

Irwin Park E-Bulletin - Thurs Oct 23rd 2025

Important Dates:

Fri Oct 24 th	Professional Development Day - School Not in Session
Thurs Oct 30 th	IPPG Halloween Dance K-7 / 5 pm – 7 pm
Fri Oct 31 st	Irwin Park Halloween Assembly 11:40 to 12:20 pm
Mon Nov 3 rd – 5 th	3 Treat Maximum In Effect at Irwin Park – see below for details; no treats after Nov 5 th
Wed Nov 5 th	Student Portrait Picture Retakes

Important Links for Parents :

- [What is an appropriate age for a child to have a cell phone?](#)
- [Irwin Park School Calendar 25-26](#)
- [Online Policy & Procedures Permission Form – 25/26](#) – MUST BE COMPLETED
- [Munchalunch](#) Hot lunch orders
- [Term 1 After School Activities Registration](#)



A Message from the Principal

Last week, we shared an invitation to our parent community to help us learn how we can best support you on your parenting journey. At Irwin Park, we value the strong partnership between home and school and want to hear directly from you — **what topics, tools, or conversations would be most helpful** as you support

your child's growth and well-being. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts by completing the short form [here](#) and linked or at the end of this bulletin. Thank you to the parents who have shared their thoughts with us already!

This week is an exciting one as families get ready for the big day next Friday! We ask all parents to please take a moment to review the **Irwin Park Halloween Expectations & Guidelines in the bulletin below regarding costume choices and treats at school**. As a reminder, **please do not send Halloween candy or treats as recess snacks**. Kids need nutritious choices during our school days and we would ask for family cooperation here. We're looking forward to seeing everyone at the **IPPG Halloween Dance on Thursday night** — it's going to be a fun evening for our Panthers and families!

E Bulletin Highlights:

- *Halloween Dance – Save the Date! Tickets now online*
- *Halloween Costume Expectations & 3 Treat Maximum*
- *Hot Lunch Reminders – Changing Orders & Pack Cutlery*
- *Parenting Questions – We want to know!!*
- *We Scare Hunger - Halloween Food Drive*

 **Irwin Park Halloween Dance! – Tickets on sale now – limited availability**



Thursday, October 30th - 5-7 pm



Irwin Park Gym



Grades K–7 Families Welcome!

Our amazing IPPG Event Planning Committee is busy organizing a spook-tacular early evening filled with fun for all Panthers! 💖 Get ready for a frightfully fun night with your Irwin Park community! 🧛 🧛 Dance, play, vote, and celebrate with friends and friendly monsters of all sizes!

🎵 **What's Happening:**

- 🧛 *Live DJ spinning Halloween hits*
- 🧛 *Costume Contest for students & families*
- 🧛 *Pumpkin Decorating and Carving Contest*
- 🍔 *Food & Drinks available for pre-order*

★ **Only 350 tickets available:**

Click [here](#) or [here](#) to buy your tickets and pre-order food and avoid being disappointed!

***Please note that all students in K-3 require a parent to accompany them at the dance and the accompanying parent is required to purchase an entry ticket as well.

Thank you for your understanding.

✖ Costumes must NOT include:

- * Masks (for safety reasons)
- * Weapons or props that resemble weapons (no swords, axes, or toy guns)
- * Culturally insensitive or stereotypical outfits

🧛 Adults and kids alike are welcome to dress up — or not!

Everyone is welcome, however they feel most comfortable.

➡ **IPPG Costume Contest & Guidelines** ⬅

Calling all creative creatures! Show off your handmade costume for a chance to win!

- * 💰 Entry Fee: \$5 per participant
 - * 📷 How to Enter: Send a photo of the participant wearing their costume to:
[📧 irwinpark@wvschools.ca](mailto:irwinpark@wvschools.ca)
 - * 📅 Deadline to Submit Photo: October 28
 - * 📁 Photos will be posted at the dance for attendees to vote on their favorite costume!
 - * 🏆 Top 3 costumes will win prizes — winners announced at the end of the dance!
- 🧐 Costumes must be ****mostly handmade**** (not store-bought).
- 👤 Limit of 20 costume entries — sign up early!

🎃 **IPPG Pumpkin Carving Contest** 🍂

Bring your spookiest, silliest, or most creative carved pumpkin and compete for a prize on Thurs night!

- * 💰 Entry Fee: \$5 per carved pumpkin
- * 📅 **Pumpkin Drop-Off:** Bring your already carved and decorated* pumpkin to school on October 30 during morning drop-off or afternoon pick-up.
- * 📁 Voting will take place during the dance— attendees will vote for their favorite pumpkins!
- * 🏆 The top 3 pumpkins with the most votes will win prizes — winners will be announced at the end of the dance!

♥ Only 20 pumpkins will be accepted — first come, first served!

😊 Keep it elementary-appropriate and safe for all ages.

😊 **HALLOWEEN : Costume Expectations at Irwin Park this Oct 31st**

With Halloween fun around the corner, we wanted to take some time to establish **some common costume expectations** for families who may be preparing to dress up for school on Friday, October 31st. We will be hosting a brief Halloween Assembly and Parade in the gym on Fri Oct 31st at approximately 11:45 am. Classes will gather in the gym to take part in a quick dance party and then each class will be invited to celebrate their costumes by participating in a parade around the gym. Parents are welcome to join, should space allow in the gym and in the hallways as our Primary grades make their way back to class after our assembly! Our gym space is limited so please be patient and ready for some Halloween Energy!

A number of students have approached teachers to ask about Halloween costumes for the big day.

Students, who choose to, will be permitted to wear a costume of their choice if it fits within the following boundaries....

- Feel welcome to dress in a costume or not.
- It is appropriate for Elementary School, KG-7, and not deemed offensive to others
- Avoid costumes that promote cultural stereotypes. (information on Cultural Appropriation vs Cultural Appreciation can be found [here](#))

- Costumes need to be non-violent in nature.
- It does not include any props that could be mistaken to be a weapon of some sort...so that means...**no guns, no axes, no swords;** save those for Thurs evening when you go Trick or Treating.
- Masks unfortunately, will **not** be allowed during the school day in class due to safety concerns and learning needs
- Should students choose to wear a costume, students must be able to learn in that costume and if students struggle in this area that student will be simply asked to remove their costume.

There is no pressure or expectation for students to wear a Halloween costume. Should students or staff choose not to wear a costume...that is totally acceptable. We must respect and understand that many people in our community may have different connections to this annual celebration.

3 TREAT MAXIMUM IN EFFECT @ IP Post Halloween

In order to curb the sugar highs and lows that come with this time of year, as per tradition, Irwin Park will only permit students to bring a maximum of 3 Halloween Treats to school for a maximum of 3 school days.

Therefore, sugar intake and enjoyment of those Halloween treats is moderated and in check. (Unless of course, this includes **Kit Kat's** that must be turned in to the Principal on-site immediately ????) **But in all**

seriousness, we would ask parents to support our efforts for moderation and ensure that students follow this expectation by bringing a maximum of 3 treats if any... to be enjoyed over the course of the school day. As of Wednesday Nov 5th Halloween Treats are to be left and enjoyed at home!

PARENT CORNER: Your Questions Matter!

Parenting today brings both joys and challenges, and we know that many families are navigating similar questions about children's learning, friendships, technology, and well-being. We'd love to hear from you!

If there's a **"burning question"** you've been wondering about — something you'd like to understand better or a topic you'd like more guidance on — please take a moment to share it with us using the short form below. Your input will help us better understand **what kinds of supports, conversations, or resources** might be most helpful for our Irwin Park parent community.

Click [here](#) to fill out an anonymous form to help us learn more!

Thank you for taking a few minutes to share your thoughts — your perspective truly helps us plan meaningful ways to support our students and families. If we measure sufficient interest and similar questions being generated, we will consider establishing a meaningful forum where we can provide support and research-based information to parents. We appreciate your patience as we collect this information and measure momentum in our community.

We Scare Hunger! – Food Drive Reminder

As we head toward Halloween, our **Grade 6/7 Leadership Club** is once again leading Irwin Park's **We**

Scare Hunger Food Drive 🤝 in support of local families in need.

We encourage all families to **stock up on non-perishable food items** this week and send them to school 🏫 to help fill our collection bins. Your donation will make a real difference in the lives of those living with less across the Lower Mainland.

Thank you for your generosity and for helping us live our **Panther P.R.I.D.E.** values of **Empathy** and **Inclusion** 🤝. Together, we can make this Halloween season one that's about caring and community — not just candy! 🍬

🍴 Hot Lunch Reminders

Please take note of the following guidelines for our Hot Lunch Program:

- **Please remember to pack cutlery on your child's hot lunch day(s)**
- The order cycle runs from Tuesday to the following Monday.
- Changes or cancellations can be made until Sunday at 5:00 pm (before the new week begins).
- After the Sunday 5:00 pm deadline, no modifications or cancellations can be accepted.
- Please avoid ordering hot lunch on your child's field trip day.
- If your child is absent on a day you've ordered lunch, please email the school office. If office capacity allows, we can sometimes arrange to have your child's lunch picked up at the end of the school day.
- Any credits will be applied automatically to your Munchalunch account for future purchases.
- For questions or feedback, please contact ippgtr@gmail.com.
- Please do not contact vendors directly, as all orders are managed through the school's system to ensure accuracy and smooth coordination.

Aron Campbell

Principal

Irwin Park Elementary