



# MITCHELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3800 #5 Rd, Richmond BC V6X 2T7  
Phone 604-668-6225 | Early Warning 604-668-6229  
Website: [mitchell.sd38.bc.ca](https://mitchell.sd38.bc.ca) | Twitter: @MFirebirds  
Principal/Directrice: Mme V. Carrière Vice Principal/Directeur Adjoint: Mr. K. Narbett



## NEWSLETTER #4

October 6, 2023

It's hard to believe that our first October week is already behind us!

Lately, we have noticed an uptick in illness at school, and we would like to remind all families to keep sick children at home as much as possible, to avoid the spread of illness.

Next week will be short again as there is no school on Monday for Thanksgiving, but exciting! Many classes will be going to the pumpkin patch, the HUB cycling program will continue for div. 1-4, we will have a special performance by Andy the Musical Scientist and finally, Friday will be Picture Day!

### STAFFING UPDATE

- 1) As mentioned in our last newsletter, Ms. Graham (EA) is now on maternity leave. I am pleased to announce that **Mr. Leonard Dame** will replace her as part of our EA team for the duration of her leave.
- 2) Our part-time Resource position remains unfilled. We continue our work with the district to fill this Resource and prep position as soon as possible. Mitchell is grateful to TOC Muhammad Saleem who has stepped in this position in the past two weeks and who will return next week.



### BREAKFAST CLUB UPDATE

The breakfast has been back for the past two Wednesdays, and it has been very well attended! We are hoping to add breakfast club dates soon, so stay tuned in future newsletters for more info!

### PAC NEWS

Mitchell's first PAC meeting of the year has been **rescheduled to Oct. 17, at 6pm**, in the library. We hope to see a few families there!

As announced by PAC, hot lunches are back! Check out the lineup:

- Oct. 13 – Sushi
- Oct. 19 – A&W
- Oct. 27 – Taco Del Mare

If you are interested in purchasing a hot lunch for your child, please note that you need to do so a minimum of one week in advance.

To order: <https://munchalunch.com/schools/mitchell>.

### BACKPACK BUDDIES



We are hoping to partner with Backpack Buddies (<https://www.backpackbuddies.ca/>) this year to support some families with food security for the weekends. At this point, there is no guarantee that Mitchell will be able to participate for this school year, so we need to gauge interest first.

If your family would benefit in receiving food packages for your children every week before the weekend, please email the school administration with the following information:

- Name of children who would benefit from receiving the food
- Name of children or parents/guardians who would be responsible for picking up the food every week.

Please note that students or their parents/guardians would be responsible for carrying the food packages home. The school cannot deliver food packages to students' homes. Food packages are for children only. We will confirm with families when/if we are approved to receive the support of Backpack Buddies.

### REMINDER RE: FSAs FOR GRADES 4 & 7

Each year, the Ministry of Education requires school districts to conduct the Provincial Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA). This year, the FSAs will take place in October and November, **and most grade 4 and 7 classes have started this week**. The FSA is an annual province-wide assessment of all Grade 4 and 7 students' academic skills and is designed to provide parents, teachers, schools, school districts and the Ministry of Education and Child Care with important information on how well students are progressing in the foundation skills of Reading, Writing and Numeracy. All families were sent a district letter on Sept. 21, outlining more details about the FSAs. Please reach out to school administration with any questions.



### WEST COAST RECESS AND LUNCH

Just a reminder that children at Mitchell will be going outside rain or shine during recess and lunch breaks. We believe that being able to go outside, breathe lots of fresh oxygen and move around is very good for children's well-being and ability to learn. A well-known Norwegian quote tells us "There is no bad weather, only bad clothing." With this in mind, please make sure your child has adequate clothing for outside, even in the rain. Please provide them with a change of socks and shoes, rainproof coat with hood or hat and possibly an umbrella.



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### EARLY WARNING, ABSENCES, AND LATE ARRIVALS

Please inform the school by telephone when your child will be late or absent due to illness or an appointment, etc. Our Early Warning line - **604-668-6229** - is available 24 hours a day for parents to leave a message. Please clearly state your child's first and last name, division and reason for absence. If no prior notice of absence is received, we will call home to determine the reason for the absence. Students arriving after 8:45 a.m. are required to enter through the main doors and check-in at the office before going to class.



### VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

The main doors to the school remain unlocked during office hours from 8:00 – 4:00. Visitors are required to check into the office when entering the building. Thanks for your cooperation!



### PARKING LOT SAFETY

Please help keep our students safe by using the drop off zone for picking up and dropping off students only. We are working with our district team to get proper signage in place. **Please do not leave your car unattended in the drop off zone or roundabout;** if you need to come into the school, please park in a designated parking space at the west end of the school. Also, a reminder to parents that there are **no left turns permitted before and after school when leaving our parking lot.** Thanks for your cooperation!



- Oct. 4 -11 HUB Biking Program (Div. 1 to Div. 4)
- Oct. 9 Thanksgiving – School Closed**
- Oct. 12 Assembly – Performance by Andy the Musical Scientist
- Oct. 13 Picture Day
- Oct. 17 PAC Meeting at 6pm in Library**
- Oct. 19 Earthquake Drill at 9:50
- Oct. 20 PRO-D – School Closed**
- Oct. 23 Fire Drill at 2:20
- Oct. 27 PAC Halloween Event (6-8pm)
- Oct. 31 Halloween
- Nov. 2 Photo Retakes Day

### SCHOOL HOURS 2023-2024

- Classes Start 8:45 a.m.
- Recess 10:10 – 10:25 a.m.
- Lunch 11:50 – 12:42 p.m.
- School ends 2:45 p.m.

