

The AGMS Week at a Glance...



Dear Arbutus Families,

It has been another difficult week across the country, and certainly for the Muslim community, in hearing about the horrific killing of 4 Muslim family members in London, Ontario on Monday. With the help and leadership of several courageous students, we have tried to address this tragedy respectfully and honour the victims. We have also worked to support Muslim students at Arbutus this week by making resources and supports available for those who are deeply impacted by this sad incident. Like many, we have also tried to use this terrible event as an opportunity to bring about positive change by highlighting the issues of hate and intolerance that exist in the world. As you will well understand I am sure, this has to be done sensitively and carefully at a middle school, and advisory teachers in the older grades have been ensuring their classes have had time to discuss the tragedy in appropriate ways. I am heartened to see that students want to be actively involved in solutions to addressing these problems, and I am optimistic that we can make progress in this area by including these complex and difficult conversations in our schools. It will not be easy but I am confident if we stick with it, things can improve in our country and our world.



Mr. Martinson is shown above introducing Div. 18 to welding skills in the Metal Shop today.



Div. 15 and 16 out in the sun during PE this week.

June Final Push: I have been talking to students in classes recently about finishing strong at the end of the year. I likened it to a race on the track at UVic Stadium where we want to be working hard and at top speed as we come across the finish line. It has been quite a race, more like a marathon indeed, this year. But our kids have done it, despite all the challenges of trying to go to school in a pandemic! Your help at home in encouraging your child to work hard, and get all those final assignments completed will help them finish strong. Thank you for those pep talks at home—summer is almost here!

Stay safe and enjoy the weekend!

Rob Parker, Principal

	YOUR WEEK AT A GLANCE
Monday, June 14	
Tuesday, June 15	
Wednesday, June 16	11:55 am Anti-Racism Leadership Group —Cafeteria Homework Club after school in the Learning Centre Yoga Club —After school in the Gym
Thursday, June 17	
Friday, June 18	

JUNE 11, 2021

TEAM AVALANCHE

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Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Mon. June 21	Grade 8 Recognition Celebrations—more information to follow
Wed. June 23	Fun Day Stations on Field in Cohorts
Thurs. June 24	Last day of school for students. Report cards go home.



Thank you to all students and parents that took part in advocacy for music programs in our school district. Your voices made a difference. Next year band, choir, strings and jazz bands will all be offered at Arbutus.



ARBUTUS
MUSIC

As this school year comes to an end, please note the following:

- there are no music classes during the last week of school. The last day of music classes for this school year is June 18.
- if you rented an instrument from Tapestry or Long and McQuade: contact them to renew your instrument rental for next year. Usually, the summer months are free if you renew your instrument rental in June so check with them to see if that applies to you. If you are not planning to rent the instrument over the summer then it will need to be returned to the store. Strings students that are not yet on full-sized instruments might need to move up to a larger sized instrument for September - they can check with Mrs. Hill if you are unsure.
- if your child has borrowed an instrument owned by Arbutus or the Cooper Smith Music Library strings instruments, please return them to Mr. Mazza or Mrs. Hill by June 18.
- books that have been lent to the students for this school year will be collected in class next week. Please make sure your child brings their music to school next week if they have books borrowed from the school.

Thank you for your support of our music students and classes this year.

Sincerely,

Michael Mazza and Jennifer Hill



Hot Weather and Hats for the Sun:

Just a reminder to parents to make sure your child has a **hat to wear** on the hot sunny days this summer. **Water bottles** are essential on hot days as well. We had quite a few students feeling the effect of the heat this week. Also, don't forget to **get out the sunscreen** for field trips and lunch time on the playground this month.



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—found at <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/covid-19/> 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 spring. 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.

