



October 2019

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It's hard for me to believe that one whole month of school has passed already and we are now a week into the month of October, but I guess it must be true that when you're having fun, time flies! Fall is my favourite season with the cooler days, beautifully coloured leaves, and of course, PSL beverages. September was a busy month with getting to know our new classroom communities, the Family BBQ where I got to meet many of you and enjoy a hotdog, we smiled pretty on photo day, our Terry Fox week walk at the Vedder River and collection of \$800 in support of the Terry Fox Foundation, and we finished the month with an Orange Shirt day walk in the sunshine where we showed support for residential school survivors and learned a little more about why we wear the orange shirt. Our PAC members worked to: fundraise through the sale of coupon books, arrange the hot lunch day, and support us with funds to pay for the bussing when we all went to the river. It is heartwarming to see our school community working and learning together and I know there will be many more opportunities to continue doing so in the months ahead!

Mrs. Kasper

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 10th – Tyson Ninja Warriors Final Contest

October 11th – 14th – Gym used as an Advanced Polling location

October 17th – Hot Lunch Day

October 21st – PAC meeting at 6:00 pm in the library

October 23rd – Parent/Teacher/Student conferences (times TBD by teachers)

October 24th – Early dismissal at 11:13

October 25th – Provincial Professional Day (no school for students)

October 31st – Halloween costume parade at 1:00

November 1st – Chilliwack Professional Day (no school for students)



PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We appreciate the support of parents, grandparents, and other guests who are able to come and volunteer at our school. There are so many jobs that volunteers can be used for in the school day and we welcome this help from those able to provide it. The only requirement in order to be a volunteer is to have a completed Criminal Record Search Form on file at the office; these checks are good for four years so if you are wondering if yours is still current you are welcome to contact Mrs. Libby and she will be able to let you know. If you've never done one or need to update yours, forms are available at the office and you just need to take it to the RCMP detachment and drop it off. There is no cost to you for this if you are a volunteer!

HALLOWEEN



Students at our school are welcome to come to school on Halloween day dressed in their costume, with just a few requests on our part in order to keep things fun:

- No weapons.
- No blood, guts or gore.
- No masks covering the face.
- Nothing that is likely to be scary to little children.
- Nothing loose or sticking out that creates problems in the classroom (child must be able to sit).

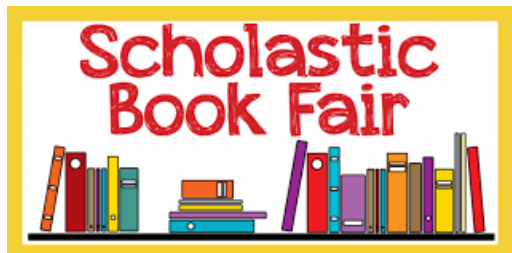
We will be having a costume parade in the afternoon so each child who dresses up will get a chance to show their costume to others as they circle around the gym. The great news this year is that Friday, November 1st is a non-instructional day so kids can stay up a little later if they're going trick-or-treating and then be able to sleep in the next day!

PARKING LOT

We are fortunate in that we have a few options for parking at our school – in the main lot or on Selkirk to the side of the school. We have adult supervision out front before and after school but need your help in making sure these areas are safe. The staff parking lot is only for staff vehicles, not a spot for idling or waiting for your child to come out; one of our teachers saw a dangerous situation the other day when a driver was trying to turn around in that little spot and a child came running across to get into another vehicle, almost getting hit by the car backing up. We would love to encourage walking, biking, or car pooling in order to cut down on the number of vehicles using the lot, but know that not everyone is able to make that work. All we ask is that you only park in designated spots, don't idle your vehicle (in order to protect the lungs of our young students), drive slowly in the parking lot if you are driving through, and use good judgement in order to keep our students safe. If you are parking along Selkirk we ask that you are respectful to our neighbours living along the street and don't park in front of their driveways.

LIBRARY NEWS

This month we will be having our first Scholastic Book Fair and we would love to see you come out, buy some books to enjoy with your child at home, and support our school at the same time! The Fair will be open to students and parents on October 22nd, 23rd, and 24th from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm each day so we hope to see you there.



EMERGENCY DRILLS

Throughout the year we practice a variety of drills in order to ensure our students and staff know what the procedures are if we found ourselves in an emergency situation during the school day. The following are some of the drills we do in order to be prepared:

- Fire drill – when the bell goes, all students and staff vacate the building in an orderly manner as quickly as possible and meet on the back field.

- Earthquake drill – an announcement is made and students find cover under their desks or tables. After the ‘shaking’ has stopped we count to sixty and then students go outside in the same manner as they would a fire drill.
- Lockdown – this procedure would be used if there was an intruder inside the building and we felt it was safer to remain in classrooms than to vacate the building. Classroom doors would be locked, lights turned off, and students and staff would then move to a designated space in the room and remain silent until it was safe to come out.
- Hold and Secure – in this situation there may be a threat outside of the building and it is felt that it is safer for students and staff to remain in the building. In this situation the exterior doors would be locked and no one would be permitted to leave the building until it was deemed safe to do so.
- Shelter in Place – in this situation there could be an environmental or weather-related event, or a dangerous animal sighting near the school. Staff and students would stay inside the building until advised that it was safe to leave by the proper authorities.

PAC

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

We appreciate all the work that is done for the benefit of our school by this hardworking group! There are lots of ways you can get involved with PAC initiatives and we love to see lots of parents at the monthly meetings as your voice is important. These meetings start at 6:00 pm and are held in the library, usually on the third Monday of the month. The next meeting is Monday, October 21st.

There is a very informative board outside the office, as well as PAC meeting minutes which can be found on the Tyson Elementary website under the Parent Information tab not long after each meeting takes place. Hopefully you received the green PAC Newsletter which was sent home last week and had a chance to read it. If you are able to help with any of the volunteer opportunities and would like to send it back to the school, we would welcome your help and you will be contacted by one of the executive members below depending on what you signed up for!

Executive Positions:

- **CHAIR:** Nicole Evans
- **VICE-CHAIR:** Stacey Wiebe
- **TREASURER:** Amy Matheson
- **SECRETARY:** Karen Layte
- **DISTRICT PAC REPRESENTATIVE:** Karen Layte
- **FUNDRAISING CHAIR:** Deirdre O'Connor



COLD AND FLU SEASON

As the weather changes we know that more students will come down with colds and flu symptoms in the months ahead. We ask that if your child is not feeling well and could possibly spread their illness to other children or staff, that you keep them home until they are feeling better. Children who have a temperature, have thrown up in the morning before school, are coughing continuously, or cannot stop their nose from running are better off at home where they can rest and recover. If your child is staying home we ask that you contact Mrs. Libby at the office to let her know he/she will be away and then we will hope to see them back soon when they are feeling better.