



PORT
GUICHON

Elementary School

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NEWSLETTER

No. 2 – October 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for your support in September. The school year is off to a great start and students are feeling settled and there definitely is a great feeling in the hallways at Port Guichon. The teachers and EAs are feeling energetic and are enthusiastic about the school year and much of this enthusiasm is due to your support.

The teachers are looking forward to talking to you more about your child during Parent Teacher Conferences (please see below for information).

We have many events to look forward to in the next little while. Some of the events include, our PAC sponsored cultural performance (Speed Control), Our Canned Food Drive, Walk to School Week, our Turkey Trot and Halloween.

We are excited to see what our students come up with for Halloween costumes this year. Please be reminded that students will participate in a costume parade in the afternoon on Friday, Oct 30th, and parents are more than welcome to attend. Please remember that we are asking students to avoid “masks” so that we can recognize their face if we need to get their attention or in case of an emergency. We are also asking students to avoid toy weapons and excessive amounts of gore as we have some students who are more sensitive.

More information will go home shortly, but please start thinking about our “Full Evacuation and Release Drill” drill on Wednesday November 4th. During this drill we will be asking parents to come and pick up their child so that we can practise our emergency procedures. If you are unable to make it, the adult on your emergency release information may participate on your behalf. If no-one is able to pick up your child during this drill, they will be dismissed at the regular dismissal time. Please note that if the weather is not cooperating we will hold the drill on Friday November 6th instead. You can help us prepare for this drill by making sure that all your information is updated on **Parent Connect**. Please note that there are some permission forms that need to be accessed through parent connect as well. If you need any help with this, please see Mrs. Ward at the office.

Lastly, at our most recent assembly we had a discussion with our students about school rules. We told our students that here at Port Guichon all our rules can be condensed into two very simple rules. Those rules are “be safe” and “be kind”. Please help support us by re-emphasizing and using this language at home.

Once again, thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,

Mark Douangchanh
Principal

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who contributed to “Twoonies for Terry”. Port Guichon raised \$304 that has been forwarded to the Terry Fox Foundation raising money for cancer research.

Also thank you to the volunteers who helped with our Terry Fox Run. The marshals along the route helped keep us safe and in good spirits.

CANNED FOOD DRIVE



Reminder our Annual Fall Canned Food Drive is happening this week starting on Monday and will end this Friday, October 9th. Food is being donated to the Delta Food Bank. Parents of Port Guichon have always been so generous. Thank you Port Guichon!



WALK TO SCHOOL WE

This is International Walk to School Week ("IWALK"). We are encouraging students to walk and/or wheel to school this week and to continue to do so the rest of the year. IWALK promotes: increased daily physical activity, improving safety, enhancing the environment, promotes social interaction, reduces traffic congestion, pollution and speed near schools. Help us encourage our students to participate!

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on Tuesday, October 13, 2015 and Thursday, October 15, 2015. Students will be dismissed at 2:00 pm on both those days. Appointments are scheduled every 15 minutes. All conferences are booked using our Parent Connect Interview Booking System. Sign-on to Parent Connect and select "Interview" on the top blue panel. Conferences will be available to book online this week and will close at 12:00 midnight on Monday, October 12, 2015. If you have any questions, please call the office.

entertainment BOOKS

Our Entertainment Book Fundraiser has started. Port Guichon is raising funds to supplement and enhance our students' field trips. This year the books are slimmer have all the same great offers as before. The books will have more coupons per page saving on paper and easier to carry around and use. Every child who sells a book, receives a sneaker key chain.

Please return payment for the book(s)/or any unsold books to the office by October 22, 2015.

COLLECTING BATTERIES FOR WE DAY!



Bring your used household batteries to WE Day to keep electronic waste out of landfills and help save a child's life. Every AA battery has enough zinc in it to save the lives of six children. For every battery recycled, Teck will donate the equivalent value of zinc to UNICEF in support of our zinc partnership program in India. Visit www.zincsavestives.com to learn more. Please note: we can not accept lithium batteries at WE Day, which includes laptop, camera and watch batteries.

EMERGENCY RELEASE CONTACTS

It is important that your child's Emergency Release Contact Information is updated on Parent Connect. In the event of an emergency resulting in the school closure during the school day, and you are unable to collect your child(ren) from school, you authorize the release of your child(ren) into the custody of temporary adult guardians. We will only be able to release your child(ren) to those temporary adult guardians you have identified in the upcoming Earthquake/Full Release Drill on November 4th.

STUDENT PLANNERS



All students in Grades 1-7 have brought home a Port Guichon Student Planner. These have been purchased to encourage consistency throughout the school and to help students achieve the organizational goals of the Personal Planning curriculum. Thank you to those who have sent \$5.00 to the school to cover the cost of the planner. If you have not yet sent in the \$5.00 please do so as soon as possible. Thank you.

PHOTO RETAKES

TUESDAY, October 20th is the date of our Photo Retakes. The photographer will be using “green screen” technology, so anything green or solid white does not work well with this process.

Students who have a preview sent home from the initial photo day and would like to have a retake, please return your preview back to the school by October 15th with the “retake” box indicated so Mountain West is aware which students will be attending the retakes.

MUNCHA LUNCH

A big thank you to Kari Zantolas for coordinating the PAC’s Muncha Hot Lunch Program. Just like last year, parents may use the online order system provided through Munch-a-Lunch. You can access Munch-a-Lunch by going to the website: www.munchalunch.com/schools/portguichon. If you missed the deadline for this October’s hot lunch, no worries, you can still place your orders throughout the year. You can order month to month or for the full year.

UPCOMING EVENTS	
Canned Food Drive For Delta Food Bank October 5 – 9	Once again this year, we will celebrate the spirit of Thanksgiving by sharing with those in need. Canned goods will be collected in classrooms and donated to the Delta Food Bank. Thank you for your support.
Walk to School Week October 5 - 9	Port Guichon is encouraging our students to participate in International Walk to School Week.
Performance Speed Control Thursday, October 8	1:40 PM – All students and parents/guardians are invited to join us for the Speed Control Performance. Speed Control is an animated rock trio using their extensive knowledge to engage and inspire youth audiences everywhere.
Extra-Curricular Band Performance Friday, October 9	9:00 am – The Extra-Curricular Band will be performing a 30 minute concert at Port Guichon. Parents are welcome to attend.
PAC Hot Lunch Friday, October 9	Thank you, PAC and volunteers for this special lunch.
Thanksgiving Day Monday, October 12	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING
Parent Teacher Conferences Tues. Oct. 13 & Thurs Oct. 15	Students are dismissed early at 2:00 pm both days for Parent Teacher Conferences.
Student Picture Orders Due Thursday, October 15	Please return your photo orders by this date.
Federal Election Monday, October 19	Poles are being held all day in the Port Guichon Gym. There will be no disruption to classes other than the gym not being available for students.
Photo Re-Take Day Tuesday, October 20 th	The photographer will be using “green screen” technology, so wearing anything green or white does not work well with the process.
WE DAY Wednesday, October 21	Our We Team group of student leaders from Port Guichon will be attending the We Day Event at Rogers Arena in Vancouver.
Entertainment Books Due Thursday, October 22	All Entertainment 2016 books and money are now due. Please return any unsold books to the school office ASAP. Thank you.
Div. 6 – Delta Gymnastics Thursday, October 22	9:00 am - Div. 6 Students to go on a field trip to the Delta Gymnastics
Professional Day Friday, October 23	District Wide Instructional Day for Staff. Students do not attend classes
Div. 7 – Westham Herb Farm Monday, October 26	1:00 pm – Students of Division 7 to go to the Westham Herb Farm
PAC Meeting Monday, October 26	7:00 pm – All parents/guardians are invited to join us at the school for this meeting.
Great Pumpkin Run Wednesday, October 28	11:40 am our school to participate in the Great Pumpkin Run – parents are welcome to join us!
Halloween Costume Parade Friday, October 30	1:00 pm – Students will participate in a costume parade and parents are more than welcome to attend. We are asking for students to avoid wearing masks.
Full Release Evacuation Drill Wednesday, November 4	1:15 pm – More information to follow
Remembrance Day Assembly Tuesday, November 10	11:40 am will be the time of our Assembly. Parents are invited to join us.
Remembrance Day Wednesday, November 11	Students do not attend school

