



October 2020

PRINCIPAL: Mr. Robbie Dhillon
VICE PRINCIPAL: Ms. Jennifer Robinson
SECRETARIES: Ms. Sandra Fox and Ms. Karen Corrigan

<https://mg.schools.sd68.bc.ca/>

FROM THE OFFICE

Dear Parents,

These past 5 or 6 weeks have been busy getting school started but we are settled in thanks to the hard work of staff at the school, as well as district staff, parents etc...

I am impressed by the hard work of staff with respect to the transition of our 40 plus Kindergarten students. Many thanks to the staff working with these students as well as to our parents in transitioning these students to school.

We have had many practice drills. These drills are very important both for the students and for the adults. Please feel free to prepare your children for these much needed practice drills.

A reminder dismissal on Monday October 19 to Thursday October 22 is 1:10 PM. This is for the purposes on a Formative Assessment Conference (note with COVID this will look different this year)

On a different note, the wet (and possibly cold) weather will be arriving soon (with wind as well ☹️). Please ensure your child has a change of clothes (including socks, etc...) in their backpacks. This saves having to bother parents/guardians at home or work during the school day.

Working together reaps the most rewards for your child, it truly does take a village to raise a child. All of us want the best for your child. Home and school working together is key in achieving the greatest results.

Yours truly,

Mr. Robbie Dhillon (Principal)

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020-2021

PAC (6:30)..... Mon Oct 19
Formative Conferences (AKA Parent-Teacher Conf)Week of Oct 19-22
Early Dismissal (1:10 PM) Mon Oct 19
Early Dismissal (1:10 PM) Tues Oct 20
Early Dismissal (1:10 PM) Wed Oct 21
Early Dismissal (1:10 PM)..... Thurs Oct 22
Pro-D [province wide] (students do not attend)..... Fri. Oct 23
Remembrance Day (students do not attend)..... Wed Nov 11
PAC (6:30 PM)..... Mon Nov 16
PAC (6:30 PM)..... Mon Dec 14
Last Day before Holiday..... Fri. Dec 18
First Day back Mon Jan 4
PAC (6:30 PM)..... Mon Jan 18
Progress Report IssuedFri Feb 5
PAC (6:30 PM)..... Mon Feb 8
Non Instructional Day (students do not attend) Thurs Feb 11
Non Instructional Day (students do not attend).....Fri Feb 12
BC Family Day (students do not attend)Mon Feb 15

Last Day before Spring Break/Easter Fri. Mar 12
First Day back..... Mon Mar 29
Good Friday (students do not attend)..... Fri Apr 2
Easter Monday (students do not attend).....Mon Apr 5
PAC (6:30 PM).....Mon Apr 19
Non Instructional Day (students do not attend)..... Fri May 7
PAC (6:30 PM).....Mon May 17
Victoria Day (students do not attend).....Mon May 24
PAC (6:30 PM)..... Mon Jun 21
Formative Report Issued..... Tues Jun 29
Last Day of School (school dismissed at 2:10)..... Tues Jun 29
Administration Day Wed Jun 30

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT WEEK

With COVID, the nature in which these are done will change. Your child's teacher will communicate this with you directly. Ongoing communication allows for timely interaction between staff, students and families to talk about authentic learning progress and set goals for improvement. We are excited about this change in practice for this year. Please note that the **Early Dismissal times will remain as in years past (1:10 Monday October 19 to Thursday October 22)**, allowing for the teachers to be prepared for this innovative approach to assessment and communication to occur.

STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS+ NEIGHBOURHOOD FIELD TRIP FORM

Please look for these important forms that ended up being sent home as hard copy on paper.

We ask that you review all the pages and return them to school as quickly as possible so that we have the necessary safety contacts and medical information on file for your child. It is very important that we have alternate phone numbers to call in case your child is sick, or there is an emergency.

VOLUNTEER AND CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS

When volunteering to help support a class or function or activity school related, you must complete two things:

- a volunteer form (**annually**): <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/Administrative-Procedures/300/AP-310-Volunteers.pdf> (see pages 5-6) and
- a Criminal Record Check (CRC) every 5 years. With COVID we don't currently have parents volunteering in classrooms but hopefully that will change at some point this school year.

In terms of the CRC, we suggest completing it when your child is in Kindergarten (or when your child starts McGirr) and in Grade 4. That will cover all of your years at McGirr. Your CRC must be done on-line. The link for this is:

[https:// justice.gov.bc.ca/eCRC/home.htm](https://justice.gov.bc.ca/eCRC/home.htm)

use access code UQ4T7XXBHE

YOU CAN HELP THE OFFICE BE MORE EFFICIENT BY CONTINUING TO:

- Email student absences to info.mg@sd68.bc.ca is the preferred communication for general student absences. (please include your child's first and last name, teacher name/division and reason if needed).
- call the school in advance and leaving a message on the answering machine that is on 24 hours a day if you know your child will not be attending school on that day.

PHOTO DAY (RETAKE DAY) THURSDAY OCTOBER 29

- For ordering purposes, proofs for all students photographed on September 24th will be provided to each child/family before the retake date.
- The photographer asks: parents who want a retake (time will be announced closer to the date), to return their original proofs to the photographer. **Please do not return the proof envelope to the school.** The photographer would like the students to physically hand their original proofs to the photographer.
- If a student was absent on the original photo day, then they would have their picture taken on the retake day.

HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES

Our theme day on Friday October 30th is wear Orange and Black to school.

For those families who decide to send their child in a costume, here are a few words about Halloween costumes:

Since we are a school, and a school that has children as young as 4 years old, we ask that parents and students keep this in mind when preparing costumes to be worn at school. Costumes should not have guns, swords (weapons of any kind) nor excessive gore.

Also, our school dress code still applies even on Halloween. This is one of those things that we ask for parents and students to use good judgment and to pick costumes that respect the viewer and the wearer.