

MME VAL'S REVIEW SEPTEMBER 2025



WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL

What a busy time we have had at Mitchell these first few weeks! From getting to know new students and staff to all the fun activities we've done, it's been "go go go" for our community. September was filled with assemblies, our Terry Fox Run, Orange Shirt Day and Truth and Reconciliation week. Teachers have been busy at work planning their year and getting to know their students' needs. The start of October has been just as busy around the school with HUB cycling for our grades 6 and 7 students! Thank you to all of you who came to our Meet the Staff Night; it was lovely to see so many faces, familiar and new!



FIREBIRD STAFF MENTORING!

Did you know that Mitchell is a teaching school for adults, too? Every year, several staff take on the important role to mentor future educational assistants and teachers. This is one way that Firebird excellence is shared and extended to our professional community. This year, we are partnering with the Richmond School District's REAP program, Langara College, UBC and SFU to conduct this important work. We currently have NINE mentees working with us. I am happy and proud to introduce them and their Firebird sponsors and mentors, as well as their institutions' advisors. Please join me in welcoming them to our wonderful community:

Educational Assistants:

Nathalie Denesyk - mentored by Ms. Sheryl McMillan

Sharon Ip - mentored by Ms. Harpreet Mehat

Cathy Yang - mentored by Ms. Sam Graham

Iris Xu - mentored by Ms. Jennifer MacFarlane

Tracey Wong - mentored by Ms. Lynn White

REAP advisor: Susan Roy

SFU teaching practicum student:

Maëlle LeBerge - mentored by Mme Dewji

SFU advisor: Cynthia Ramamonjisoa

UBC teaching practicum students:

Natalie Tam - mentored by Ms. Yip

Paige Ross - mentored by Ms. Wang

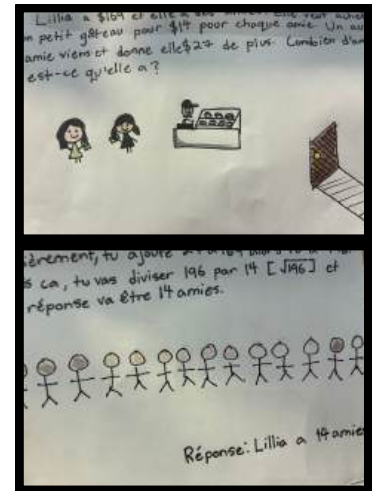
Caitlyn Humber - mentored by Mme Chang Dar Woon

UBC advisor: Hugh Blackman



OUR SCHOOL GOAL

This year, our school goal remains to "build confidence through numeracy". We are excited to continue our work to find strategies to make learning Math fun, engaging and relatable to real-life applications! Students and staff started the year strong by engaging in a variety of projects and activities. Examples are: building zucchini racers (applying measurement skills!), creating their own complex real-life Math problems, gardening and harvesting (measuring, counting, classifying) and simple applications such as counting the letters in our names in Kindergarten!



TERRY FOX RUN

Thanks to your contributions, we reached and exceeded our goal! Mitchell has raised \$997.90 for the Terry Fox Foundation this year! Thank you to all who donated and to our staff and students for giving it their all during our run on the afternoon of September 19! Thank you also to Ms. Lau and Ms. Yip, Ms. Wang and Mme Val's children who led the pre-run warm-up!



ORANGE SHIRT DAY

On September 29, we celebrated Orange Shirt Day by having an assembly. During this assembly, we discussed the meaning of Orange Shirt Day and had some performances by classes. A huge thank you to Emma and Aditi who did a fantastic job hosting our assembly and thank you to the families who joined us. During the week of Truth and Reconciliation, we listened to songs by Indigenous artists during the morning announcements. We will continue our efforts towards truth and reconciliation during the school year, too. We are currently working on a collaborative art project led by Mme Rachael, Ms. Lau and Ms. Kullman. In November, we will have the pleasure to participate in Pow Wow dancing workshops, too! Of course, teachers will also continue this important work in class as well, as it is part of BC's Curriculum.



MITCHELL'S ART GALLERY

Mitchell students are veritable artists! I am consistently impressed by the quality of the artwork that they do with their teachers. This is a testament to the hard work that staff has done through their previous school goal (reconnecting through the arts). It is always my pleasure to share with you some of the beautiful work that acts as our hallways' tapestry.

