

October 9th, 2018

**C.M. Finch: October Newsletter**

**https://cmfinch.prn.bc.ca/**

**Parking Respectfully and Using Cross Walks**

When we have to utilize more street parking you are asked to make sure that you park so that our neighbors’ driveways are not blocked.

Parents are reminded that the front corner of the school between the fence and the flower pots is a designated **Handicapped Parking Zone.**  We ask that you respect this as we have students with mobility issues that need to be able to enter and exit the building from this area.

As the weather turns colder Parents are reminded that the front of the school is an **Idle Free Zone.** If you need to leave you vehicle idling please park away from the school as the exhaust fumes get draw into the school through our fresh air intake system.

The **Bus Lane** that is in front of the flagpole is also an area where **parking is prohibited**. When cars are parked in this zone it prevents the bus from pulling in, which creates an unnecessary safety concern at dismissal time.

Parents are asked to reinforce the use of crosswalks. There are two crosswalks on the road in the front of the school. It is much safer for students to use the crosswalks rather than walking between parked cars and traffic to reach their parents. Please make sure you do not park too close to the crosswalk. ***The legal distance you can park from a crosswalk is 6 meters (20 feet).***

**Allergy Alert: Nuts Aware, Sesame Seeds, and Seafood**

This year we welcome several students and staff to our school who have food allergies such as sesame seeds, all kinds of nuts, and seafood. Reactions range from mild to life threatening. There are several practices that will be in place to help prevent allergic reactions such as students will wash their hands upon arrival to the classroom and again before and after lunch. We are school wide all nut allergy aware. Please avoid sending items that contain nuts, sesame seeds, and seafood, as it is a safety issue for our school.

**Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting Wednesday, October 10th at 7:00pm**

The C.M. Finch School PAC will be having their AGM this Wednesday at 7:00pm in the school library. Parents are invited to attend and help out our school community. Babysitting will be provided.

**Fall Fling Dance: Thursday, October 18th from 6 - 8:00pm**

The School PAC will be hosting a Fall Fling Family Dance. They are looking for a volunteer DJ with previous experience to play music at the event. This event is open to all students and their families. Families are asked to bring a nut free snack to share. **Students attending the dance are expected to be accompanied by an adult.**

**Thank You for the New Playground Equipment**

We would like to thank all the parents and community members that help with the purchase and installation of our new Monkey Bars, and Climbing Web. We would like to thank our School PAC for all their hard work fundraising, organizing, and installing the equipment. We would like to thank **Peace Country Rentals** for donating tools to help with the installation. We would also like to thank all the business sponsors from throughout the community for their generous donations.

**Thank You: Pancake Breakfast**

We would like to thank everyone fro attending our pancake breakfast. It was a fun event that helped us welcome everyone to our school community. We would like to give a special thank to **Mrs. Alexander** for shopping for our supplies. We would also like to thank **Pimm’s Production** and **The Fort St. John Fire Department** for donating their Barbeques, and a big thanks to Mr. Pimm, Mr. Beard, and Mr. Nicoll for helping us to cook.

**Fire Safety**

The Fort St. John Fire Department will be coming to do a fire safety and prevention presentation on Friday, October 12th in the afternoon. We have been practicing our fire drills at the school to ensure we are prepared in case of a real emergency.

**School Code of Conduct**

Please ensure you read, discuss and sign our School Code of Conduct at the front of your child’s agenda to reinforce the school wide expectations. This will help to promote a Responsible and Respectful learning environment for everyone. **R+R=H**

**Healthy Eating Reminder**

We ask that parents to support the Healthy Eating Guidelines set out by the provincial government. Eating healthy food can help students learn more effectively. For more information see the website below.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/school-health/healthy-eating-in-schools>

**Read and Feed: Monday, October 22nd 9-9:30am**

We will be celebrating BC School Library Day on Monday, October 22nd. We would like to invite you to join us to read with your child’s class. You are welcome to bring a healthy snack to share.

**Halloween**

We will be hosting our annual costume parade at 1:00pm on October 31st. Students are reminded that their costumes must be school appropriate. We ask that students’ costumes are free of dangerous props (i.e. Guns, Swords, Knives). Students will be putting their costumes on after lunch eating time in preparation for our parade. After Halloween we ask that students limit their candy intake at school to two treats per day, and be sure to keep any treats with nuts in them at home.

**Picture Retakes November 6th, 9:00am**

*(School Photo Packages Have Not Arrived Yet)*

The photographer will be here tomorrow to take photos for students that missed our first photo day or to do retakes for student packages that were returned. Retake packages should be returned to the school office with a note about the reason a retake is needed.

