

# The AGMS Week at a Glance...



Dear Parents/Guardians:

### Grade 7 Bike Training

Thank you very much for the support from our AGMS PAC, the CRD, and the Bike to Work Week Society for supporting our

Grade 7 bike training this week. Grade 7 students received almost 5 hours of instruction both in the classroom and on the road, over the course of three sessions this week. This training will help prepare Grade 7s for the cycling trip out to Camp Thunderbird at the end of the month, May 27-29, and improve overall safety when riding to and from school.

**Social Media Savvy:** Please make sure you are continuing to have conversations with your child about who they are talking to online and the kinds of conversations they are having, to help guide and prepare them for various issues that may arise using social media. We sometimes hear about students who are making unhealthy and inappropriate decisions when online, and students need to know that their digital footprint can easily be recorded in a screenshot for all to see. Parent awareness and involvement is crucial in helping students navigate this new technology safely, and complements the digital citizenship lessons students receive at school.

**Ramadan:** Our Muslim students and families are beginning a month-long major festival called Ramadan on Sunday. Ramadan is the name of the ninth month in the Hijri, or Islamic calendar. The word derives from the Arabic ramida or ar-ramad meaning a fierce, burning heat. The main obligation of the festival is the Sawm, or fast. Believers are expected to refrain from eating and drinking from dawn (fajr) until dusk (maghrib) for the entire month, a discipline that is thought to burn away all sins (hence the origin of the word 'ramadan'). The Sawm is considered one of the five "pillars," or foundations of Islam, the others being the Shahadah (profession of faith), Salat (praying five times daily), Zakat (charity) and Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca). Ramadan officially ends on the first day of the month of Shawwal. This heralds a three-day celebration called Eid al-Fitr, or the "Festival of Breaking Fast", a joyous occasion during which believers attend mosques, give gifts, visit friends and family and decorate their homes.

One of our central themes at Arbutus Global is to celebrate diversity, so teachers will be sharing this cultural event with all students to broaden their understanding of the different cultures and religions that the world is made up of.  
Rob Parker, Principal



	YOUR WEEK AT A GLANCE
Monday, May 6	12:06 pm High Jump Practice, Drama Club 3 pm Grade 6 & 7/8 Boys Rugby Practice, Throwing Events Practice 3:45 pm Girls Field Hockey Practice at UVIC
Tuesday, May 7	7:30 - 8:20 am Student Yoga Class in Cafeteria (drop ins welcome) 7:45 am Sprint Events Practice 3:00 pm 800 m & Above Practice 3:45 pm Gr 6 Boys Rugby Game at Central Middle School
Wednesday, May 8	7:45 am Sprint Events Practice 12 :06 pm Long Jump Practice, and Chess Club in Rm 115 2:45 - 4 pm Homework Club in the Learning Centre 3 pm Grade 8 Boys Rugby Practice
Thursday, May 9	3:30 pm Girls Field Hockey Games at UVic 3:45 pm Grade 7-8 Boys Rugby Game at Arbutus <b>Track Meet #1 at UVic (4 - 6 pm)</b>
Friday, May 10	7:45 - 8:15 am Student Meditation Session in Cafeteria 12:06 Dance Club



FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2019

TEAM AVALANCHE

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Arbutus Global:  
Celebrating diversity;  
Seeking sustainability

## Dates to Remember:

- Mon. May 13 Gr 6 Immunizations at 9:00 am (2nd Clinic)
- May 13 - 17 **Rainbow Week**
- Tues. May 14 PAC Meeting in the Library
- Thurs. May 16 District 61 Student Transition Afternoon
- Fri. May 17 Pro D Day
- Mon. May 20 Victoria Day Statutory Holiday (*school is closed*)



## Moving Next Year?

Please remember to let our office know if your child will not be at AGMS next year, if they are currently in Grade 6 or 7. This information really helps us with our planning.



**School Assembly:** Mr. Lemon recognized our Field Hockey team, Rugby teams, and Badminton team on Wednesday at the month-end assembly. Track Season is now underway as well and we are pleased to see so many students joining all our sports teams. Mme. Fairweather also congratulated all students who took part in the UVic Science Challenge on Tuesday. Well done Arbutus students!

**Class Placement Requests for 2019-20:** This is a reminder for next year's class placements, that if parents have a special extenuating circumstance, to please send those in by letter addressed to the Principal **by May 16**. I ask that you not use email for requests, but rather a letter dropped off at the office. While most parents should not have to write a letter, we may need to know about any special or important information from you that will help us place your child. Please note that it can be challenging to build successful class groups, and certain factors may limit a parent request being accommodated. We use a wide-variety of criteria when placing students in classes, including but not limited to: their academic and social/emotional needs, maturity, physical size, any special needs, past teacher experiences, and class size limits.



More rugby action happened this week, and Grade 7s received last minute instructions before heading out on a road trip.



**ATTENDANCE** - Please remember to inform the office if your child will be late or absent. You can email to [attendance62@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:attendance62@sd61.bc.ca) or phone and leave a message on our call back line at 250-360-0725.