



Principal: L. Pitt ~ Head Teacher: G. Hunter ~ Secretary: B. Walters

Safe Welcome Responsible Learners

BULLETIN #2

October 1, 2020

Dates to Remember ...

Friday, October 2

Student Photos

Wednesday, October 7

School Meals envelopes due by 9:00 am

(Meal Program runs from Oct. 19 – Nov. 13th)

PAC Meeting @ 6:00 pm

Monday, October 12

Thanksgiving Day – school closed

Thursday, October 15

Great Shake Out Earthquake Drill

October 19 – 21

VanGo workshops for primary students

Friday, October 23

Common Professional Development Day – school closed

(See our website at morley.burnabyschools.bc.ca for the full year's schedule)



Re-Learning How to Do “Traditional” Events

I would like to take this moment to thank all of our students, families and staff for their patience and flexibility as we learn how to operate our school in a pandemic. We have continued to try and do some beginning year events, but it takes more time, thought, and planning. To begin, we had “virtual” Parents as Partners video conferences between families and teachers. While we would have much preferred to open our doors to our community and have our PAC Barbeque, we have to now follow Health and Safety protocols. We tried to make the

access to these meetings as easy as possible. If you were unable to connect with the classroom teacher, please call the school office at 604 296 9024 to set up a time to talk.

Our Terry Fox Run became a Terry Fox marathon where each Learning Group had a 30-minute time slot to run around the lower gravel field. In the classroom they may have watched a video about Terry Fox and/or participated in warm-up and cool down routines.

Our Orange Shirt Day recognition assembly was a virtual assembly. All classrooms tuned into our Morley Teams website and Mr. Kenney hosted a virtual assembly that had important information about residential school history and how Canada and the globe are moving towards reconciliation. I read a book titled, *Phyllis's Orange Shirt* which describes the significance of the orange shirt and Phyllis Webstad's experience in residential school. Mr. Hunter outlined how Morley school and staff are committed to continuing their learning about reconciliation and to continue to include in our practice Indigenous resources and knowledge for our students and community. We also had a wonderful presentation from

Divisions 1 & 2 discussing the Rights of the Child and their thoughts and contributions to this charter.

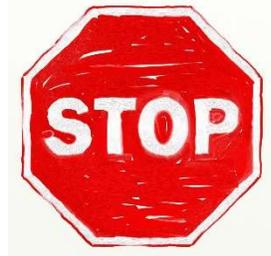
It is amazing to me that we are already in October. We have an amazing community who are committed to trying our very best to make school a fun place to learn, but also a place where we feel safe and healthy. We appreciate all of you and how you are helping us have a successful start to the school year!

Photo Day – Friday, October 2

All students will be having their photos taken on Friday, October 2nd.

A few reminders: Please do not wear green clothes as a greenscreen background technology is used to allow you to choose from different backgrounds. Dark colours tend to photograph best, especially if your child is fair. Avoid large busy patterns that draw attention away from your child's face.

All proofs will be sent to parents via email. You will then be able to order and pay online.



Parking

We are asking parents and guardians to please **NOT USE THE BACK OR SIDE STAFF PARKING AREAS, LANEWAYS OR “NO STOPPING” ZONES TO DROP OFF OR PICK UP YOUR CHILD(REN).** Please take the time to arrive at school before the bell rings, find a legal spot to park on Leibly or Malvern and then, if you need to, walk your child to his/her outside classroom door. **Please remember: the parking lots are for STAFF USE ONLY.** No child should be walking through our back parking lot before,

during, or after school. We teach all of our students that these areas are **OUT OF BOUNDS.** While we have 2 classrooms on the west-side parking lot, parents should not drive down this lane way to drop off or pick up students. Please support us in following these safety precautions.

School Options

We are now beginning to settle in our school population with all of our new registrations and families and our families understanding the alternatives for schooling within the District this year. Programs are full, and the school is close to capacity with having to go down one classroom in September.

If you chose the Transition option, at this point in time, you have until December 18th to return to in-class, or to choose an alternate option if they have space. If you chose Distributed Online Learning you should be registered in this program. A reminder that families who chose this option, or Home-Schooling, will not be able to return to the school until mid-November or mid-March if they decide to return to in-class learning. This also depends if we have space at the school. If you have questions, please call the office and we can direct you to the District personnel responsible for the School Option you chose.



Birthdays

A gentle reminder to parents and students that they cannot bring treats to share with students and/or staff members. We know that birthdays are very special for children, but we have to ask that you do your celebrating at home and not send cupcakes or cake to school to be shared with their classmates. With our COVID protocols, it just isn't safe to be sharing food with others.



We acknowledge all students' birthdays with birthday wishes on our morning announcements and an invitation to come to the office to pick out a birthday pencil.

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

Our Parent Advisory Committee Meeting will be taking place on Wednesday, October 7th, 6:00 pm on a Zoom conference call. If you are interested in what our PAC does, please join us! We will post the Zoom link on our website so that any interested parents can join. To gain access to this meeting, please send an e-mail to Mr. Hunter (grady.hunter@burnabyschools.ca) before 3:00 pm on October 7th and he will forward you the meeting link and password. Could you please include your full name, your child(ren)'s name and grade so the PAC can include you on their minutes (notes).

Zoom Parent As Partners Meetings

Thank you to all of our families who participated in our new "Zoom" parent meetings last week. It was so nice to be able to connect with parents! The feedback we are getting from parents and teachers is showing that our Zoom Meetings were a great success! We thank you for your flexibility and understanding as we navigate our "new normal." Mrs. Pitt will send out a survey next week to get parent feedback about the meetings. Please check your e-mail.

Terry Fox Run

We had a very successful Terry Fox Run on Friday, September 25th. We were lucky that the weather held out for us and all students were able to do the run on our school field. We raised \$500 for the Terry Fox Foundation. Thank you to everybody who donated to this worthwhile cause. Because our students raised over \$400 for the 40 year anniversary of Terry's run across Canada we will be having a "40 challenge" by Mrs. Pitt and Mr. Hunter. We can't wait to find out what the challenge will be!

Peanut Aware Classrooms

As we settle into our new classrooms, a reminder to parents that we have some students who are allergic to peanuts and/or other food items. Teachers will post a sign at the door indicating if it is a "peanut aware classroom" and we ask children and families to please not send these items for snacks or lunches. We appreciate your support in helping create a safe environment.

Great Shake Out Earthquake Drill, Thursday, October 15th

We conduct safety drills throughout the school year. The most common drill we practice is our Fire Drills, of which we have 6 per school year. We also practice lock down drills and earthquake drills throughout the year. Our first earthquake drill will be taking place on Thursday, October 15th. Students will be instructed to drop, cover and hold. You may want to have a conversation with your child(ren) to further explain the reasons for safety drills. We hope that you are practicing safety drills with your family at home, too.

Provincial Elections and Voting

While we have not heard about which schools will be voting sites for the recently announced provincial election, we have been told that no advanced polls will be located at schools to ensure the health and safety of our school. If Morley will be a polling site, it will be on the weekend and all Health and Safety protocols and cleaning will be carefully followed.

FSAs Postponed

Each year, in October/November, Grade 4 and Grade 7 students do a Foundational Skills Assessment (FSA) test provided by the Ministry of Education and created by classroom teachers. This year the FSA is postponed until January 18, 2021 to February 26, 2021.

Updated Health Check

The School District recently updated the Student and Staff Health checklist. To see this new document, please [click here](#). It was also e-mailed out to all parents.

