

October 19, 2023

**REMINDER**

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY TOMORROW OCTOBER 20th**

This is the province wide professional development day. **School will not be in session.** Did you know that professional development day came into effect in British Columbia in 1972. School days were added to the calendar to offset the additional time off for students. British Columbian teachers currently have six pro-d days. This Friday's pro-d day is province wide and is an opportunity for many teachers to collaborate and learn with colleagues from around the province.

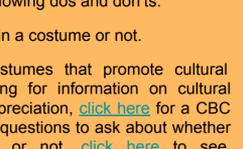
LOOKING AHEAD	
October 20	Professional Development day - <b>school not in session</b>
October 23	Student Photo Retake Day
October 23	ELL Welcome Tea at West Bay Elementary library 9:00am
October 24	Earthbites grades two and three
October 24	PAC meeting 7:00pm in school gym
October 27	Spirit Wear Day
October 27	Fall Fair 2:30pm
October 31	Halloween dress-up
November 1	Field Hockey AM only
November 3	Field Hockey AM only
November 5	Daylight Savings - clock fall back one hour
November 10	11:00 Remembrance Day Assembly
November 13	Remembrance Day holiday - <b>school not in session</b>
November 14	Reading Day Break - <b>school not in session</b>

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING (ELL) WELCOME TEA**

A parent information session about Cypress Park and West Bay's English Language Learning (ELL) programs will be held on **Monday, October 23rd from 9:00 - 10:00 am.** This will be a joint session for families whose children are involved in the ELL program at both schools. It will be held in the Learning Commons at West Bay Elementary and the upper field parking lot will be open for the day of the event.

**STUDENT PHOTOS RETAKES**

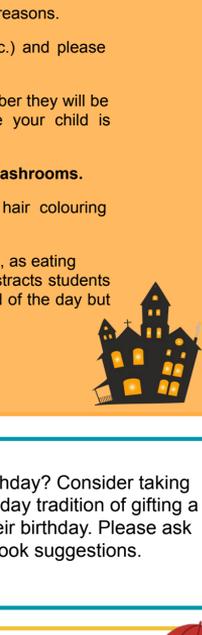
**Monday, October 23rd**



**HALLOWEEN GUIDELINES**

As students and families start to think about costumes, to ensure the day is fun for everyone, please observe the following dos and don'ts:

- ❖ Feel welcome to dress in a costume or not.
- ❖ Continue to avoid costumes that promote cultural stereotypes. If you're looking for information on cultural appropriation vs. cultural appreciation, [click here](#) for a CBC video; and for a great list of questions to ask about whether a costume is appropriate or not, [click here](#) to see information from UBC's Equity & Inclusion Office.
- ❖ **No masks**, beyond, of course, medical masks worn for health reasons.
- ❖ Absolutely **no weapons** (swords, lightsabers, nunchucks etc.) and please make sure costumes are school appropriate.
- ❖ Wear something comfortable that can be worn all day. Remember they will be moving and playing throughout the day so please make sure your child is comfortable (lots of face paint for example is uncomfortable).
- ❖ Please arrive in costume – there will be **no changing in the washrooms.**
- ❖ Avoid scented items that might irritate others (e.g. some hair colouring products)
- ❖ Students should **avoid bringing in Halloween candy** to school, as eating high sugar foods, and/or the idea of eating high-sugar foods, often distracts students from learning. Candy may be held for students and returned at the end of the day but is best avoided to begin with. **(remember no nuts)**



Thank you

**STUDENT BIRTHDAYS**

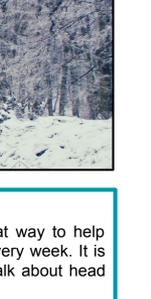


Is your child celebrating a birthday? Consider taking part in the Cypress Park Birthday tradition of gifting a new book to the school on their birthday. Please ask your class room teacher for book suggestions.

**NO SUCH THING AS BAD WEATHER - JUST INAPPROPRIATE CLOTHING**



The wet weather has arrived! Students are outside for approximately 45 minutes for morning and lunch recesses and will need to keep warm and dry. Please ensure your child/ren come to school in appropriate waterproofed clothing and footwear. Please also make sure to add a change of dry clothing in their backpack.

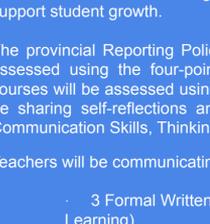


**IN PREPARATION OF WINTER WEATHER**

[CLICK HERE FOR INFORMATION](#)

**TAKE A PEEK EVERY WEEK**

Head lice are a common, annoying pest that all schools encounter, and one great way to help control the spread of head lice is to take a peek every week. It is important that we change how we approach and talk about head lice in our community.



We would like to encourage parents to speak more freely with each other if their child has head lice and to notify the school immediately. **Please report** cases to the school; individual information is never shared but this helps bring an awareness to the community at large. We currently do not have any cases here at Cypress Park but it is the season and other schools in our community have reported head lice.

3 pamphlets and information sheets from Vancouver Coastal Health. You will find them under the school resource page, [click here](#). Please make sure to go here first, for any questions.

**NEW REPORTING POLICY**

As communicated last Spring, the Ministry of Education and Child Care has implemented a new Learning Update Policy which defines and provides direction for the ways our school will be communicating your child's learning. The goal of the Learning Updates is to provide personalized, descriptive feedback to effectively communicate with students, parents, and caregivers about where students are in their learning, next steps, and how families and teachers can work together to support student growth.

The provincial Reporting Policy mandates that students in Kindergarten through Grade 9 will be assessed using the four-point proficiency scale and students in Grade 10 through Grade 12 courses will be assessed using letter grades and percentages. Each term, students at all levels will be sharing self-reflections and making goals around British Columbia's Core Competencies – Communication Skills, Thinking Skills, and Personal and Social Skills.

Teachers will be communicating and reporting throughout the year in the following formats:

- 3 Formal Written Learning Updates (2 Mid-year Learning Updates, and 1 Summary of Learning)
- 2 Informal Learning Updates (ex. Parent-Teacher Conferences, Student-Family-Teacher Conference, Interim Report)

The Ministry of Education and Child Care, responsible for creating reporting requirements, has provided reporting information for parents and caregivers in the following languages: English, French, Chinese (Simplified and Traditional, Tagalog, Farsi, Urdu, Punjabi Gurmukhi

Should you have any further questions, please reach out to Christine Hulme directly at [chulme@wvsschools.ca](mailto:chulme@wvsschools.ca)

**STUDENT ILLNESS**

As we approach the season where respiratory viruses become more common, we remind families to keep children home from school when they are displaying symptoms of illness. Children will recover more quickly and are least likely to spread the virus to other students and families if they take a rest day when they are unwell and return when they are feeling well enough to fully participate in learning. Thank you.



**MASKS**  
We wish your child to wear a mask at school, please ensure that your child has a medical mask and a spare one in their backpack should their mask get wet or dirty. The school no longer provides masks for students.

More information can be found online at Vancouver Coastal Health link [vch.ca](http://vch.ca)

[CYPRESS PARK WEBSITE](#)

[YEAR TO DATE CALENDAR 2023-2024](#)

[CYPRESS PARK PLAYGROUND RULES](#)

[CYPRESS PARK BELL TIMES](#)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PAC**

**R IS FOR RAFFLE**

- **Good luck with ticket selling!**
- We're thrilled to announce the start of our **R is for Raffle** winter fundraiser! Each student will be given 2 booklets of raffle tickets to sell (\$200 total). A prize will be awarded to the student with most tickets sold! Tickets will be handed out to students on Monday, October 23rd.
- **EARLY BIRD DRAW:** Thurs, Nov 9
- **FINAL DRAW:** Thurs, Nov 30 - Join us for a LIVE draw at Family Movie Night
- **GRAND PRIZES:** [Check them out!](#)



**WIN GRAND PRIZE**

**PAC MEETING – Tues, Oct 24**

**Time & Location:** 7-8 PM, Gym

- **Hot Topics:** Digital Learning (ipads etc.) & Sexual Health Education in our school.

**Stay up to date with our PAC**

**WhatsApp Group!** Our PAC is always looking for volunteers. Help us create a brighter future!

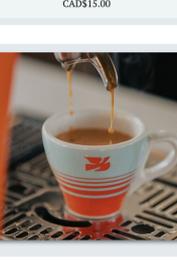


**CYPRESS PARK FALL FAIR**  
Friday, October 27, 2023 @ 2:30PM

**Looking for cakes & bouncy castle volunteers!** Get ready for a day of autumn excitement, laughter & family fun at our Fall Fair! Buy your **CAKEWALK TICKETS** today (\$10 for 3). All proceeds support PAC programs & initiatives. **WHAT IS A CAKEWALK?** Tickets are bought & students walk around a path in time to music. When the music stops, a number is drawn & the person standing on that number WINS A CAKE!

**FUNDING FUTURES – SPONSOR TODAY**

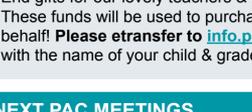
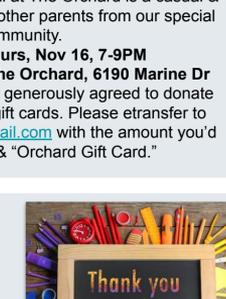
Our educators have handpicked a collection of engaging book series that cater to a wide range of ages, interests, and reading levels. These series will not only foster a love for reading but also inspire curiosity, imagination, and a thirst for knowledge among our students. If you have any of these books at home and would like to donate them - please let us know! [SPONSOR THESE ROCKS.](#)



**BREWING SUCCESS**

**Gift Card Sale Fundraiser**

**Isetta, Casa Mia Cucina & \*NEW\* The Orchard** (Gleaneagles Golf Course & Parent's Social location) have generously agreed to donate back 15% of all gift cards that we sell. Buy them for yourself, friends, family & our teachers! Please etransfer to [info.paccpp@gmail.com](mailto:info.paccpp@gmail.com) with the amount you'd like to purchase & which coffee shop.



**PARENTS SOCIAL AT THE ORCHARD**

Our Parent Social at The Orchard is our special & fun way to meet other parents from a casual Cypress Park community.

- **When:** **Thurs, Nov 16, 7-9PM**
- **Where:** **The Orchard, 6199 Marine Dr**

The Orchard has generously agreed to donate back 15% of all gift cards. Please etransfer to [info.paccpp@gmail.com](mailto:info.paccpp@gmail.com) with the amount you'd like to purchase & "Orchard Gift Card."

**TEACHER'S GIFTS**

**Thank you for your generosity!**

We're already **74% of the way to our goal** - thank you! If you haven't heard, we're collecting \$40 per student (feel free to send more!) for the Winter Holiday/Year End gifts for our lovely teachers & School Support Staff. These funds will be used to purchase gifts on your behalf! **Please etransfer to [info.paccpp@gmail.com](mailto:info.paccpp@gmail.com)** with the name of your child & grade to keep track.



**NEXT PAC MEETINGS**

- Tues, Oct 24 @ 7-8 PM
- Tues, Nov 28 @ 9:15-10:15 AM
- Tues, Dec 19 @ 7-8 PM

**Stay up to date with our PAC WhatsApp Group!** Our PAC is always looking for volunteers. Help us create a brighter future!

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTERACT CLUB**  
**PUMPKINS For POLIO**

ALL PROFITS GO TOWARDS END POLIO

21ST October | 12PM - 4PM  
\$5 MINIMUM DONATIONS ARE WELCOME!!

Email [rockridgeinteractclub@gmail.com](mailto:rockridgeinteractclub@gmail.com) to volunteer!

Our Rockridge Interact Club is having their special annual pumpkin sale this Saturday, October 21st 12PM - 4PM at Rockridge Pumpkins for Polio.