terry Fox Fundraising

We are happy to announce that we fundraised over \$600 for the Terry Fox Foundation. Division 2 raised the most ‘Toonies for Terry’ and is the lucky classroom that gets to dress Mr. Sliziak up for the day on October 21st. A picture of Mr. Sliziak will be Tweeted and emailed out for your viewing pleasure. Thank you parents for your contributions to this.

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.

Remembrance Day Assembly

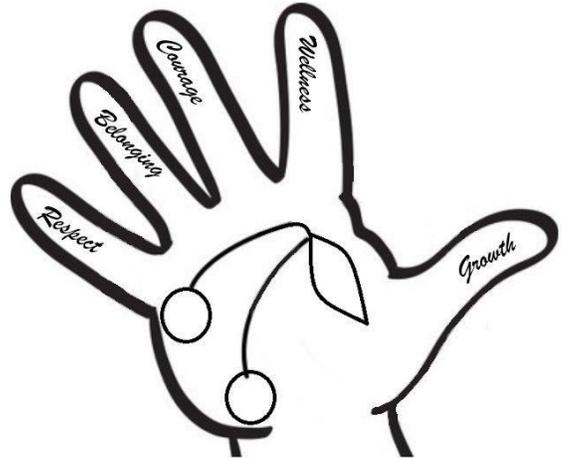
Our virtual Remembrance Day Assembly will be held on November 10th, starting at 10:50am. This year’s assembly will look much different given our virtual format. However, we are happy to announce that Ms. Midzain’s music program will have a couple of music performances to honour our past and present veterans. A Zoom link will be emailed out to our parent community in early November.

Staying Home When Sick

We would like to thank parents for their vigilance in monitoring our students’ health each morning and keeping them home when sick. Mr. Sliziak emailed parents the updated health assessment in September. Please review this document if you haven’t had a chance yet. It does a really good job outlining province-wide procedures if your child is sick. Staff also complete a health assessment each morning and are required to stay home when sick (and seek medical advice if appropriate). Staying home when sick is an extremely important Covid-19 protective factor and we need to remain vigilant with this as the year progresses. Please reach out to Mr. Sliziak should you have any questions regarding our province-wide policy around this.

PAC Meeting

Cherry Hill’s PAC will have a general meeting on October 26th at 6:30 pm. Our general parent community is encouraged to attend as it’s a great way to contribute to our school community. Meetings this year will be conducted remotely via Zoom. A link will be made available to our parent community through the PAC facebook page and a future email closer to the date.



After consultation with our staff, students and parents, Cherry Hill’s five core values were identified.



Our Kindergarten Learning Group warming up for their first Terry Fox School Run.



Jaxson Linn making a personal donation towards our new iPad lab at Cherry Hill.