

# The AGMS Week at a Glance...



Dear Arbutus Families,

**Pink Shirt Day:** Staff and students highlighted the need for anti-bullying efforts in our communities by wearing pink on Wednesday. This annual event is meant to spur discussion on the dangers of bullying and encourage students to know what to do if it occurs. This is an on-going process throughout the year in classrooms and across the school, but this event draws extra attention to the significance of this issue every February.

**Black History Month:** We started February with a school assembly to mark the beginning of Black History Month. Teachers have been using various resources to celebrate and teach about black history in Canada. Not unlike Pink Shirt Day however, these efforts should not be just limited to the month of February.

Moreover in terms of promoting diversity, we recently started an Anti-Racism Leadership Group for interested students that meets weekly at lunchtime to plan school projects to combat racism. We are committed to maintaining a safe and caring school environment where racism is not tolerated. This takes a team effort with staff continually reinforcing with students the importance of taking action if you witness or hear something inappropriate. This could mean alerting a staff member or speaking up, depending on the situation. It also involves having firm consequences for children who make serious mistakes involving racist comments or behaviours. I know we all agree that there can no room for such behaviour in our school community. The message that we celebrate diversity and value and honour differences in others is part of our global theme. We must make sure we bring those words to life by acting when we see injustice.



The famous Over the Hedge game on a sunny Friday lunch hour!

**New PAC Facebook Page:** Please feel welcome to join the Arbutus parent community, any time, by joining the Arbutus Global Middle School parent portal on Facebook, supported by the AGMS PAC. [facebook.com/groups/agmspac](https://www.facebook.com/groups/agmspac). This group is now up to 70 parents but more are always welcome!

Have a great weekend!  
Rob Parker, Principal

	YOUR WEEK AT A GLANCE
Monday, March 1	
Tuesday, March 2	
Wednesday, March 3	<b>9 am Grade 9 Course Selection Meetings by Zoom for Grade 8s</b> (*French Immersion students switching from Reynolds to Mt. Doug come to school early at 8:30 am on this day and meet in Cafeteria) <b>3 pm Homework Club</b> in the Learning Centre after school.
Thursday, March 4	
Friday, March 5	2:30 pm Math Challengers



**FEBRUARY 26, 2021**

**TEAM AVALANCHE**

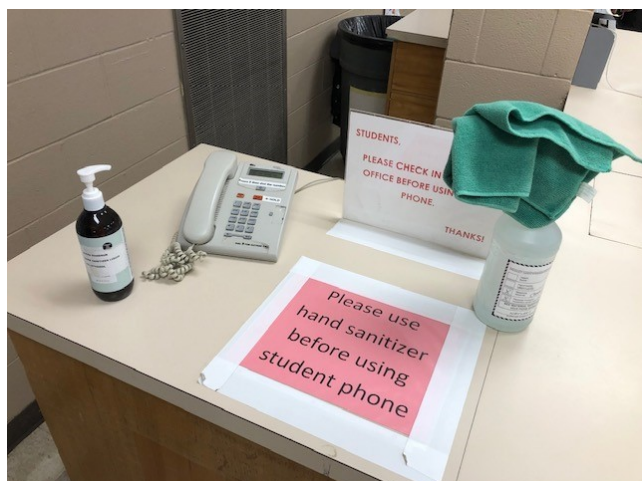
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## Upcoming Dates to Remember:

March 10	Report Cards go home
March 15-26	Spring Break
March 29	First day back to school after Spring Break
April 2	Good Friday—school not in session
April 5	Easter Monday—school not in session

**Updated Covid Safety Guidelines:** The new and more stringent guidelines have been working well, since introduced last week. Students are staying seated more when eating their lunch to keep farther apart, and students are wearing their masks more frequently with the new requirements. Some of the safety protocols are pictured below...



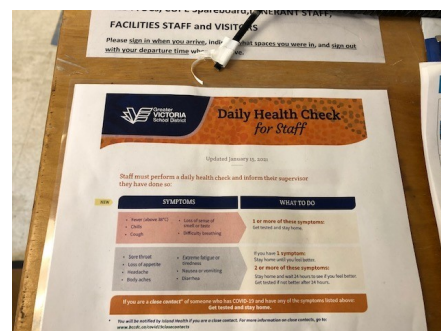
**EVERYONE IS INVITED!**

**ESCAPE VIRTUAL MUSIC CONCERT FUNDRAISER!**

Join members of ESCAPE on Saturday March 6th at 7:30pm to enjoy music from various Esquimalt High students and alumni

Proceeds will go towards The Sierra Club. By donating, you will be put into a "door prize raffle" for a chance to win a locally-made tote bag, soap, or tea.

The link will be posted on the school website and on social media. All proceeds will go to charity. You can begin donating through CashOnline starting Feb. 14-Mar 13



*\*Please also see the attached letter from our Superintendent on our updated SD61 Exposure Control Plan.*

**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 ([https://www.sd61.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/91/2021/01/GVSD61\\_DailyHealthChecklist\\_20210115\\_parents.pdf](https://www.sd61.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/91/2021/01/GVSD61_DailyHealthChecklist_20210115_parents.pdf))

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.

