

# The AGMS Week at a Glance...



Dear Parents/Guardians:

## Orange Shirt Day

Many students and staff wore orange shirts on Wednesday to highlight the past tragedies that took place in Residential Schools in Canada. We spent time discussing the issue at our month-end assembly this week, and advisory teachers took time in class discussions to explore how students can take steps to improve the lives of all indigenous people in our country.

## Our New Vice-Principal: Ms. Schlappner

Welcome to Ms. Schlappner who joins us at AGMS this year. Ms. Schlappner was Vice Principal at Central Middle School for the past 5 years and has a wealth of experience at middle school. Some of Ms.



Schlappner's passions include social justice issues such as supporting indigenous learners, GSA, and creating inclusive schools. She has been an enormous help as we have problem-solved and faced the various challenges of starting the school year during a pandemic. She is pictured above leading our month-end Zoom school assembly on Wednesday.

Have a great weekend!

Rob Parker, Principal



## School Sports

We are pleased to be starting **soccer** and **cross country** this month. Due to Covid we will not be competing against other schools this year. Instead students will train and play games amongst their cohorts after school on the field. Students interested in taking part in soccer or cross country should listen to the PA announcements for when the first meeting is. The soccer meeting is at **3 pm on the field on Monday for Grade 6s**, and **3 pm Wednesday for Grade 7/8s** wishing to play intramural soccer.

## Side Driveway

For safety reasons, **please do not drive down the service driveway to the back door**, as there are students using this area to get to and from the playground this year. Thank you!



	YOUR WEEK AT A GLANCE
Monday, Oct. 5th	<b>3 pm Grade 6 Intramural Soccer</b> - organizational meeting on field
Tuesday, Oct 6th	
Wednesday, Oct 7th	<b>3 pm Grd 7&amp;8 Intramural Soccer</b> - organizational meeting on field
Thursday, Oct. 8th	
Friday, Oct. 9th	

**Attendance** - Please remember to inform our Attendance line 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.

**When a student is late:** Please have them come to our side service door (#4) and **ring the door-bell**; someone will come let them in.

Then they will need to come into the Office and sign in at our attendance binder.

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## Global Action Class

One of the exploratory classes we offer at Arbutus is called Global Action. This course looks at issues such as diversity, social justice, sustainability and environmental stewardship. It meets for 4 blocks on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mr. Alden Sefton is the new teacher this year.

Classes are seen here doing a fall courtyard clean-up in preparation for a new Indigenous Garden project being started in this location this year.



## Around AGMS this week....

Sunrise in the smoke on Friday morning



## Masks

Thank you to all parents who are reminding students to have their masks with them when they come to school. This really helps when they are in high-traffic areas in the building or encounter others not in their cohorts. We do have a supply of washable masks for students that can be washed at home, but it also helps when students are bringing their own from home.



## Employment Opportunities in SD61

*The Greater Victoria School District is looking for qualified individuals to join our team in the following key roles:*

- Accounts Clerk-Schools (Spareboard)
- Custodian 1 / Janitor / Cleaner
- Educational Assistant-General (Spareboard)

*On Call Clerical Support*

*If you, or someone you know, is interested in learning more about the positions we offer, please visit our website here: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/our-district/employment/>*

*You can submit your resume, cover letter, and qualifications to: [hrr@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:hrr@sd61.bc.ca)*

## Monthly SD61 Snapshot

Please see the attached **Snapshot** for October 2020. Our district office creates these monthly resources for middle school families to help support mental well-being and health for all students in our school communities.



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## Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Oct 12	Thanksgiving (school not in session)
Oct 20	PAC Meeting 7 pm via Zoom
Oct 20	Parent Teacher Interviews via Zoom (information to come soon) <b>Students Dismissed at 11:51</b>
Oct 21	Parent Teacher Interviews via Zoom - <b>Students Dismissed at 11:51</b>
Oct 21	Grade 6 Immunizations - 1st dose
Oct 23	Pro-D (students not in session)

**Instrumental music classes begin October 5. Please ensure that your child has their instrument and necessary PPE for band and strings next week.**



For more in depth information visit our site: <https://sites.google.com/sd61learn.ca/arbutusmusic/home>

### **Schedule:**

Band 6: during the school day Mon or Tues and Wednesday

Band 7: once a week during the school day and Fridays at 7:25 am. Arrive to the exterior gym doors.

Band 8: once a week during the school day and Wednesdays at 7:25 am. Arrive to the exterior gym doors.

Junior Strings: after school-3:45 on Monday in the gym, and one lunch period each week.

Intermediate Strings: 7:25 am Tuesday and Thursday in the gym. Arrive to the exterior gym doors.

**Safety equipment requirements:** Please check the music website for detailed information

Strings: facemask for moving within the classroom.

Band: facemask for moving within the classroom, facemask with slit or musicians mask for wearing while playing a wind instrument, instrument bell cover.



Your PAC executive would like to hear your thoughts on what they can organize for you this year around how we connect as a community and what parent education we organize. Please fill out this [very short survey](#) (less than 5 min) before Friday, October 9th. All responses will be helpful and appreciated.

Also please don't forget about the donation drive. If a donation is possible for you this year, please consider donating at [School Cash Online](#) (select **Arbutus Global Middle School - PAC** as your fund destination) or fill out the form and send to school with your child. This is our only fundraiser each year, and all funds raised go back into the school for things like sports equipment, extracurricular activities, emergency supplies, bike racks and events. We appreciate any amount - for those who can manage it the suggested donation is \$50 per child.

If you have any questions, you can contact your PAC executive at [agms.pac@gmail.com](mailto:agms.pac@gmail.com) Our next Zoom meeting is on Oct 20th at 7pm .

## **Covid Protocol if Your Child is Unwell**

Please use the new and recently revised [Daily Health Check](#) form each morning (can be found on our website under "quick links") to ensure your child is healthy and not exhibiting any respiratory symptoms. If any students or staff are sick **they must not come to school.** This will be essential in keeping our school community safe this winter. Parents must also check with a medical professional or call 811 to ensure their child does not have COVID 19 before they can return to school. Students must also be symptom free before returning to school.

**Parent Access to the Building**—Parents will not be able to enter the school this year (all exterior doors are locked) and teachers will be communicating with you by phone or video call. In rare and urgent situations in person meetings may be able to be arranged.