

Stave Falls Elementary Newsletter



October 18, 2021

Principal: Tricia Alderson | Tel: 604-462-9982 | www.stavefalls.mpsd.ca

What a great start to the school year! As we move into October, students have settled in, routines have been established and the school has an excited tone of learning throughout the building. Our new kindergarten students are excited to be here and are already immersed in their learning. October 6th was picture day and for Stave Falls students. Interim reports went home this week. Next week, on October 21st, Stave Falls will be participating in the BC Shake-Out Earthquake Drill with schools and businesses from around the province. October 22nd is a provincial professional day and teachers from Stave Falls will be participating in numerous workshops and seminars that are being held in various locations throughout the province. Of course, the last day of school in October will see the Halloween Dress Up Day.

In extra-curricular activities Cross-Country running finished last week. We had our meets on October 7th and 14th. Although we had a small group of students running, they did a great job and I enjoyed encouraging them and cheering them on as their staff sponsor. Basketball has already started. Thank you to Mr. Milat and Ms. McGregor for coaching and being the staff sponsors. As usual, we have several activities planned over the school year, so please make sure you read through the remainder of the newsletter and check the last page for a complete listing of upcoming events that cover the next couple months as well as information from our PAC.

Sincerely,

Tricia Alderson
Principal

Bus Students



Just a reminder to phone the school to let us know if your child will not be on the bus on a specific day so we can let the bus driver know. If you chose to pick your child up instead of them riding the bus, please let the bus driver know as well. You can also call the transportation department to let them know at 604-826-2377.

Student Supervision

Just a reminder that outdoor supervision begins at 7:45am, once the bus students arrive in the mornings and ends at 2:15pm after school.

Student Photos

The school photographer was at our school to take individual photos on October 6th. Retakes will be on November 4th.



Interim Reports

Interim reports will be sent home this week by your child's classroom teacher. As we are halfway through the term, these reports are designed to give you an insight as to the areas your child is doing well in and areas that could use additional support. As always, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher should you require any additional information or clarification.

Daily Health Check Reminder

This is a reminder for all parents to conduct a daily health check for their child(ren) using the Government of BC K-12 Daily Health Check on either the app on your phone or on the website. Once completed please follow the recommendation given by the Government Health Check.

Also, we are encouraging everyone to use the BC Self-Assessment Tool which is online to determine when you should come back to school if you've been sick or had to stay home.

K-12 Daily Health Check: on the top of our school website

BC Self-Assessment Tool: <https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en>

Healthy School

At Stave Falls Elementary we continue to incorporate best practices for our students. To this end we are encouraging the whole school community to focus on healthy food choices. Keeping in mind that we will have students with diabetes, life-threatening peanut & nut allergies, and lactose and gluten intolerances, we are enforcing the message that students are only to eat food provided to them by their own parents. As such:

- Please choose healthy snacks and treats for your children when packing lunches and remind them not to share their food
- Please refrain from sending products with peanuts to school
- Please do not send any treats to class when it's your child's birthday as we have multiple allergies and sensitivities in several classrooms
- At this time due to COVID guidelines and regulations, outside food is not allowed to be sent to school for the class

Visitors

If you are needing to meet with a teacher or other staff member please make an appointment by calling or emailing the school.

Professional Development Days

Friday, October 22nd is a personal professional development day. Our staff will be participating in individual activities that will continue to increase their repertoire around best practices for teaching your children.

November 1st is a Non-Instructional Day and there will be no school for students.

Halloween For Hunger

Making a difference in our community is important to the staff and students at Stave Falls and so, we will be asking for non-perishable food items or money that will go directly to the Mission Food Bank. Our drive will begin on Monday, October 18th and conclude on Wednesday, October 27th.

Halloween

On October 29th students are invited to dress in their Halloween costume.

Some school rules surrounding costumes:

- No head coverings unless it is part of the costume, NO scary masks.
- Costumes that depict violence, alcohol, or drugs are not permitted. Toy weapons are not allowed.
- Costumes that could be offensive or perpetuate a stereotype of someone's culture, gender, heritage, or religion are not permitted.
- Costumes should not hinder your ability to participate in your class.
- It is best if accessories are left at home (such witches' broomsticks or sorcerer wands) as these items are easily misplaced.



Talking points for parents to assist in this teachable moment:

- This is a school and what may be appropriate in pop culture or the media may not be appropriate for a place of learning.
- We are a community, and we want students to think about how their costume may impact others within this community (Daycare-grade 6 students, teachers, and staff).

Teachers will have their own individual Halloween activities within their own classrooms. We ask that you do not send Halloween treats with your child to school to distribute.

Also, in keeping with the Healthy Schools initiatives, please do not allow your child to bring more than two treats to school/day after Halloween. It is very difficult to keep education “the focus” when a student has a bag full of sweets.

Library Book Exchange

Please support your children in remembering to return their books to the school library weekly. Students have library book exchange every Wednesday. Students in Divisions 2-5 will get a happy face sticker to add to their library card each Wednesday they have no overdue books AND have new books signed out. With each ten stickers accumulated, students will get a prize.

If students forget their books on Wednesday, students can return their books to school on Thursday or Friday. If so, they can get books out on Friday or what we are calling "Second Chance Friday". Happy reading!

Lunch Supervision Assistant Job Opportunity

We still have one opening for a lunch hour Supervision Assistant. The pay is approximately \$20/hr. If you are available, we would really appreciate you applying for this position. Your role would be to supervise students while they are outside during this time.

Monday-Friday 11:35am-12:35pm

If you are interested, please send your resume to hrrsupportstaff@mpsd.ca and reference Stave Falls Elementary in your email. Thank you!

PAC Corner

Just a reminder that the next PAC meeting is on Wednesday, October 27 at 7pm via zoom.

Everyone is welcome; you are not required to be an elected member of council.

Please use the link below and if you have any issues connecting into the meeting, please email stavefallspac@gmail.com.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93603147248?pwd=dEE5SEVVCVINXYlo0OENvaktPRll3UT09>

We look forward to seeing you!

Dates to Remember

October 21	Provincial Shake out drill
October 22	Pro D Day – no school for students
October 29	Halloween Dress Up Day *please see note in main newsletter regarding costumes and treats*
November 1	Non-Instructional Day – no school for students
November 4	Photo Retake Day
November 11	Remembrance Day holiday – no school
November 12	Non-Instructional Half Day – students dismissed at 10:45am
November 22	Report Cards home
TBD	Parent Teacher Conferences (2:30-7:30pm) – virtual
November 26	Non-Instructional Day - no school for students
December 17	Last day for students
January 4	First day back from Christmas Break