



MITCHELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3800 #5 Rd, Richmond BC V6X 2T7

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

Website: mitchell.sd38.bc.ca

Principal/Directrice: Mme V. Carrière - Vice Principal/Directrice Adjointe: Ms.T. Norman



Newsletter 5 - October 10, 2025

This week was very busy at Mitchell. Grade 6 and 7 students finished their biking workshops with HUB. There were zucchini races with divisions 10 and 7! To finish it off, we had picture day today! This is your reminder that next Monday is Thanksgiving and there is no school. During this time, I would like to show gratitude for all our community members who support the work we do in our school. Thank you.

Upcoming Events/ Important Dates

Oct. 13 - Thanksgiving - NO SCHOOL

Oct. 14 - PAC Meeting in Library at 6PM

Oct. 20 - Happy Diwali!

Oct. 22-23 - Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Conferences

Oct. 24 - Pro-D - No school

Oct. 30 - Free reading workshop for grade 1 families (9:30 in Library)



Parent-teacher Conferences

Our Fall conferences will be on Oct. 22 and 23. On those days, students will have early dismissal.

During the conferences, you should expect to have an update on literacy and numeracy, core competencies, and social-emotional development. Teachers will soon send information on booking appointments, if they have not yet done so.

Are you curious to know more about Mitchell? Please go to our school website, where you'll find updates on our school goal and more at: mitchell.sd38.bc.ca

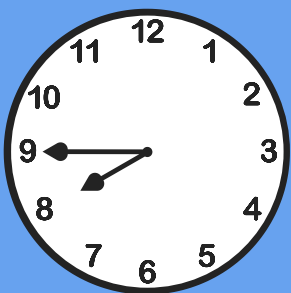


Cultural Celebrations

At Mitchell, we strive to create a safe, caring and welcoming atmosphere for all our students and staff. We encourage our students to learn about a variety of cultural celebrations. Learning about various celebration directly supports BC's elementary curriculum by fostering identity, diversity and social responsibility, especially in the curricular areas of Social Studies and Language Arts. With Diwali, Halloween and the Holiday season right around the corner, we wish to remind our community of this.

Be prepared for the weather

We are reminding families to send their children to school with appropriate clothing for the weather. We go out rain or shine! We also recommend for students to have sunscreen in their bags, as well as a hat for protection. Students should all have a refillable water bottle as well.



Learning Starts at 8:45

We are reminding families that learning/teaching starts at 8:45. This means that at 8:45, students should be in class with their teachers. We are asking families to make all efforts possible to arrive to school prior to this time. When students are late to school, not only do they lose out on instructional time, they also disrupt the learning of others upon their arrival.

Halloween Costumes



On Friday, October 31, students may choose to wear a costume to school for Halloween. There is absolutely no obligation for anyone to dress up for the day. If your child wears a costume to school, please consider the following guidelines to ensure it is school appropriate:

- 1) Culture (Indigenous regalia, dreadlocks, etc.), race (black face/brown face, etc.) and religion (nun, priest habit, hijab, etc.) are NOT costumes. We must be sensitive to groups who have, in the past, been marginalized by mimicry and cultural appropriation during Halloween and other “dress up” events.
- 2) Gender identity and sexual orientation are not costumes. Gender switching and stereotyping for humour is hurtful and harmful.
- 3) Safety. Weapons, even plastic ones, will not be accepted at school. They represent a safety issue, and could cause harm when played with unsafely. Masks will not be accepted as we need to see students’ faces.
- 4) Gory and violent costumes are too scary for most of our younger students and are not appropriate for elementary school.
- 5) Let’s think about our ecological footprint. Is there a costume that could be reused or borrowed from a friend? Could you perhaps consider making your costume yourself from recycled materials?





Allergy Alert

Please be aware that Mitchell School has many students with severe, life-threatening allergies food allergies. Please help us limit the nut products entering our school, as the impact on a student can happen anywhere in the school. Please do not send food to school containing nuts or peanuts.

Vision Checks For Children

Did you know that all children a check-up by an optometrist before starting Kindergarten to enter school ready to learn? Teachers or other professionals may recommend vision check-ups for children at other ages when concerns arise. Vision checks are no longer provided at the school level. In BC, MSP covers yearly vision check-ups for children under age 19. For more information, on how to access this service, please go to: <https://www.vch.ca/en/vision-services-children>



Important Lunch Reminders

We are reminding families that it is always best to send lunch with your child in the morning, to avoid unnecessary worries and concerns for children. While we understand that sometimes, families need to adjust their plans at the last minute, we have noticed an increase in lunch drop-offs at school throughout the mornings and lunch break. Many children worry about their lunch not being at school on time, so it is always best to have it packed and ready to go to school with them in the morning. **Please note that food deliveries (Skip, Uber Eats, Door Dash, etc.) are not permitted at school.** We thank you for your understanding.

Backpack Buddies Program

As a part of our Feeding Futures initiatives, we are partnering with Backpack Buddies again this year (backpackbuddies.ca) to support some families with food security for the weekends. If your family would benefit from receiving food packages for your children every week, please email Mme Val at vcarriere@sd38.bc.ca to have us add you to our list. If you were part of the program last school year and no longer wish or need to be part of it, please also email Mme Val with this information.

Please note that students and/or their parents are responsible for carrying the food packages home. The school cannot deliver food packages to students' homes. Food packages are for children attending Mitchell only.



Grade 4 & 7 Foundational Skills Assessment (FSA)

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. 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 student progress in the foundation skills of Reading, Writing and Numeracy. All grade 4 & 7 families were sent a district letter on Sept. 11, outlining more details about the FSAs. Please reach out to school administration with any questions.

FIREBIRD CORNER

SCHOOL HOURS

CLASSES START: 8:45

RECESS: 10:10 - 10:25

LUNCH RECESS: 11:50 - 12:20

LUNCH BREAK: 12:20 - 12:42

CLASSES END: 2:45

OFFICE HOURS

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM



VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

The main doors to the school remain unlocked during office hours from 8:00 – 3:15. Visitors are **required to check into the office** when entering the building. This is for everyone's safety. Thanks for your cooperation!



PARKING/TRAFFIC AT MITCHELL

Help keep our students safe by using the drop off zone for picking up and dropping off students only. 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 that there are no left turns permitted before and after school when leaving our parking lot. Thanks for your cooperation!



IN CASE OF ABSENCE OR LATE ARRIVAL

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.



**This is your link, to stay in the know with
what's going on @ Mitchell Elementary,
through
Mitchell Parent Advisory Council (PAC)**



**Mitchell Parent Advisory Council
PAC Portal**

