
Muheim Communiqué

École Muheim Elementary
3659 3rd Avenue PO Box 2260 Smithers, B.C.
TEL.: 250-847-2688

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Student Land Acknowledgement

My name is Kylie and I was born in Smithers. I live and learn on the traditional lands of the Gidimt'en (Bear Wolf Clan) territory, home of the Witsuwit'en Nation. I appreciate that I live in a place that is safe and I can go to school and practice my traditions and culture. This week we had Truth and Reconciliation Day. I thought about children who went to residential schools and were not allowed to speak their language or celebrate their culture. On September 30th, my friends and I went horseback riding on the Meadows Trail and I was grateful to be able to learn and explore outside.

~Kylie, Grade 6

Principal's Message

Our staff would like to sincerely thank the Muheim school community for the support shown as students transitioned back to school a month ago. Time has gone by quickly! Your efforts in helping children come to school ready to learn each day are truly appreciated. September was a busy month filled with various notices, permission forms, reminders, and school-related fees. If you need assistance with school supply costs, please let us know. If you have forgotten to pay these fees, a reminder note is going home with your child today.

It was a pleasure to see so many families attend our recent Open House. Students enjoyed showing their family members around the school and their classrooms. We were touched by the kind messages shared on the interactive bulletin board in our foyer. A heartfelt thank you goes out to our PAC for setting up a welcoming table for families that evening. We're incredibly grateful for all the support our PAC provides. If you're interested in volunteering for school events or programs, please connect with one of the PAC executive members.

Muheim staff and students actively engaged with the wider community through several meaningful activities. These included taking part in a Terry Fox Run, hosting families during our Open House, visiting the Zoller's farm, checking out exhibits at our local museum and art gallery and recognizing Orange Shirt Day with a school assembly on September 29th to honor the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Our school community continues to demonstrate compassion and a commitment to respect and kindness for all.

Safe Arrival

To assist with our Safe Arrival procedures, family members are requested to download the Safe Arrival app. It is located on the school district website under the student tab. If you are unable to download the app, please email (mmeoffice@sd54.bc.ca) or call the school (250-847-2688) after 8:15am if a child is going to be absent or late. Please inform the office and not only the classroom teacher. This way, we can be sure all children are accounted for. In the event that your child is absent and we have not received communication on their whereabouts, the safe arrival program will send out an automated call to all contacts listed on your child's profile, including emergency contacts. If your child is late arriving to school, please have them sign in at the office so that you do not receive a call.

Minimizing Classroom Interruptions

We need your help in reducing classroom interruptions during the school day, especially in the afternoon when there is only one secretary in the office. While we understand that emergencies happen and we're always here to assist when necessary, we've seen a significant increase in the number of non-urgent messages and last-minute bussing/after school changes being called in. Unfortunately, it is not always possible to reach students right away, especially when classes are in different areas of the building or engaged in activities. To avoid miscommunication or missed messages, we kindly ask that you make every effort to finalize plans with your child before the school day begins. This will help ensure the smooth running of our day and minimize disruptions to learning. Thank you for your support and understanding.

School Supplies

If you have not yet had a chance to pay the \$45 (or \$53 if your child has an agenda or pocket folder), please send a cheque, exact change or come into the school and use the debit machine. This amount covers all supplies used in the school over the course of the year.



Terry Fox Run and Cops for Cancer

Students participated in the annual Terry Fox Run and the Cops for Cancer were at our school to honour our event. Donations totalled \$407! This amount was divided and donated to the Terry Fox as well as the Cops for Cancer Foundations. A huge thank you to all of our Muheim families for their generous support.

Spirit Day in October

This year, Division 5 is enjoying celebrating a variety of daily "national" days such as National Homemade Cookies day which occurred this week and on Friday, they will celebrate "PLAIDurday!" Division 5 encourages students and staff to join in by wearing their favourite plaid clothing items!

Cross Country Run

This year's cross-country run is scheduled to take place on October 16th at Riverside Park, at 2:45pm. Grades 3-7 students who have shown interest in taking part in cross-country this school year have been training with coaches Ms. Hoffman & Mrs. Hoffman (this is not a typo 😊). Permission forms to attend the cross-country event at Riverside will be sent home and should be filled in and returned to school as soon as possible. Please indicate on the form if you are able to volunteer and help out.

When children are sick...

If your child is not feeling well, please have them rest and heal at home. Children share spaces with many classmates and staff members throughout the day; we need to support each other by staying home if we are not feeling well.

Soccer

The Muheim soccer tournament was a big success. Many schools thanked us for a fun-filled and well run tournament. The players all had many chances to play despite the constantly changing weather. A big thank you goes out to the coaches of both the 4/5 and 6/7 teams, Mrs. Neiser and Mrs. Young, as well as other staff in the school who stepped in to help out with practices and organizing. We could not have done it without our high school volunteer referees who gave up hours of their day. Also, a big thank you to volunteer parents who helped to set up the field and to the grade seven parents who ran a very successful canteen. Finally, a special mention goes to the Town of Smithers for letting us use the Chandler Field facility, which allowed for many more opportunities for our students to play.

Facebook

Like us on the *Muheim Elementary School* Facebook page for important reminders and information.



Student Photos & Retakes

Re-takes will be on October 22nd. Each student received/will receive a QR code with the website and a personal access code for viewing and ordering your child/children's photos that were taken in September.

Muheim Garden

Our Muheim garden is a wonder to behold! A big thank you is extended to Mrs. Forstbauer and Ms. Nika for tending to the crops over the summer. Ms. Nika is holding garden club visits for any students interested in looking after our plants. Students are welcome to meet with our Groundbreaker leader, Ms. Nika when she visits during the lunch break to work in the garden. Classes will be cooking food using items from the garden and some classes will take part in the Wildfoods fieldtrips to Riverside with their teacher(s) and Ms. Nika. We appreciate our staff's involvement in coordinating these experiences for our students.

Reminders:

- Please do not park in the staff parking lot when dropping off or picking up your children. This area becomes congested and as a result, dangerous for students as they are crossing the parking lot. The parking lot is designated for staff only.
- If your child comes to school after 9:00am, please have them check in at the office before they go to their classroom. Students also need to remember to check in/out at the office when leaving early for lessons/appts.
- Please confirm after school plans with your child before school so they know if they are taking the bus home or not that day.
- It is getting colder out. Please ensure your child is dressed for the weather. Students will be expected to remain outside in the morning before the bell rings and at the breaks throughout the day.
- If your child is riding a bike or scooter to school, please remind them to always wear a helmet and to walk their scooter or bike on school grounds. Our front sidewalk can be a busy area so this is another space where students should walk their modes of wheeled transportation.
- Please use bike racks at the back of the school.

Fire Prevention Week: October 5th - 11th



Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be coming to Muheim Memorial Elementary School on:

- Tuesday, October 21st from 8:30am-6:00pm**
- Wednesday, October 22nd from 8:30am-6:00pm**
- Thursday, October 23rd from 8:30am-4:00pm.**

All classes will be given an opportunity to visit the bookfair between Tuesday, October 21st and Thursday, October 23rd, and students will have a chance to purchase books at that time if they would like (a class viewing schedule will be sent home to families prior to the bookfair). Posters, pencils, pens, erasers, bookmarks and other small items will also be available for purchase during the book fair. All book fair purchases benefit our school.

If you are interested in volunteering either before or after school at the book fair, please contact Tina Sikkes at tsikkes@sd54.bc.ca and a volunteer form can be either emailed or sent home with your child.

Parent/Guardian & Teacher Conferences

Conferences are happening on October 22nd and 23rd. Stay tuned for more information regarding booking a time slot with your child/children's classroom teacher/s. This will be an online booking platform again. Early dismissals to accommodate these conferences will be:

Wednesday, October 22nd • 2:00pm

Thursday, October 23rd • 12:00pm

Busses will be running at these times.

Living Roots Family Farm

Muheim would like to thank the Zoller Family for facilitating place-based and hands-on learning experiences for our staff and students. This school year, we will have students act as mentors who will take on leadership roles. These students will support classes who are new to the experiences many of our older students have had over the past several years at Living Roots. If you would like to support this school-wide experience, please contact Liliana at liliana.pesce@sd54.bc.ca for more information. We are excited to work on this school-wide initiative that focuses on embedding First Peoples Principles of Learning with our experiences on local land, while connecting with our community.

Halloween

Students are welcome to come to school in their Halloween costumes on Friday, October 31st, however, we do ask that students NOT wear masks or make-up that cover their entire face. Students should not bring weapon

replicas of any kind to accessorize their outfits. Individual classes may be organizing events and this will be communicated to parents.

PAC News

Happy October!! Our first PAC meeting was a great success, thank you to those who attended and participated! Our next meeting takes place Monday October 20th @6pm in the school library. All guardian's of Muheim students are welcome! As well, children are always welcome to come and we can provide a babysitter if needed (just give us advance notice please).

It was wonderful to see so many new & returning faces at our open house this past month! We hosted our first "Caffeination Station" out front of the school where we served 96 cups of coffee in less than an hour. It was lovely chatting with the adults that are a part of our Muheim community. Stay tuned for another Caffeination Station in October! (A big shout out to the bakers and makers who allow these types of things to happen!)

The bulletin board at the main entrance of the school will keep you updated with all things PAC. You can also check out our Facebook page MUHEIM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PAC for more information. We are looking forward to a spectacular fall season.

Calendar

Oct. 6	Subway Forms & Payments Due
Oct. 5-11	Fire Safety Week
Oct. 9	Subway Lunch
Oct. 13	Thanksgiving Day – School Closed
Oct. 14	Pizza Forms & Payments Due
Oct. 16	Pizza Hot Lunch
Oct. 16	Cross Country Run – Riverside Park
Oct. 20	PAC Meeting 6pm Library
Oct. 22	Picture Day Retakes
Oct. 21 – 23	Scholastic Book Fair
Oct. 22	Parent/Guardian & Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal -2:00pm
Oct. 23	Parent/Guardian & Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal -12:00pm
Oct. 24	Pro-D – no class for students
Oct. 31	Halloween Dress-up Day
Nov. 3	Subway Forms & Payments Due
Nov. 6	Subway Lunch
Nov. 7	Remembrance Day Assembly
Nov. 10	Pro-D No Class for Students
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day – School Closed

Yours sincerely,

Liliana Pesce
Principal

