

October 5, 2023

A reminder that **Monday, October 9th** is Thanksgiving! We wish all of our Cypress Park families a wonderful Thanksgiving Day. Enjoy the long weekend, and we look forward to seeing students back on Tuesday, October 10th.



LOOKING AHEAD	
October 6	Spirit Wear Day
October 9	Thanksgiving Day holiday - school not in session
October 13	Spirit Wear Day
October 16	Kindergarten and catchment 1-7 registrations
October 18	Learning Conferences early dismissal 12:05pm
October 19	Learning Conferences early dismissal 12:05pm
October 19	Shake Out BC Earthquake Drill 10:00am
October 20	Professional Development day - school not in session
October 23	Student Photo Retake Day
October 23	ELL Welcome Tea at West Bay Elementary library 9:00am
October 24	PAC meeting 7:00pm in school gym
October 27	Fall Fair 2:30pm

Congratulations to our Cypress Park X-Country team for completing a successful season! Our Grade 3 athletes committed to two early morning practices a week, rain or shine. They competed in three X-Country meets at Ambleside with all elementary schools in the district. We are so proud of your efforts this season. **A special thank you** to our Coach, Mrs. Boddez for her time and energy with our team.



EVERY CHILD MATTERS



ORDERING PHOTOS FROM PHOTO DAY

On Photo Day, students were provided with a photo flyer containing a QR login code. Use the login code to access your student's photo gallery at weborders.mountainwest.ca with any active email address.

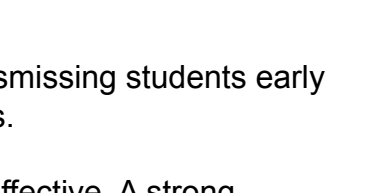


Photo Order Deadline is **Tuesday, October 17, 2023.**

To find out more about ordering, [Click Here](#) for support. If you do not have your login code, or require assistance, please_email Mountainwest at help@mountainwest.ca or contact Ms. Thoma at ethoma@wvschools.ca. Orders will be shipped directly to your home address. Visit portal.mountainwest.ca to access digital downloads or check on the status of your order.

Photo retakes will take place on **Monday, October 23rd**

PARENT / TEACHER LEARNING CONFERENCES

On Wednesday, October 18th and Thursday, October 19th we will be dismissing students early (**12:05 PM**) to provide the opportunity for Student Learning Conferences.

We know that time slots are short, but that doesn't mean they can't be effective. A strong home-school connection is important and greatly benefits our learners. To follow are some tips to help make the most from this valuable time.

- **Come Prepared.** Before your conference, think through any questions you have or concerns you might want to address - you might want the teacher's perspective on books to recommend or maybe your child has shared that they are finding something challenging, and you're not sure how to best support them.
- **Get Your Child's Input.** While we are asking parents to leave their child at home for these conferences it can be beneficial to ask your child if they have any questions. If they are young and new to the idea, explain that these conferences are helpful for both the teacher and the parents to ensure everyone is working together so they can have a positive school year. Ask them is there's anything they think is important to discuss.
- **Ask this Question.** A helpful conversation starter as a parent is "How can I support my child at home?" This gives teachers an opportunity to talk about academic or social areas in which your child would benefit from your help or reinforcement. Avoid asking questions like "How's my kid doing?" or "How does my kid compare to other kids in the class?" These types of questions are broad and not helpful to specific ways to support YOUR child. Try to keep your questions or concerns around your child. To maintain everyone's privacy, teachers are not at liberty to discuss other children.
- **Stick to the Schedule.** Most of the time the 10-minute conference is going to feel sufficient, but you may also feel that it is only the start to the conversation. If you feel that there is more to discuss than the 10 minutes allows, reach out to your child's teacher to schedule a phone call or meeting (in-person/virtual). This is not the only opportunity for conversation.

Booking Parent, Teacher Learning Conferences

1. [Click here](#): If you are prompted for an event code, enter: **w43nm**
2. Enter your information (parent email, parent name, phone number and student name)
 - Here you can indicate the number of students that you need to book for, if you have more than one child at Cypress Park.
 - Click on GO
3. Choose your child's teacher
 - Choose the date and time that works best for you from the options provided.
 - Conferences are 10 minutes long.

NOTE: These conferences are **ADULT** only, please arrange childcare if you plan on attending.

REMINDER: Early dismissal times for both **October 18th and October 19th (12:05PM)** to accommodate the conferences.

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 12 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.

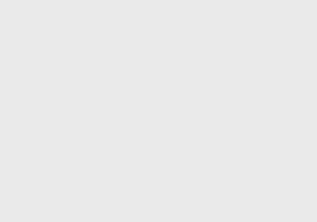
Teachers will be communicating and reporting throughout the year in the following formats:

- 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@wvschools.ca

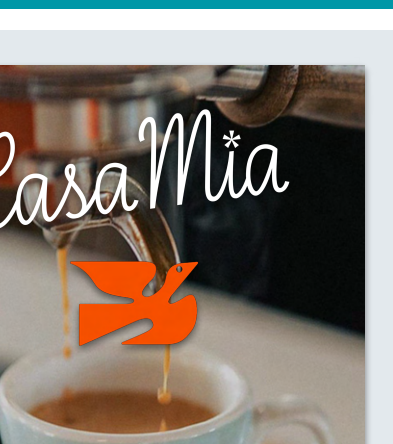
NO SUCH THING AS BAD WEATHER - JUST INAPPROPRIATE CLOTHING



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.

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

If you 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

DAILY HEALTH CHECK REMINDER Please remember to continue to follow our health & safety infectious disease protocols, including:

- completing a daily health assessment/symptoms check each morning **BEFORE bringing your child to school, and staying home when sick**



NUT AWARE SCHOOL

Please remember that Cypress Park is a Nut Aware school and parents and guardians should **NOT** pack nuts in their child's lunches.



No Tree Nuts

CYPRESS PARK WEBSITE

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

[CYPRESS PARK PLAYGROUND RULES](#)

[CYPRESS PARK BELL TIMES](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PAC

BREWING SUCCESS

Coffee Card Sale Fundraiser

Craving a morning coffee or one between after-school Community Center pick-ups & drop-offs?

Isetta (across the street) & **Casa Mia Cucina** (across from the WV Community Center) have both generously offered to donate back 15% of all gift cards that we sell. Buy them for yourself, friends, family & our teachers!

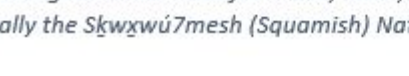
If you're interested in purchasing, please email info.paccpp@gmail.com the gift card amount you'd like to purchase as well as which coffee shop you'd like to support - it can be both!



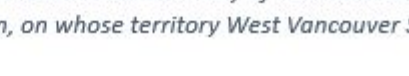
— ORDER TODAY —

FUNDING FUTURES — SPONSOR TODAY
HIGHLIGHT OF THE WEEK – READING SUBSCRIPTIONS & ENHANCEMENTS

Each year the Cypress Park PAC helps expand and update the books found in our library. In addition to physical books, we also provide funds to renew digital book subscriptions and add-on printing packs that include SEL, STEAM and writing exercises. [LEARN MORE](#)



ADRIENNE GEAR BOOK SUBSCRIPTIONS CAD\$700.00



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC BOOKS SERIES CAD\$250.00



READING ACROSS CANADA CAD\$200.00

R IS FOR RAFFLE
SAVE THE DATE: Oct 19-Nov 30

Get ready! We're thrilled to announce our upcoming **"R is for Raffle"** winter fundraiser! Top prizes include...

- **WHISTLER WILDERNESS RETREAT (\$1600):** Fairmont Chateau Whistler (2 night stay)
- **TOFINO TIDES ESCAPE (\$1000):** Water's Edge (2 night stay) & famed restaurant (Lunch) (\$200)
- **GREATEST GAMES (\$1450):** \$1000 worth of Cooking Crush Credits & any 3 Electronic Arts Games of the winner's choice (\$450)
- **MORE:** VSO tickets, Steamoji's, Tutu Ballet, Sportsball, Glowwithin Yoga, Lasertag, B Fit, Ears, Frankie & Co. Balloons, Martial Arts, Meridian Farms, Fresh Bay Pizza, Casa Mia Cucina, Lachlan Pro Soccer Coaching & more!

— LEARN MORE —

CYPRESS PARK FALL FAIR
Friday, October 27, 2023

Get ready for a day of autumn excitement, FREE & family fun at our Fall Fair! Admission is LAUGHTER & highlights will include a bouncy castle (sponsored by Child Connect), apple & cider tasting, popcorn, snacks, fall photo booth, carnival games & more!

We will be selling **CAKEWALK TICKETS** (\$10 for 3). All proceeds support PAC programs & initiatives. [Looking for volunteers to bring or bake cakes!](#)

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!

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!