

The AGMS Week at a Glance...



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Lockdown Drill: We had a successful practice drill this morning in which staff secure their doors, and everyone goes very silent. It can be a challenge in a usually more noisy school to remain quiet, but with practice, students will get good at knowing exactly what to do if they hear a Lockdown announced over the PA. We also know it can be anxiety-inducing and took extra care this year with the pandemic going on to carefully explain this was about being prepared and keeping our school community safe and secure. As usual, we had several Saanich police officers here to help us conduct the drill and provide feedback on how we can make these procedures even more effective. The students did an excellent job overall.

Math Challengers Club:

Thank you to Mrs. Walt and the students from Mt. Doug High School (right) who are here on Friday afternoons running the Math Challengers Club. This group of Grade 8s and a few Grade 7s is preparing for a regional math competition that takes place in February. Thanks also go to Mr. Neil Johnson from Mt. Doug for all his organizing as well!

AGMS 50th Anniversary:

Just a reminder if you are alumni from Arbutus to send a short video clip (30-60 seconds) of your favourite memory of your time here. Please use Wetransfer.com's free service to send your 30-60 second clips (Link: <https://wetransfer.com/>) to forward your submissions to our editor/filmmaker Timothy West at info@timothywest.com . Please see the October 30 newsletter sent last week for more details.

Basketball: Soccer is now over and sign-up for basketball is now complete. We hope to start after school basketball the week of Nov. 16. Permission forms should come home next week for students who have signed up.

Have a great weekend and enjoy the November sunshine!

Rob Parker, Principal



Masks:

We are starting to have larger numbers of students arriving and entering the building with no masks in the morning. All students have been given at least two masks each and we ask that parents check each morning to make sure your child has their mask handy for when they enter high-traffic areas such as hallways and the office. Thankyou!



	YOUR WEEK AT A GLANCE
Monday, Nov. 9th	
Tuesday, Nov. 10th	11 am Remembrance Day Ceremony by Zoom in Classrooms 3pm Cross-Country practice
Wednesday, Nov. 11th	Remembrance Day Stat Holiday— school not in session
Thursday, Nov. 12th	
Friday, Nov. 13th	

NOVEMBER 6, 2020

TEAM AVALANCHE

The AGMS Week at a Glance...



Dear Music Parents,

ARBUTUS
MUSIC

It has been so wonderful to make music at Arbutus again this term! Thank you for ensuring that your child comes to school ready to make music by sending them with their instrument, music, bell cover and face mask.

Daily practice is essential for your child to make progress as a developing musician. Parent involvement is encouraged to help students develop effective practicing habits. Here are some tips you can follow to help your child succeed:

- **Students should play their instruments daily for development of the muscles required to play their instrument/ vocal chords.** Practice

sessions should be a minimum of 20 minutes to help increase stamina. We tell our students to practice at home on days that they do not play their instrument at school, with one day off.

- **Find a place in your home that is free from distraction and a spot where the child can make noise without feeling the need to dampen their sound.** A

good chair (such as a dining chair without arms) and music stand are necessary for proper posture. This year, this includes practicing at home without the bell cover as the bell cover does give the instrument a slightly restricted feel and it is important to learn what it feels like to play without the bell cover. .

- **Students should review the exercises taught in class.** Practice the difficult parts in the music. When mistakes are made they should be reviewed at a slower speed (tempo). Mistakes are a part of learning and students should learn to embrace them as learning opportunities.

- Ask your child to teach you. Information is best retained when students teach the knowledge to others.

- Provide opportunities for your child to perform for you.

Sincerely,

Michael Mazza and Jennifer Hill

Attendance - Please remember to inform our Attendance line if your child will be late or absent.

You can email to 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 doorbell; someone will come let them in.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Nov 10	Remembrance Day Virtual Assembly for Students - 11 am in classrooms
Nov 11	Remembrance Day Stat Holiday - school not in session
Nov 17	PAC Zoom Meeting 7pm—Link to follow
Nov 20	Pro-D Day—District 61— students not in session
Nov 27	Curriculum Completion Day— early dismissal for most students—11:51am

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.