

# ALEXANDER PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*SAFETY \* RESPECT \* RESPONSIBILITY*

Phone: (250) 344-5513

<http://www.sd6.bc.ca/school/apes>

Bob Wilson, Principal

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**Monday, November 2, 2020**

## Alexander Park Vision

*Welcome to Alexander Park, where we discover our world through progressive practices in a respectful, caring environment.*

## Alexander Park Values

- \* Everyone belongs; our differences make us better.*
- \* We are considerate of others, our environment, and ourselves.*
- \* Every moment is an opportunity to learn and grow.*
- \* We own our actions and learn from them.*
- \* We find joy in each day.*

*Find our newsletters and subscribe to our school calendar online!*

[www.sd6.bc.ca/school/apes](http://www.sd6.bc.ca/school/apes)

Dear Alexander Park Families,

You will see this on Monday, but I am writing this on Friday morning, the day before Halloween, and I am watching excited students and staff in costume pass by the office. I am happy to report that, outside a few key changes to the way we operate, school has remained relatively normal. Students are progressing in their learning, bulletin boards have art (which I am trying to remember to share to our Facebook page from time-to-time), and there is joy to be found every day. Not on Facebook? Go to our school website and scroll to the bottom to see our most recent posts.

Teachers have reached out to almost every family to discuss learning in the last week or two. We have seen a few "COVID gaps" due to the unevenness of spring instruction, and we are working to close those gaps, getting everyone back on track as soon as possible. Remember: if you have any questions about your child's learning please contact the teacher sooner than later.

I also want to say THANK YOU FAMILIES for your support of our COVID-19 protocols around pick-up and drop-off. We know how much these protocols can inconvenience our parents and staff, but they are part of our promise to the community to open schools in a safe way.

The reason we ask families to drop off at 8:50 (except by pre-arrangement, if your work schedule requires you to drop off earlier) is due to our COVID-19 expectations to minimize physical contact. We have reduced the number of kids on our playground for "free play" breaks so we can better support this. Without a scheduled drop off, we could have most of our 190 students on the playground in the morning at the same time. Reducing the number of students on the playground allows us to best support our COVID-19 expectations, and support the continued good health of our community.

While it may be tempting to leave your child on the playground before 8:50, we ask that you stay until the teacher arrives and welcomes your child to school. We are trying to be there promptly, knowing many of you need to get to work, or to your next drop off.

Have a great November,  
Bob Wilson, Principal

## ***Parent Volunteers***

We have permission to begin some limited field trips, with special considerations given to the health and well-being of students, staff, and volunteers. If teachers need a volunteer to accompany a field trip they will let their class' parents know, and parents selected to help will then have volunteer training. We will not be doing mass training for volunteers at this time, but rather we will train volunteers on a trip-by-trip basis for now.

As well, we are only accepting parent help for field trips (learning outside the school), not in-school classroom helpers. As protocols evolve, we will let parents know when there are further opportunities to enhance student learning through parent volunteerism.

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The next meeting of the Parent Advisory Committee is Monday, November 9 at 3:30. Depending on attendance, the meeting will be in Room 15 or the gymnasium.

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## ***Dates to Remember***

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|---------------------------|--|
| November 11 <sup>th</sup> | Remembrance Day Holiday                  |
| November 26 <sup>th</sup> | Poinsettia pickup (3:30-5:30 in the Gym) |



## ***Please take note:***

*From time to time we are faced with the minor nuisance of head lice at school. While head lice neither transmit nor cause disease, nor jump from head to head, it is important for us to know where to find reliable information in order to treat any cases you may come across with your children and to prevent further cases from arising.*

*There have been recent cases of head lice in the school. Click or cut-and-paste the web address below to go to the BC Health Link page. It provides all the information important for parents to know.*

<https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthlinkbc-files/head-lice>

*Please call the school if you have any questions.*

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## ***Peanut and Nut Free Snacks and Lunches:***

*We are a peanut and tree nut aware building. There are children who have allergies attending our school. Please do not send peanut or nut products to school with your child. This is especially important right now as many Halloween treats may have peanuts!*