

The AGMS Week at a Glance...



Dear Arbutus Families:

Onward to Term 2!

We found most students happier than usual to return to school this week after what was a quieter Winter Break for most of us I am sure! It is great to see so many students back into the swing of things, enjoying clubs, music and sports activities, and the many new academic units that teachers are now starting for Term 2. Please encourage your child to come out for volleyball (Covid safety restrictions in place), which starts next week after school. See schedule below for training days.



January Interim Reporting: We usually have parents in for *Student-Led Conferences* at the end of January but due to Covid we are planning a safer substitute process to help you stay up to date on your child’s learning this year. The early dismissal time for January 27 currently in the 2020-21 calendar will remain in place, but the way we share this information with you will take a different shape this year. More details will come home next week on a substitute process.

FSAs: The Grade 7 Foundational Skills Assessment is scheduled to be completed this year between January 18 and February 26. More details will follow next week on how this will look at Arbutus for Grade 7 students this year.

Grade 6 Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI): Grade 6 parents were notified in December about this social-emotional student survey also happening this month. The MDI questionnaire addresses five areas: **physical health and well-being, connectedness, social and emotional development, school experiences, and use of after-school time.** This will be the third time we have participated in this survey and I always appreciate the rich data that it provides us on the mental well-being of our students. The surveys are anonymous so we do not see individual results, but do get a clear picture of the overall mental health of students in this grade level. This very much helps us with our school goals and growth planning, so we can know which areas to focus on.

Finally, please keep those Daily Health Checks happening every morning so we can continue to keep our school safe this winter. Have a great weekend and stay safe!

Rob Parker, Principal

	YOUR WEEK AT A GLANCE
Monday, Jan. 11th	3 pm Volleyball for <u>Girls</u> of Divs 6, 10, 11, 18, 19, and 20.
Tuesday, Jan. 12th	3 pm Volleyball for <u>Girls</u> of Divs 4, 5, 12, 13, 14, and 15.
Wednesday, Jan. 13th	3 pm All <u>Boys</u> interested in volleyball. 3 pm Homework Club in the Learning Centre after school.
Thursday, Jan. 14th	3 pm <u>Girls</u> of Divs 2, 3, 8, 9, and 16, 17.
Friday, Jan. 15th	Math Challengers

JANUARY 8, 2021

TEAM AVALANCHE

The AGMS Week at a Glance...



UPCOMING DISTRICT REGISTRATIONS, TRANSITIONS AND TRANSFERS

This year our registration process will be online. Important dates are as follows:

~ **Grade 8's program of choice** for grade 9—watch emails regarding each individual schools, being sent from us. Deadline for registration is Jan. 22.

~ **Late French Registration** for incoming grade 6's—registration is January 25-29. Registration forms will be available closer to registration week. Registration is a lottery system. Deadline is Jan. 29. Forms will not be accepted before Jan. 25.

Parents will be notified the following week regarding placement.

~ **Transfer week— Feb 8-11**—primarily grade 8's wishing to go to a different high school than their catchment. Also for students who want to change programs—moving from French to English. Also for students in any grade who are wanting to change schools the coming year.

Forms will be available on our District and school websites and in the office for students to pick up closer to transfer week. Forms will not be accepted before Feb. 8.

Parents will be notified by March 12 for placement the following year.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Jan 19	PAC Zoom Meeting—Link to be sent via email
Jan 22	Grade 8 Program of Choice Deadline
Jan 25	Pro-D—School Based— Arbutus students not in session
Jan 25-29	Late French Immersion Registration week (for incoming grade 6 students)
Jan 27	Early dismissal at 11:51 am—Interim Reporting details to follow
Feb 8-11	Transfer Applications Week for 2021-22 school 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.



Come prepared for all kinds of weather

Pink Shirt Day—Feb 24, 2021

Pink t-shirts and pink masks are available for order through our school cash on-line until Jan 21.



Volleyball starts next week—remember to return permission forms.

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!



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.

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.

