

September 2022

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hello everyone.

Now that classes have been finalized, we can settle into the business of learning. I would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding throughout this process. It seems that many of you had a good summer and are returning refreshed and recharged for the upcoming school year. As mentioned in the August Newsletter, we have a few new staff including our new vice-principal, Mr. Frank Chan. Make sure to say hello to him when you see him outside. Apparently, he knows a little about basketball and has declared Mission Central to be the next basketball powerhouse in the Mission School District.

Parents are encouraged to use School Cash Online to pay for school activity fees and planners. You can sign up at <https://mpsd.schoolcashionline.com>. We welcome families to explore the [school's website](#) where we will be sharing updated school information and exciting events and activities happening at Ecole Mission Central. Be sure to check the school website for links to PAC and Hot Lunch.

As you can see below in Upcoming Events we already have a number of activities planned. We hope to see as many families as possible for the Upcoming Welcome Back BBQ on Thursday, Sept 22.

The first few weeks are always extremely busy. If you need to speak to myself or Vice Principal Chan, feel free to chat with either of us outside in the morning or after school. If this is not an option, phone ahead to arrange an appointment time. There may be other times when we will be too busy to meet with you right away, therefore, the next best way to reach us is via email, and we encourage you to email us anytime at andrew.merry@mpsd.ca. or frank.chan@mpsd.ca . Do not hesitate to say hello! As a staff, we are looking forward to the many new experiences and adventures we will pursue with your children this year.

CALENDAR

Families can find the [school calendar on the school's website](#) for information about non instructional days, spirit days, parent teacher conferences, assemblies, and other events happening in the school. The calendar will be updated as needed throughout the school year. You can subscribe to the calendar and it will update you when events are added to the calendar.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, Sept 19	Non-Instructional Day (Students and staff not in school)
Thursday, Sept 22	PAC Welcome Back BBQ (5 – 7 PM)
Friday, Sept 23	Non-Instructional Day (Students not at school)
Monday, Sept 26	Cops for Cancer riders visit the school
Tuesday, Sept 27	Colour Day (Wear your team colour!)
Thursday, Sept 29	Orange Shirt Day in Recognition of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
Friday, Sept 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Students not at school)
Wednesday, Oct 5	Student Picture Day
Friday, Oct 7	Student Recognition Assembly (8:45 AM)
Friday, Oct 7	Terry Fox Run (afternoon)
Monday, Oct 10	Thanksgiving (Students not at school)
Friday, Oct 21	Provincial Professional Development Day (Students not at school)
Oct-Nov	FSA for gr. 4 students

CENTRAL SPIRIT

Come dressed in your team colour for Central's Colour Day on Tuesday, Sept 27. Each team will be given a colour to wear (red, blue, grey/white or black). Look for more Spirit activities in the upcoming newsletters.

ORANGE SHIRT DAY

Orange Shirt Day will be occurring on Sept 29. Please wear an orange shirt. Orange Shirt Day recognizes the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and honors those children and families affected by residential schools. "Orange Shirt Day is also an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come".

WATER BOTTLE FILLER

A reminder the school has a filtered Water Bottle Filler. Students are encouraged to bring a refillable water bottle, with their name on it to school, to stay hydrated.

CLOTHING AND LOST AND FOUND

Please **label** your child's clothing with their name so we can return it to your child. We have a Lost and Found container at the front of the school but it gets quite full when the items do not get claimed by the owner. Several times a year we need to donate unclaimed clothing as we are unable to store it.

HOT LUNCH

Our PAC hosts hot lunches and they will be starting soon. It will occur every Wednesday throughout the year. Here is the link for the [Hot Lunch order form and payment](#).

VEHICLES AND STUDENT SAFETY

A reminder to drivers to slow down and watch for students as they make their way to and from their homes before and after school. Consider maintaining a lower speed even after leaving the school zones. Parking is very limited, and we ask you to consider parking a little further away and walking to the school. Please do not park in the bus loop or block the bus loop exit. Also, be considerate of our neighbours and do not block access to their driveways. A reminder that the lower parking lot is for staff only.

STUDENT PHOTOS

Individual student photos will be taken on **Wednesday, October 5**. Please come with your best smile. Class photos will be taken in the Spring.

STUDENT ABSENCES AND LATES

If your child will be absent from school or late to school please contact the school's office before **8:45 a.m. at 604-826-1414**, so their attendance can be recorded. A phone call home will be made if your child has an unexcused absence. If your child IS late, please have them check in at the office before they go to their classroom so that we can welcome them. Thank you.

OFFICE PHONE



Just a reminder for parents and students that the phone in the office is to be used by students for emergencies or sickness only. During and after school, students are not allowed to use the phone to make after school play time arrangements with their friends.

NO DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS



Parents are reminded that School District Policy prohibits dogs from being on school grounds at any time. (Even well-behaved, leashed & muzzled dogs!) This policy is in place for health and safety reasons. Some children are allergic to dogs – others are dog phobic. And even the best-behaved dog can panic when surrounded by dozens of enthusiastic children. We appreciate those parents who are walking “Rover” to and from school but are respecting our policy by waiting off school grounds for your children. Your cooperation and citizenship are greatly appreciated – thank you!

TERRY FOX RUN



Our annual Terry Fox Run will happen on Friday, October 7th. Donations to the Terry Fox Foundation are gratefully accepted. Last year we challenged our students to bring a minimum Toonie donation; with this year's enrollment we are hoping to be able to achieve our goal of \$500 to this worthy cause. We are also looking for parent volunteers to help supervise the run. Please stay tuned for more information.

SPORTS!!!



The two fall sports for inter-district leagues are cross-country running and basketball. More information to follow. Open gym for basketball will start 7:30 AM on Tuesday, September 20th. Any Grade 3-6 student who is interested can participate.

ELECTRONICS

Students may use electronic devices (cell phones, tablets, iPads, game consoles, etc.) before school and after school. During class time, recess and lunch time, personal electronic devices are not to be used. If you need to contact your child during these times, please call the office (604-826-1414).

Ecole Mission Central IS NUT AND SCENT AWARE!

Nut Allergy

Ecole Mission Central now has students who have a serious allergy to nuts, known as Anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that can be **life threatening**. Food is the most common cause of anaphylaxis, but insect stings, medicine, latex, or exercise can also cause a reaction. It has been estimated that more than 600,000 or 1% to 2% of Canadians are at risk of anaphylaxis (from food and insect allergy). Ecole Mission Central is a "**Nut Aware Zone**". Please help us keep our school safe for all students by following these simple rules:

1. do not send or bring any nut or nut products into the school
2. if you or your child eats peanut butter before coming to school please make sure hands and face are washed and teeth are brushed.
3. do not share any food at school.

Scent Aware

Additionally, many people are extremely sensitive and/or allergic to perfumes, colognes, after shaves, and other scented products. Please do not wear them in our workplace.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL



The PAC of Ecole Mission Central makes a tremendous commitment to our students and staff each year. Exciting fund-raising projects and initiatives, which add to the great spirit of our school, are being planned as you read this. Everyone is welcome to attend PAC meetings. The PAC welcomes families to a Welcome Barbeque on Sept 22nd from 5-7pm. Donations are appreciated but not required.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Parents, there are many ways you can volunteer at school, including Breakfast Club, reading to students, assisting teachers with Literacy and Numeracy centers, preparation of materials, supervision on field trips, helping out in our PAC concession, to name just a few. If you want to help to make a difference at our school, check with your child's teacher, or contact a PAC executive member to find out about the variety of ways in which you can help. Please check at the office and complete the district parent volunteer form and criminal record check. The criminal record check is free.