

# The AGMS Week at a Glance...



Dear Arbutus Families:

Well it has been an interesting term in so many ways to say the least! We have faced many challenges and situations with Covid 19 like no time before. Yet in it all, our students have shown us their resilience and taken up opportunities that have helped them continue to grow and develop this year. Thank you to all parents and staff for joining together to support our students at a very difficult time in our world. The extra bits of patience and kindness have been helpful for so many students. Please take time to rest and relax with your children this winter break and to enjoy the upside of a slower pace of life that we are all currently experiencing. To change gears from the more stressful part of Covid 19, let's all focus this Christmas season on the learning and ways that the pandemic have made us stronger!

**Arbutus Music Program Concerts:**

Thank you to Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Montgomery, and Mr. Mazza for the beautiful virtual concerts created and sent out for parents to enjoy this month. It is yet another example of finding a way to make it work during these difficult times. :) Here is the link to the Arbutus Music website where you can find them: <https://sites.google.com/sd61learn.ca/arbutusmusic/winter-concert-2020>

Our music teachers also continued with their annual tradition of students caroling in the hallway each morning this week (right). Carolers were separated in cohorts this year and it was a wonderful sound to hear each morning at the end of a busy term!



**December Zoom Assembly:**

We continue to get together virtually for monthly assemblies using Zoom to keep classes safely separated. This month Ms. Schlappner organized several fun spirit-building events that students really enjoyed (and got very excited about!). These include a school-wide Kahoot game (a game show type app), as well as a Winter Celebration door decorating contest. Congratulations to Div. 17 and 6, who won the contests respectively. Pictured left are Pragma and Gaia from the Arbutus Media Team, doing daily announcements at the start of the assembly.

**Global Action Food Drive for Our Place:** Congratulations to our Global Action students, Global Action teacher Mr. Sefton, and all classes who collected such an impressive amount of non-perishable food for Our Place Society in downtown Victoria. Div. 4 won top place with 342 items collected in their class alone! Well done everyone!

Have a wonder winter break and happy holidays to all!

Rob Parker, Principal

	YOUR WEEK AT A GLANCE
Monday, Jan. 4th	1st Day back to school
Tuesday, Jan. 5th	
Wednesday, Jan. 6th	Homework Club resumes in the Learning Centre after school.
Thursday, Jan. 7th	
Friday, Jan. 8th	

DECEMBER 18, 2020

TEAM AVALANCHE

# The AGMS Week at a Glance...



Happy Holidays AGMS parents!



On behalf of your PAC executive, thank-you to all families for everything you do to contribute to the school community. The new bike racks purchased with your support are in place now, and we have heard the new Chromebooks have arrived. Stay tuned for more news in the New Year, including a new Facebook group to connect Arbutus parents.

Did you know that you can also support your PAC by shopping at [Peppers Foods](#) in Cadboro Bay? Just go to any cashier to pick up and fill a grocery card to use for your purchases, and let the cashier know you would like donations to go to Arbutus Global Middle School PAC. The PAC will receive 5% of your purchase. This is an easy way to support both a local business and your school.

Have a wonderful, relaxing, safe and healthy holiday break!

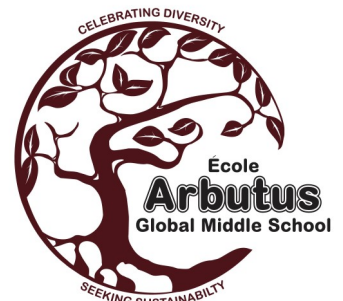


Global Action Food Drive for Our Place

## Arbutus Spirit Wear

In a normal year, we would have had our spirit wear for sale during the fall and ready to be picked up in early December.

Due to Covid, we are changing to an online store with a new company and anticipate this being available early in the New Year.



### Masks and Water Bottles

Please help us start the New Year well. Send a water bottle with your student each day and have a couple extra masks tucked in their backpacks. This will help reduce the amounts we are giving out each day.



Be mindful of our neighbours on our side streets —please make sure you are **not blocking their driveways** when dropping off or picking up. They will appreciate it!



### Pink Shirt Day—Feb 24, 2021

Pink t-shirts and pink masks are available for order through our school cash on-line until Jan.



### Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- Jan 4 First day back after Winter Break
- Jan 19 PAC Zoom Meeting
- Jan 25 Pro-D—School Based—Arbutus students not in session

**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 doorbell**; someone will come let them in.

### 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.

