

Hello, Éy Swayel, Amazing Timberwolf Families!

We did it, we got through the first week of school! It was pure joy to see your children's smiling faces as they got off the bus or entered our hallways. Thank you for sending your awesome children to us!

We will be sending out a newsletter soon but wanted to share a few information items as we enter our second week at school.

Emergency Drill Week

Last week we learned about all the routines and expectations at our school. This week we will be practicing our Emergency Procedures including fire drills, earthquake drills, and lockdown drills. Please pre-warn your students that this will be happening. We too will be giving your children advanced warning about these drills as we do not want to create unnecessary worries.

Dress for the Weather

All of our students go outside for break and lunch each day. They are also outside for PHE, emergency drills, and many learning activities. Please send your children to school with clothing and outerwear that is suitable for the weather. It is a good idea to have an umbrella, jacket, hat, extra clothes and outdoor shoes/boots stored in their locker. Please let us know if you need any help with this.

Drop-Off / Pick-Up and Safety

We have a large school community and we know the area around our school is very busy before and after school. If you are driving your child to school, we recommend using our drop-off loop in the south parking lot or using the public library/Sardis Sports Complex parking lot. It is unsafe to drop-off children on Tyson Road and it blocks traffic flow. After school, we suggest organizing a meeting spot with your child, perhaps at the public library/Sardis Sports Complex parking lot.

Immunizations (just regular immunizations, not Covid immunizations)

Attached to this email is a letter from Fraser Health regarding their regular immunization clinics. Students normally get immunized in Grade 6 but this practice was postponed last year. You will see in the letter that Fraser Health will be seeking your consent to immunize students in Grade 6 and 7 this year. No child will be immunized at school without your consent. You will receive a Fraser Health consent letter well in advance of the immunization date. We will let you know as soon as we know the date of the regular immunization clinic at MSMS.

Meet and Greet Event

We know in our hearts, and research tells us, that children do better in school when our staff and their parents connect. Although we would normally like to share food with you, this year we are

being a bit more cautious by just providing an opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher in person. Our event will be held outside from **4:30pm to 6:00pm on Wednesday September 22nd**. More details will follow but, for now, please save the date.

Terry Fox Fundraising

Your child will be asked to raise funds to support cancer research in honor of Terry Fox. Our students will raise money to get our staff to perform weird and wonderful tasks such as getting pies in the face, leg waxing, head shaving, etc. Please help us raise funds to support this important cause and to have your children see our staff do some silly things. All students will be running, walking, or wheel-chair-rolling in honor of Terry Fox on **Friday September 24th**.

Truth and Reconciliation / Orange Shirt Day

Please join us in wearing Orange Shirts on **Wednesday September 29th and Thursday September 30th** to honour the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, celebrate resilience, and affirm our commitment that Every Child Matters. Throughout the year, your children will be learning about the harm done to Indigenous Peoples through the residential school system. On Wednesday September 29th they will participate in an assembly that highlights this learning and honours those that survived as well as those that were lost. On **Thursday September 30th, schools will be closed** in acknowledgement of this significant part of our history.

Photo Re-Take Day

Photo re-takes will be held on **Thursday September 29th**. Anyone that did not get a photo taken last week will be asked to have their photo taken this day. If you would like to order photos, please complete a photo form (on our website and at our school office). If you were not satisfied with your original photo order, please bring that package to the photographers on re-take day.

Communication

Communicating with families is really important to us - here is a guide to help you find the right person:

- **Office (604-824-7481)**
 - to inform the school of a late or absence
 - to pay fees
 - to leave messages for, or contact, your child
 - to drop off things for your child or a staff member
 - to ask general questions about happenings at the school
- **Core Teachers**
 - for most questions or concerns, either academic, social, or behavioral your child's Core Teacher and/or Core Teaching Partner is the best place to start
- **Counsellors**

- for more serious academic, social, or behavioral or when you need help getting to the right person, call or email:
 - Last Names A – L: Melissa Michaud (melissa_michaud@sd33.bc.ca)
 - Last Names M – Z: Brent Pinckney (brent_pinckney@sd33.bc.ca)
- **Case Managers**
 - if your child has an Individual Education Plan a Case Manager oversees their program and will be an excellent person to connect with
- **Vice-Principals**
 - for more serious concerns, usually of a safety or behavioral nature regarding students, call or email:
 - Last Names A – L: Michael Kotanko (michael_kotanko@sd33.bc.ca)
 - Last Names M – Z: Michelle Davis (michelle_davis@sd33.bc.ca)
- **Principal**
 - if you need additional help call or email: Mrs. Wicker 😊
(danielle_wicker@sd33.bc.ca)

*At Mount Slesse we value our students and parents greatly.
Please don't hesitate to contact us with any comments, questions, concerns, or celebrations!*