



# Morley Elementary School

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Safe Welcome Responsible Learners

**BULLETIN #6**

**January 13, 2021**

## Dates to Remember ....

<b>Friday, January 15</b>	Black Shirt Day
<b>January 25 – 29</b>	Literacy Week
<b>Wednesday, January 27</b>	National Family Literacy Day
<b>Thursday, January 28</b>	<b>Virtual PAC Meeting, 6:00 pm</b>

(See our website at [morley.burnabyschools.bc.ca](http://morley.burnabyschools.bc.ca) for the full year's schedule)

## Happy New Year Morley Community!

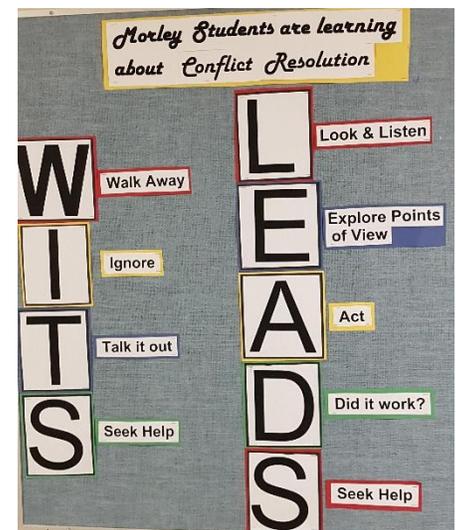
As we move forward this year, many members of our community may make a New Year's goal. For our students, we want them to be reflective about their learning in Term 1, assess themselves, and set some goals for Term 2 or Term 3. As a school, aside from the day-to-day focus on the BC curriculum in classrooms, we also set some school goals.

In our November 2020 newsletter I shared about one of our School Growth Plan goals which is to learn about the land that we are on and its history. I shared in that newsletter how this directly ties to the curriculum in a number of ways. Even just this morning I sat in on a Kindergarten morning meeting and listened to students share their newly acquired knowledge about trees based on some "wonder" questions they had on their forest walks. Students independently described evergreen trees and "deciduous" trees (yes, the vocabulary word the child chose), how they are different and why, and the different parts of the tree. Students and teachers are so engaged in their learning when we take it outdoors and they can experience the learning!

Our second goal this year is to continue to learn about using our WITS and being LEADers. We began this program last year, but were not able to complete it with the interruption of the pandemic. Using our WITS and being LEADers is a problem-solving program to support students' independence in resolving conflicts. Each letter of the acronym stands for a strategy. Take the time to ask your child what they know about using their WITS.

As part of this review, I have been able to go around to different classrooms and read picture books that connect with the theme of using your WITS. It is so wonderful to see the students remember the strategies and describe how they use different strategies to solve different conflicts whether at school, at home, or in the community. As family homework, this could be a great way to describe how you resolve conflicts and what strategies you use and when you use them.

Different conflicts require such a quick response at times, and even when we use a strategy, we too must reflect and ask ourselves, "Did it work?" If it didn't, perhaps we can think of things we would have done differently and we store this in our "bank of experience." The key learning here is that students understand that we will always have conflict in our lives, and at times, conflict can really hurt. Yet, if we develop problem-solving strategies, it ultimately will support our mental health and well-being and if we learn pro-social ways of resolving conflict, it likely will impact our future.



One of my favourite developmental stage posters in my my office is called the Six Stages of Development:

- LEVEL 1: I do not want to get in trouble.
- LEVEL 2: I want a reward.
- LEVEL 3: I want to please someone.
- LEVEL 4: I always follow the rules.
- LEVEL 5: I am considerate of other people.
- LEVEL 6: I have a personal code of behaviour.

Our goal at Morley is to support students in developing their own personal code of behaviour and develop a tool-box of strategies to use in many different scenarios throughout their lives. Life success repeatedly is linked to a person's social-emotional awareness, empathy and ability to work collaboratively with others. At Morley we strive to support all students to be successful problem solvers.

### **Black Shirt Day; Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

The Burnaby School District has made a commitment to address anti-racism in our schools and workplaces and continue its journey to support an equitable, diverse and inclusive environment for all staff, students and their families. With this District policy in mind, the Board created a new District Vice-Principal position focused on Equity, Diversity & Inclusion. The individual appointed to this position is Beth Applewhite.

Ms. Applewhite shared with schools that a Vancouver-based Community Organization has been collecting signatures for a petition proposing Black Shirt Day on January 15<sup>th</sup> (Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday). They have achieved their goal of 1500 signatures. It is not an official Day mandated by the Ministry of Education; however, the petition will be sent to the new Minister and will likely be recognized next year (January 2022).

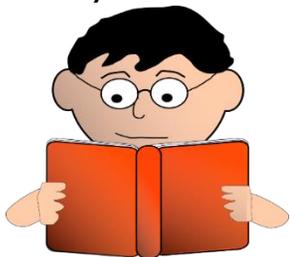
This organization states:

***"The Anti-Racism Coalition Vancouver is petitioning for Black Shirt Day to be introduced in BC, in recognition of the struggle for civil rights fought by Black and racialized Canadians. We propose that Black Shirt Day be established on January 15th, the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., the great civil rights leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner. We believe this will be an important step in raising greater awareness of the ongoing struggle for civil and human rights faced by Black and racialized Canadians, and help to foster solidarity against all forms of racism and hate."***



Our Grade 7 student leadership group are encouraging the Morley community to begin recognizing this initiative and on Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup> they ask that students, families and staff wear a black t-shirt to show their support.

### **Literacy Week – January 25 – 29, 2021**



Morley will be celebrating Family Literacy with a week of literacy-related activities starting on Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. Activities will include: Wear a Word Day, Reading in the Dark, a virtual Celebration of Learning, Family Bingo and more! Please keep an eye out for further information to come in the next few weeks.

What is Family Literacy Day? It takes place every January 27<sup>th</sup> to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. Taking time every day to read or do a learning activity with children is crucial to a child's development, improving a child's literacy skills dramatically and can help a parent improve their skills as well. For more information, please go to [www.familyliteracyday.ca](http://www.familyliteracyday.ca)

## Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Virtual Meeting!

Our next meeting will be taking place on Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. What better opportunity to join this wonderful group than by sitting in on a Zoom meeting? This is an easy way to learn what is going on at Morley Elementary School and to have your voice heard. We are looking for new faces to join this dynamic group. Please drop us an email at [grady.hunter@burnabyschools.ca](mailto:grady.hunter@burnabyschools.ca) no later than January 25<sup>th</sup> and we will send you a link to the Zoom PAC Meeting!



## Registration for September 2021

February is registration month for the 2021-22 school year. Priority placement is given to those who apply by the deadline of Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Applications for students new to the Morley catchment area and for children born in 2016 can be completed online. Please go to the Morley website or the Burnaby School District website and follow the prompts under the "Registration" button. Students currently attending Morley will automatically be re-registered for September 2021. Grade 7 students are automatically enrolled in their catchment area high school. If a younger sibling was born in 2016 please make sure you register them too!

If your child is wanting to access any of the specialized district programs, please check the Burnaby School District website for further information. If your child is wanting to attend a school outside of their catchment area, please request a Cross-District application form from the office (email your request to: [brenda.walters@burnabyschools.ca](mailto:brenda.walters@burnabyschools.ca)). These forms will be available beginning Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. These forms need to be completed and returned to the office at Morley. They will then be signed and forwarded on to your school of choice. Please note: we have no control over cross-district applications. All decisions are made by the district staff and moves are dependent upon availability of space.

## Health & Safety at Morley and the Daily Health Check

One of Morley's key Health and Safety measures relies on staff, parents and families doing their part, and that is to do the Daily Health check every morning before coming to school.

The following daily health check is translated into multiple languages on the School District website and these are available at <https://burnabyschools.ca/daily-health-check-for-students>. A reminder that if your child answers "YES" to one of the questions listed below, they should stay home for 24 hours from when the symptoms started and monitor to see if there is a progression in illness or symptoms.

Do you have any of the following key symptoms?

- Fever
- Chills
- Cough or worsening of chronic cough
- Shortness of breath
- Loss of sense of smell or taste
- Diarrhea
- Nausea and/or vomiting

If your child answers "YES" to 2 or more of the questions or they have a fever, they are asked to seek a health assessment. A health assessment includes calling 8-1-1 or a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner. If a health assessment is required, please follow the instructions from the Fraser Health Authority. If the child has been recommended for a Covid test, and for some reason you are unable to get this test, then the instructions state that the child must stay home for 10 days after the first onset of symptoms.

We know that children with Covid-19 often have milder symptoms and or do not show symptoms. So to prevent the spread, please follow the Daily Health Check instructions carefully and seek medical advice if needed.

Dr. Bonny Henry has also **extended provincial restrictions up to Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup>**. These restrictions are shown in the graphic below:



Please help us to continue to keep our community safe during this pandemic and follow all of the guidelines.

### Please Keep Us Informed

A reminder that if your family changes phone numbers or moves, please ensure that we have your updated contact information. If your phone numbers change, please email [brenda.walters@burnabyschools.ca](mailto:brenda.walters@burnabyschools.ca) with the changes. If you have moved residences, please forward on a copy of a rental agreement or utility bill with your new address and your name on it so that we can update your child's student file.

Thank you for keeping us informed!

### Community Information

#### City of Burnaby: Children Winter Programs Starting Soon

Be active or learn something new with our winter programs. We have programs for all ages and a wide variety of interests. Here's just a few of the programs available. For full listing of programs, visit us a [burnaby.ca/active](http://burnaby.ca/active).

#### Arts

- [Drawing, Painting & Collage](#) 6-12 years starting Jan 16
- [Word Play: Creative Writing](#) 7-11 years starting Jan 21
- [Like the Master's: Drawing & Painting](#) 7-12 years starting Jan 23
- [Making Stories Creative Writing](#) 7-10 years starting Jan 23

#### Outdoor Programs

- [Outdoor Adventure Club](#) 6-12 years starting Jan 15
- [Heighten Your Hiking Skills](#) 10-14 years starting Jan 29
- [Trail Blazers](#) 7-12 years starting Jan 29

#### Play

- [Yoga for Families](#) 4+ years starting Jan 17
- [Children's Soccer](#) 7-9 years starting Jan 22
- [Junior Tennis Lessons](#) 9-13 years starting Jan 23

#### Camps

- [Burnaby Pro D Day Camp](#) 6-12 years Feb 26
- [Burnaby Spring Break Camp](#) 6-11 years Mar 22-26
- [Arts & Yoga Camp](#) 8-12 years Mar 22-26
- [CAMP-LARPing: Deer Lake Chronicles](#) 10-13 years Mar 22-26