



# PORT GUICHON Elementary School

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

## NEWSLETTER

No. 2 – October 2013

**We have only sent paper copies of this newsletter home to families that have requested them. If you didn't receive a paper copy, but would like to have copies sent home, please call the school office and we'll add you to the list.**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for all your support during the month of September. It was great to see so many of you during our Terry Fox Run and our Open House. As our students are settling in, we would like to take a moment remind you that the staff here at Port Guichon feel that it is important to work together in order to provide your child with the best school experience possible. We encourage you to talk to your child's teacher on a regular basis, especially if you have questions about how to help your child needs.

October brings many exciting events, including Halloween, a Taiko drumming performance in the gym and also an opportunity to for our students to have a pizza lunch.

At the end of October, families will have an opportunity for their child to receive an eye exam, and if needed, glasses at school free of charge. School Vision Care is a company that works with schools to provide eye exams and glasses to students whose families may not be able to afford them. A notice with more information will be going home about this wonderful opportunity.

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

Thank you to everyone for making our Terry Fox Foundation fundraising drive a huge success. The Port Guichon School community raised \$307.55 to help in the fight against cancer. Great Job!

### **SCHOOL PORTRAITS – RETAKES – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22**

Previews of the photos taken on September 25<sup>th</sup> will be sent home in mid-October. The photographer will return on Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, for photo retakes. **Retake envelopes are available for pick-up in the office. Please note – retakes must be pre-paid.**

In order to ensure delivery of all portraits before Christmas, Portrait packages will only be made for students who submit a Photo Order Envelope with Payment to the photographer on photo day.

**There is no risk, as all photos are fully guaranteed.**

If your child was absent for the original photos or if you chose not to order from the first previews, please have your child pick up a Photo Order Form from the school office. Complete the form, including payment, and have your child give it to the photographer on Photo Day.

Please note: Orders handed in after the second photo day require special processing and are therefore subject to a \$10 handling fee. These orders will be processed separately from the school orders and mailed directly to the customer's home address in 6 to 8 weeks.

### ***Entertainment Books***

Our Entertainment Book fundraiser is continuing throughout the month of October. The Entertainment Book makes a great gift for that "hard to buy for" friend or family member.

**This year, the Entertainment book price is only \$30** and has hundreds of dollars of savings in groceries, fast food, restaurant, clothing, entertainment and other services. Funds raised are used to support the wide variety activities enhancing the experience for all students at Port Guichon.

**We have additional books available in the school office if you need them.**

**Please return your payment for the book and/or any unsold books to the office.**

## MESSAGES FROM YOUR PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

### Keep Active and Keep Strong

The fall often means the start of organized activities and sports for many young people. Children and youth need to take care of their bodies in order for them to have fun and perform optimally physically and in school.

To help your child be at their best, provide support to:

- Keep well hydrated throughout the day - water is needed for many basic functions in our bodies
- Follow a healthy diet - Eat 3 meals and snacks every day, choosing foods from each of the 4 food groups
- For most children, there is no need to supplement any nutrients if a balanced diet is followed
- Make sure they get adequate sleep - school age kids need 8 - 10 hours per night
- Be smoke-free, talk to your children about the dangers of smoking and ensure their environment is smoke-free.
- Be active - it is recommended that children have at least 30 minutes of activity everyday
- Role model healthy behaviours - after all, you have the most influence over your child's health choices.

## IMPORTANT SAFETY REMINDERS

**Parking:** Please remember to park in designated areas and follow our school signs for everyone's safety. Please do not park in front of the gym when dropping your children off.

**Kelly Drive:** Kelly Drive is a busy traffic area where students walk and cross. Please be aware of your speed.

## WALK SAFELY

1. Always walk on the inside edge of the sidewalk
2. If there is no sidewalk, always walk facing on coming traffic. Be sure to use the far edge away from traffic and stay visible
3. Don't jaywalk (cross the street from the middle of a sidewalk) always cross at the end of the sidewalk or the intersection of the street. Drivers do not expect people to cross in the middle of the road.
4. Watch for cars backing out of their driveways.
5. During bad weather or low lighting remember to wear high visible clothing.
6. When crossing the street and there are parked cars blocking your view down the street make sure that you step slowly out from the parked vehicle and look to see if a car is coming before you cross the street
7. When crossing the street remember to:
  - **STOP** (with your feet on the edge of the sidewalk)
  - **LOOK** in all directions for vehicles (vehicles may be turning and / or not paying attention to you- make EYE contact and ensure that the vehicle has stopped before you cross the street)
  - **LISTEN** for oncoming traffic. You can hear a speeding car before you can see it and speeding vehicles can appear very quickly.

Please note that there will be additional truck and farm vehicle traffic along 46A Street during the duration of the potato harvest season.

*Magical Nook*  
Childcare center



Located at Port Guichon Elementary

**Offering both Daycare and Before/After School Care**

**Spaces still available**

For more information, call 604-306-2296

Or email at [linda@magicalnook.com](mailto:linda@magicalnook.com)

Please check out our website at [www.magicalnook.com](http://www.magicalnook.com)

## PARENT - TEACHER CONFERENCES

Our first reporting to parents will be our fall parent-teacher conferences on October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Please note that this is an opportunity for you and your child's teacher to meet and discuss their progress. Please do not bring your children to this first parent-teacher conference. Please watch for the conference notice which will be sent home the week before our fall conference dates. There will be early dismissal on Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> and Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 PM, to accommodate the parent-teacher conference schedule.

### THANKSGIVING CANNED FOOD DRIVE FOR THE LADNER FOOD BANK



Once again this year, we will celebrate the spirit of Thanksgiving by sharing with those in need. Canned goods and other non-perishable food items (pasta, cereal, crackers, flour, sugar, baby food, macaroni & cheese, peanut butter, rice, etc.) will be collected in the classrooms and donated to the Ladner Food Bank. Our Food Drive will run from Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, through Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your support.

### TURKEY TROT

This month we begin our monthly fun runs that will see our students running, jogging and walking through the Port Guichon community. On Wednesday, Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>, we will have our annual "Turkey Trot". Parent volunteers are needed to help marshal the route and keep our students safe. Parents are also welcome to accompany our students along the route. The run starts from the side door of the gym at 11:30 am.



### HOMEWORK CLUB

The Homework Club, under the supervision of Mrs. Beeksma, meets in the Library from 12:15 during lunch hour Monday to Friday. All students are welcome to attend and get a head start and/or help with their homework.

### HELP US KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE Completion of Medical Alert Forms

We are required to maintain a safe and efficient procedure for all students who attend school. If your child has a medical condition that requires precautionary treatment or medication at school, and you have not filled out the required "Medical Alert" form and/or the "Request for Administration of Medication at School" form, please contact your school and complete the required forms. Please have the form completed and signed by your doctor, sign it yourself, and return it to the school as soon as possible. This procedure complies with School Board Policy. If there are any questions, please leave a message at the school and we will return your call.

### SCENT FREE SCHOOL

Port Guichon is a "Scent-Free School". Increasing numbers of students and staff have sensitivities and allergies to scented products, so we ask that you refrain from using perfumes and scented personal products if you know you will be visiting the school. We appreciate your cooperation in making Port Guichon a safe and comfortable place for everyone.

### VOLLEYBALL SEASON

Our Grade 6 and 7 students are gearing up for this year's volleyball season. Practices will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the lunch break. Notices will be coming home about upcoming games and our need for parent volunteer drivers. Thank you to our coaches, Mr. Sowden and Mr. Jang.



### WET WEATHER MORNING PROCEDURES

As we move into the wetter, colder months, we want to remind you of the procedure for morning arrival. **Students should not come into the school before 8:30 AM. All students should report to the undercover area. Students should not come in through the front door.** Our teachers are busy preparing for the day and need uninterrupted time to get ready for their classes. Students wait in the undercover area and at 8:30 AM we will ring a double bell. Mr. Douangchanh will then bring all the students into the Library to wait until the bell rings at 8:40 AM and students can go to their classrooms.



### "IN DAY" EXPECTATIONS



When the weather is very bad, we will have an "In-Day" where students are able to stay inside during recess or lunch. Students are to remain in their classrooms, playing board games, doing work, reading books, having quiet conversations and behaving appropriately. If they do not follow these guidelines, they will be asked to go outside. Students can bring games or bring a favourite book from home. Staying inside is a privilege, not an automatic right.

<b>UPCOMING EVENTS</b>	
<b>Canned Food Drive For Ladner Food Bank</b> October 1 - 11	Once again this year, we will celebrate the spirit of Thanksgiving by sharing with those in need. Non-perishable food items will be collected and donated to the Ladner Food Bank. Thank you for your support.
<b>Lunch Order Money Due</b> Friday, October 4	<b>9:00 AM</b> Order forms and payments for the upcoming 3 special lunches organized by the PG PAC are due into the school by 9:00 AM today.
<b>PAC Meeting</b> Tuesday, October 8	<b>7:00 PM</b> – All parents are invited to join us at the school for these important meetings.
<b>Turkey Trot</b> Wednesday, October 9	<b>11:30 AM</b> All students will walk or run in our annual Turkey Trot. Parents are invited to participate or volunteer to assist in this event. Please call the school if you can help.
<b>Uzume Taiko Performance</b> Friday, October 11	<b>9:00 AM</b> Parents are welcome to join us for our first performing group of the year. Uzume Taiko, a Japanese drumming and storytelling group, will be performing in the PG Gym. Thank you to the PAC for supporting our cultural experiences.
<b>Pizza Pre-Ordered Lunch</b> Friday, October 11	Thank you PAC Volunteers for this special lunch.
<b>Thanksgiving Day</b> Monday, October 14	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING</b>
<b>WE Day</b> Friday, October 18	Student leaders from Port Guichon will be attending this important event at Rogers Arena
<b>Photo Retakes</b> Tuesday, October 22	<b>9:00 AM</b> You must pick up a re-take envelope from the office and submit it pre-paid to the photographer on this date. <b>DO NOT WEAR GREEN</b> or solid white!
<b>Early Dismissal Parent-Teacher Conferences</b> <b>Tuesday, October 22</b>	<b>2:00 PM Dismissal for all students.</b> Parent-Teacher Conferences – Watch for the notice with your appointment time
<b>Early Dismissal Parent-Teacher Conferences</b> <b>Thursday, October 24</b>	<b>2:00 PM Dismissal for all students.</b> Parent-Teacher Conferences – Watch for the notice with your appointment time
<b>Pro-D Day</b> Friday, October 25	<b>STUDENTS DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL.</b>
<b>Monday- Thursday</b> October 28 - 31	School Vision Care Screening – watch for the information and permission notices coming home in mid-October.



Just a reminder to watch for field trip permission forms coming home this month. Many classes are heading out on a variety of field trips. Your assistance with the prompt return of these permission forms and your help as parent volunteer drivers is much appreciated.



**A Message from the PAC Emergency Preparedness Committee**

Each student is bringing home a notice about this year's Emergency Comfort Kits. Please be sure to ask your child for this important notice. Included in the notice is the following request.

Please provide a photo and letter of comfort for each child in your family in an envelope marked with their name and division. If you have prepared one in the past, it is being sent home. You can now update that photo and letter over the next few days and return it with your child next week. For those who have not done this before, you can now prepare a new photo and letter of comfort. These will be added to the items provided by the PAC. The PAC requests that in order for all items to fit in the emergency containers, the envelopes be no larger than a large size (3.7 litre) Ziploc bag.

PLEASE RETURN THE PHOTO AND COMFORT LETTER TO YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM BY  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18<sup>th</sup>.