



MITCHELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3800 #5 Rd, Richmond BC V6X 2T7

Phone 604-668-6225 | Early Warning 604-668-6229

Website: mitchell.sd38.bc.ca | Twitter: @MFirebirds

Principal/Directrice: Mme V. Carrière Vice Principal/Directeur Adjoint: Mr. K. Narbett



NEWSLETTER #5

October 13, 2023

We had a fantastic week at Mitchell, with a lot of great weather (and some rain, too!). Pumpkin patch visits, a super cool performance by Andy the musical scientist on Thursday, and lots of great learning opportunities filled our days!

STAFFING UPDATE

Our part-time Resource position has now been filled! We are happy to welcome Ms. Sian Sladen as a new member of our Resource team. Ms. Sladen will start her work at Mitchell on October 23 and will work Monday to Wednesday until the end of the school year.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

October 25 and 26 are designated dates in our calendar for conferences. Some teachers might also offer conference times on other dates. You may have already received communication from your child's teacher regarding booking an appointment, or you should receive communication in the upcoming days.

Please remember that October 25 & 26 will be early dismissal days (school will finish at 1:45).

UPCOMING PRO-D DAY

This is a reminder that Friday, October 20 is a Pro-D day. School will be closed that day.

PAC REMINDERS

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. 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>.

You should receive information about the "Trunk or Treat" event that will take place on Oct. 27 very soon. If you wish to donate candy, please make sure to leave it in the bin at the office.

CAMBIE AND NO5 PUBLIC CONSULTATION



The City has approved a capital project to upgrade the intersection of No. 5 Road and Cambie Road to improve safety and traffic flow

through the intersection. Public consultation is open now until October 23. If you would like more information on how you can have your voice heard, please read the following:

<https://sd38.bc.ca/news/2023-10-05/public-consultation-regarding-land-dedication>

FEEDING FUTURES AND AFFORDABILITY

Recently, the provincial government announced a new Feeding Futures School Program Fund, designed to assist schools in the development and enhancement of school meal programs and other nutritional supports for students.

If you would like to request support for your child at school, please reach out to Mme Val at vcarriere@sd38.bc.ca. We are gathering information and looking to provide ongoing support wherever possible.

Implementation plans are underway, and we want to ensure families are aware, and as always, able to reach out if they require support. All requests will be treated with dignity and your privacy will be respected. We want to work with families to ensure that your children have everything they need to be successful at school. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can help with anything, including field trip or other fees.

BACKPACK BUDDIES



As part of Feeding Futures initiatives, 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.

BACK TO SCHOOL WELLNESS KIT

Back-to-school transition can be a stressful time for students and their parents/guardians or caregivers. The B.C. Children's Hospital has released a [back-to-](#)



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[school wellness toolkit](#) to help support families. We encourage you to check it out!



GETTING READY FOR HALLOWEEN

This is the time of the year when we are thinking about Halloween costumes and celebrations. We are asking that you follow certain guidelines when thinking about a costume for your child at school:

- 1) **Culture (Indigenous regalia, dreadlocks, etc.), race (black face/brown face, etc.) and religion (nun, priest, hijab, etc.) are NOT a costume:** It is important to keep in mind that we need to be sensitive to groups that have been marginalized through mimicry and cultural appropriation during Halloween and other 'dress up' events.
- 2) **Gender is not a costume:** gender switching and stereotyping for humour or to mock could be hurtful.
- 3) **Weapons,** even plastic ones, will not be accepted as accessories for costumes at school. They pose a threat to safety for students when misused.
- 4) Let's think about our ecological footprint: is there a costume that could be re-used or borrowed from a friend? Could you perhaps consider making your costume yourself from recycled materials?

We look forward to seeing our students' costumes on October 31!



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.

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.

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!



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| Oct. 17 | PAC Meeting at 6pm in Library |
| Oct. 19 | Earthquake Drill at 9:50 |
| Oct. 19 | PAC Hot Lunch (A&W) |
| Oct. 20 | PRO-D – School Closed |
| Oct. 23 | Fire Drill at 2:20 |
| Oct. 25 & 26 | Early Dismissal – Conferences |
| Oct. 27 | PAC Hot Lunch (Taco Del Mare) |
| Oct. 27 | PAC Halloween Event (6-8pm) |
| Oct. 31 | Halloween |
| Nov. 2 | Photo Retakes Day |
| Nov. 10 | Remembrance Day Assembly at 11:00 |
| Nov. 13 | Holiday – No School |

SCHOOL HOURS 2023-2024

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|---------------|--------------------|
| 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. |



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!