

PORT GUICHON Elementary School

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<http://pg.deltasd.bc.ca/>

NEWSLETTER

No. 8 – May 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Thank you for making this year's Spring fair such a success. It was great to see our community out supporting our school. A special thank you to our wonderful PAC for their hard work and the countless hours of their own time that they put in.

We would also like to thank all our track and field coaches for their hard work during this year's track season. We know that our students are lucky to have so many caring coaches.

As we near the last few months of school, we have many events to look forward to including several class field trips and Hip Hop instruction.

Parents should also know that we have new staff member here at Port Guichon. Please welcome Ms. R. Jones. Ms. Jones will be working as an Education Assistant in several of our classrooms.

We would like to also remind parents to please sign in at the front office when visiting the school so that we can provide you with the appropriate visitor tag. Lunches, homework and various other items should be left at the office and we will deliver them at the appropriate time in order to minimize disruptions to instructional time.

Lastly, we encourage you to contact the school if you have any questions that we can help clarify or if you would like to bring something to our attention. The school is always looking to have clear communication with parents so that we can help your child be successful.

Sincerely,

Mark Douangchanh, Vice Principal – Port Guichon
Bob Thompson, Principal – Port Guichon

MATH CELEBRATION – THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS!

Thank you to Ms. Tan for her efforts on behalf of Port Guichon and all elementary students in Ladner for coordinating the Math Celebration held at Port Guichon on April 17th!

Sixteen Port Guichon students in grades 4-7 attended Delta's Math Celebration. Each team was challenged with four math questions that were then judged and ranked based on 1- accuracy 2 - strategy and 3 - team work. Each of our teams did extremely well. Port Guichon teams walked away with 4 gold, 11 silver and 1 bronze. Congratulations for a job well done, we are so proud of your efforts to represent our school!

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MONTH: MAY

At Port Guichon, we hold a variety of regular drills. This month, in support of our District Earthquake Preparedness initiative, we will hold an earthquake drill - with evacuation of the building, on Monday, May 5th.

As part of this drill, we will practice our student release procedures. As detailed in the notice sent home on April 30th, all parents, or other designated adults, are to pick up their children following the emergency student release procedures. We will begin releasing students at 2:30 PM. People picking up students are asked to follow all directions provided to them by school personnel and to be patient as we try and simulate an orderly and safe release of our students. Students will **only be released to people who are listed as Emergency Release Contacts**.

TRACK MEETS

We are preparing for the Ladner Regional Track Meet on Tuesday, May 6th and the Delta District Meet on Thursday, May 15th. Students who qualify to participate in the above mentioned meets will bring home notices with specific information regarding these events. Parents of the participants are welcome to attend and cheer on our teams.

We also need parent volunteers to help with timing, judging and putting up the Port Guichon canopy. If you can help in any of these areas, please contact Mr. Douangchanh at the school.

Unfortunately, **we cannot accommodate student spectators at the Track Meets**. School will be in session for all students not involved in the meets. We appreciate your understanding and support of these arrangements.



PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR

At this time of year, we spend a lot of energy preparing for the next school year. You can help us in the following ways:

1. Your Child's Class

The staff will soon be planning next year's classes. We want you to know that when students are assigned to new classes by their teachers, many factors are considered. ***We always try to place students in the class where we believe they will experience the most success.***

This is an important decision and if you have information about your child that you would like us to consider, please:

- complete a **"Parent Information Form"** and return it to the office **no later** than Friday, May 30th. Please keep in mind that this information will be shared with all staff members and considered when putting together next year's classes. These forms are available in the school office and on the Port Guichon website.
- be reminded, while friendships are important, not all friends can be placed together and, in many cases, doing so is not conducive to the learning situation. However, good friendships can and do continue outside on the playground;
- also take into consideration that since many of our classes are combined (split), most students will be placed in a combined class several times during their elementary years. This may mean that sometimes students are placed in a combined class two or more years in a row;
- note that it is not possible for parents to choose their child's teacher

Please remember that we have many considerations in placing students.

2. Will you be moving?

We really **must** know if you do not intend to enrol your child at Port Guichon next year. Also, if you have moved but wish to keep your child(ren) at Port Guichon, you will need to fill out a non-catchment form. Please send a note to the office if either of the above applies to you.



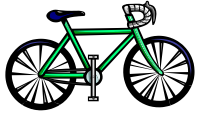
HEALTH AND WELLNESS UPDATE

Please continue to check your children regularly for head lice and to let the school know if you've had to treat your child's hair. Only by staying vigilant, can we keep ahead of this common and easily spread nuisance.

PORT GUICHON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS

Emergency Preparedness Earthquake Drill & Student Release Monday, May 5	We will be practicing our drop-cover-hold and orderly evacuation of the building as part of our regular preparedness exercises. ALL PARENTS OR DESIGNATED ADULTS ARE TO PICK UP THEIR CHILDREN AT 2:30 PM. Please follow staff instructions for the student release procedure.
Regional Track Meet Tuesday, May 6	Members of the Port Guichon Track Team will be attending this full day event at the Delta Secondary School Track. Permission slips were sent home on April 30 th .
Kite Day Wednesday, May 7	Come and join us at 12:52 PM for fun with tangled strings and flying things!
Pajama Day Friday, May 9	Flannel, plaid, frilly, or footed – roll out of bed and come to school in your pajamas today! <i>We do encourage you to comb your hair and brush your teeth!</i>
Pre-Ordered Lunch Lady Lunch Friday, May 9	Thank you PAC for organizing this lunch.
PAC Meeting Tuesday, May 13	Please join us at the school 7:00 PM.
Spring Sprint Wednesday, May 14	11:30 AM This run is similar to those held earlier this year. If you can help out as a marshal along the route, please contact the office.
Non-Instructional Day School Closed Friday, May 16	STUDENTS DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL
Victoria Day Monday, May 19	SCHOOL CLOSED
Pre-Ordered Lunch Lady Lunch Tuesday, May 20	Thank you PAC for organizing this lunch.
Grade 5 to Victoria Friday, May 23	Our Grade 5 students are off to Victoria to visit the Legislature and the Royal BC Museum.
PAC Bottle Drive Fundraiser Sunday, June 1	Save your empty bottles, cans, and juice containers. We'll be having a good old-fashioned bottle drive on Sunday, June 1 st . More information will be coming home in May.
SAVE THE DATE! Sports Day Wednesday, June 18	Be sure to plan on joining us on Wednesday, June 18 th , for our annual Sports Day competitions.

WALK YOUR WHEELS – All students and adults are expected to “walk their wheels” on school grounds. This means that once you or your child is on the grounds – having crossed the bridge from Kelly Drive, or come in the main driveway – please walk all bicycles or scooters, carry skateboards or take off roller blades. This is for the safety of all of our students. **All bicycles should be locked when placed in the bike racks.**



We also remind all students to wear a bike helmet for safety. Protect your head!

Messages from the School Nurse

Skin Protection

Sun Smart Tips:

- Apply sunscreen, SPF 15 or higher, 30 minutes before going in the sun
- Wear a hat and sunglasses
- Avoid the sun between 10am and 4pm.

Protection from Mosquitoes:

- Use insect repellents that are registered in Canada and contain Deet
- Deet in repellents should not exceed 30% for adults or 10% for children
- Do not use insect repellent in children under 2 years of age.

Healthy Habits for Kids

Healthy habits, including healthy eating, regular physical activity and being smoke free begin at home and continue throughout life. At a young age, children learn to make decisions and begin to make more choices of their own. They are developing habits and attitudes they may carry with them for the rest of their lives. Peer pressure influences children and youth of all ages and is particularly strong in the early teen years.

In the meantime, you, as a parent, play an important role in helping your children stay healthy. You may want to:

- Encourage your children to eat three well-balanced meals by selecting food outlined in Canada's Food Guide, ample vegetables and fruit is particularly important
- Offer them water and lower-fat milk (1% or 2%) instead of pop and other sugary drinks
- Serve healthier options like fresh fruit, veggie sticks and low-fat yogurt for after school snacks
- Encourage free outdoor play and limiting their screen time
- Make both your indoor and outdoor family activities free from secondhand smoke
- Encouraging your kids to choose activities they love - any activity - dancing, basketball, hockey, soccer, swimming or rollerblading
- Schedule active family outings like hiking, swimming or biking
- Set a good example yourself by eating healthfully and being physically active on a regular basis and by being smoke free

For more healthy living tips visit: <http://www.actnowbc.ca>

Magical Nook
Childcare center



Located at Port Guichon Elementary

Spaces available for the Summer and September 2014

Multi-Age Bilingual Program

5 hour bilingual (English/French) Pre-School Program - Ages 2 to 5 years old

September to June

M,T,Th,Fr - 8:45 - 2:45, W - 8:45 -1:30

Summer Program

Ages 5 - 12 Years Old

Before and After School Program

Ages 5 to 12 years old

Monday to Friday - 6:45 AM to 6:00 PM

For more information, call Linda at 778-233-0875

Or email us at linda@magicalnook.com

Please check out our website at www.magicalnook.com

Summer Activities

We are beginning to receive notices and flyers from community groups and organizations offering programs for kids during the summer. Please be sure to check the bulletin board and table in the front hallway of the school for these items.