

# Stave Falls Elementary Newsletter



STAVE FALLS  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
Forest & Nature Program



**September 17, 2021**

Principal: Tricia Alderson | Tel: 604-462-9982 | <https://stavefalls.mpsd.ca>

Dear Stave Falls Families,

I would like to thank Stave Fall's parent community for their warm welcome over the past couple of weeks. The staff and parent community have clearly put a lot of energy and effort into the startup and the forest/nature aspect of the school. The result of this success has been the laying of a foundation and creation of a thriving school community that provides multiple opportunities for staff and parents to work together in a positive environment that ensures numerous learning opportunities for your child(ren). Following opening day, students were back pursuing their connections with each other and the outdoors. The week ended with an assembly that reviewed what sets Stave Falls apart from other elementary schools, as well as the introduction of new staff members.

The next couple of weeks will be very busy with the Terry Fox Run on Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> and recognizing Orange Shirt Day the week of September 27<sup>th</sup>.

This year we welcome a few new staff members. We welcome back Ms. Diana Wright after being away on maternity leave. Joining us to teach our grade 5/6 is Ms. Angela McGregor. Mr. Fabien Milat as our Inclusive and Learning Support Teacher, Ms. Ann Titford as our librarian and Ms. Erika Mellis as an Educational Assistant.

Stave Falls is a wonderful place to work and great place for learning. I look forward to getting to know as many of you as I can over the next while. Please don't hesitate to introduce yourself when you see me out supervising in the morning or after school; and as always, you are welcome to call the office if you ever have any questions or concerns.

Tricia Alderson  
Principal

## Nut Safe School

**Snacks, lunches, or treats brought to school must be free of peanuts and/or tree nuts. Food that may not be nut free is not to be shared in classrooms.**

We have students with severe nut allergies. We need to be vigilant in our endeavor to provide a peanut and tree nut safe environment for students in our classrooms and in our school.



While healthy snacks are encouraged, it appears that parents often choose to send “treats” to school at various times through the year, including Halloween, Christmas, Valentines, birthdays, Easter etc. Parents need to check with the teacher before bringing goodies to class and if teachers approve of snacks, then they need to ensure that all treats are:

- sent in a **wrapped package** with **NUT FREE** marked on the package and the ingredients clearly listed.

Please, **no home baked goodies**, especially in those classrooms where there are children with allergies. Even if baking is done without nuts, there is no way to ensure that the kitchen environment was “nut free”. Children who are anaphylactic (severely allergic) cannot be put at such risk.

## Student Verification Forms



Student verification forms have been sent home with your child. It has your child’s demographic and contact information on it. Please check this information carefully and be sure it is correct and up to date. Make any changes right on the sheet and send it back to us so we can update our records. We really need to have this information accurate in case there are any emergencies that happen while your child is at school.

## Permission Forms

Several permission forms and a consent form were sent home over the past week. Please ensure that these are completed and returned to the school as soon as possible.

## Bus Students



Please remember 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.

### Dogs on School Property



Parents are reminded that School District Policy prohibits dogs from being on school grounds at any time. (Even well-behaved, leashed & muzzled dogs!) This policy is in place for health and safety reasons. Some children are allergic to dogs – others are dog-phobic. And even the best-behaved dog can panic when surrounded by dozens of enthusiastic children. **Please inform others that are picking up your child from school of this district policy.** Your cooperation and citizenship are greatly appreciated – thank you!

### School Cash Online – Reminder

For those parents who have signed up, thank you so much. School Cash Online is the payment method that the District has implemented in all schools for all monetary transactions involving your child and the school. Once set up, so long as your child remains a student in Mission, you will never have re-register them again. If you have difficulty in registering your child, please contact the school.

### Planner Reminder



All students from Grade 1 to Grade 6 are required to purchase a planner from the school in September at a cost of \$6.00. Planners will be used for daily communication between teachers and families, a place to record homework as well as reminders. If you have not paid for your planner, please pay on School Cash Online.

### Terry Fox Run



Once again Stave Falls Elementary students will be participating in the Terry Fox Run. This year we will be running on Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. One of our goals with respect to the Terry Fox Run is to build awareness in our children as to the history and national pride associated with Terry Fox and this national event. Of course, this event is also a fundraiser for the Canadian Cancer Society. To date, students across Canada have raised millions of dollars for cancer research. If you wish to donate money to this cause, please use the link below or the one on our website for donations. All donations go to the Terry Fox Foundation and we will report the total amount to you in a future newsletter.

Stave Falls Elementary Fundraising Link: <http://www.terryfox.ca/StaveFallsElementary>

## Professional Development Day



On Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, there will be no school for students as staff will be having a professional development day to collaborate on our school goals and continue to look at ways to continue to support our students with their Social Emotional Learning.

## Orange Shirt Day



**Orange Shirt Day** is held every year on September 30<sup>th</sup> to honour the healing journey of residential school survivors and bring awareness to the need for reconciliation. **Schools will be closed to recognize this National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.** As a school we will be wearing orange shirts all week in the spirit of healing and reconciliation, and to show that every child matters.

## Individual Student Photos



Student photos will be taken on Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.  
Photo retakes will be on Thursday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Parking (Student Drop Off and Pick Up)

This is a reminder to avoid using the bus loop or parking in the staff parking spots. We would ask that you avoid using the front loop at the front entrance to drop off your child(ren) as we do our best to keep our students safe who are walking across the crosswalk to get to the school. The front loop is for district vehicles when they are coming to work at our school.

## NEEDED: Supervision Assistants and Volunteer Coaches

### Supervision Assistant Job Opportunities

We have two openings for Supervision Assistants. The pay is approximately \$20/hr. If you are available, we would really appreciate you applying for one or both positions. Your role would be to supervise students while they are outside during these times.

Position 1 - Monday-Friday 7:40-8:10am

Position 2 – Monday-Friday 11:35am-12:35pm

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

## Owl Library Club

Owl Library Club met for the first time this year at lunch on Friday. Students who joined this club are, Heath Watson, Ayla Weibe, Sophie Hale-Dussault, Rhys Leverentz, Soleil Fougere, Adrian Weibe, Dayvi Strell, Claire Campbell, Olivia Hollingsworth, and Cole Lowther. Together, these students will help keep the library in tip-top shape and support the Stave Falls Owls Learning Community. We appreciate their volunteer service and look forward to a great year!

## PAC Corner

Stave Falls Elementary PAC would like to welcome all the new and existing parents/guardians to the 2021-22 school year. Our PAC was formed when the school opened in 2019. Since then, we have worked hard to establish a constitution and sub committees to bring *more* to all the students; this includes creating the hot lunch program, introducing the Wall of Wonder in the foyer, administering the Fruit and Veggie program, and fundraising. With fundraised money during the 2020-21 school year, PAC paid for all field trip school bus fees to ensure there was no cost to parents/guardians, we funded Mrs. Angotti's greenhouse project (items that could not be recycled), gave each teacher spending money to use for their classroom and students as needed, purchased a new piece of playground equipment, and more. PAC will continue our fundraising efforts as our school grows.

We hope to see you at our **AGM on September 29 @ 6:30pm**. It will be hosted **virtually**; a link will be sent out to all parents/guardians with the Agenda. If you do want to become an executive member of PAC, please email [stavefallspac@gmail.com](mailto:stavefallspac@gmail.com) and someone from PAC will be in touch with you. Important Note: You do not have to be an executive member of PAC to join the meeting and be involved in our committees – all are welcome!

## Mark Your Calendar – Upcoming Dates

September 23	Terry Fox Fun
September 24	Pro D Day – no school for students
September 27-Oct. 1	Orange Shirt Day – students are encouraged to wear an orange shirt all week
September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – no school for students
October 6	Individual student photo day
October 11	Thanksgiving Holiday – no school
October 21	Provincial Shake out drill
October 22	Pro D Day – no school for students
October 29	Halloween Dress Up Day