

# The Arbutus Global Week at a Glance...



## THIS WEEK’S REFLECTIONS

We’ve had a great week here at Arbutus with International Teacher’s Day, the Terry Fox Run, and more Middle School fun like Cookie Day. We held our first lunch for students with Indigenous Ancestry, and our student-led Anti-Racism group continues to meet and have rich conversations. Ultimate, Cross Country, and Touch Rugby are now done, and basketball season is warming up.

With it being Thanksgiving Weekend, I have been reflecting a lot around what I am grateful for in my personal and professional life. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you first to our staff here at Arbutus. I hope you parents all know how lucky you are to have these amazing educators working with your children! They are committed, kind, caring, and thoughtful in all that they do to support your children in their academic, social, and emotional learning—all in a pandemic! They are also dedicated colleagues, who lift each other up and help each other be better.

Next, I would like to thank Arbutus students who bring joy to us every day. They as a group are smart, funny, creative, kind, caring, respectful... and so much more. While we all have our ups and downs and our “middle school moments”, overall, students are navigating this pandemic with amazing resilience and grace, and helping to inspire us with their earnest curiosity and questions.

Thank you to you parents and caregivers for all you do to support your children and us in navigating the complex waters of Middle School. We especially want to acknowledge PAC members—we are so fortunate to have you advocating for and providing so many rich experiences and activities for all students.

Finally, I would like to express deep gratitude for the privilege of learning, living, and working on the stunning unceded territories of the Esquimalt, Songhees and Saanich nations, and for your stewardship of these lands.

I am one lucky Principal. :)  
Have a wonderful, restful long weekend with your families.—*Carrie Schlapper*, Principal

## THINKING AHEAD TO HALLOWE’EN

At Arbutus, we want all students to be mindful of their choices throughout the year in terms of how they might make other people feel.

As we move in to October and start to think about Hal- lowe'en, and in keeping with the Arbutus value of Cele- brating Diversity (which includes cultural and gender di- versity...) we wanted to support you in supporting your children in making appropriate choices for their cos- tumes. See Page 2 for some websites to visit to learn about starting points to help in your conversations with your children, as well as things to keep in mind while cos- tume shopping.

IS YOUR HALLOWEEN COSTUME RACIST

ASK YOURSELF

- Is my costume supposed to be funny? Is the humour based on making fun of real people, human traits, or cultures?
- Does my costume represent a culture that is not my own?
- Does my costume reduce cultural difference to jokes or stereotypes?
- Does my costume package include words like "traditional", "ethnic", "colonial", "authentic", or "tribal"?

Would I be embarrassed or ashamed if someone from the group I'm portraying saw me wearing this?

Are you **REALLY** going to wear someone's culture as a costume?

Have questions or want more information? [intercultural.u@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:intercultural.u@mail.ubc.ca) or visit [really.ubc.ca](http://really.ubc.ca)

Based on an initiative by Hampshire Community Advocacy Union

	YOUR WEEK AT A GLANCE
Monday, Oct. 11	<b>Thanksgiving—school not in session</b>
Tuesday, Oct. 12	
Wednesday, Oct. 13	
Thursday, Oct. 14	<b>Parent-Teacher Booking Opens</b>
Friday, Oct. 15	

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## Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Oct 19	PAC Meeting 7pm
Oct 19	Photo Re-takes in the morning
Oct 19 & 20	<b>Parent-Teacher Interviews</b>
Oct 20	Grade 6 immunizations
Oct 22	Pro-D Day—Provincial (School not in session)
Oct 29	<b>Orange and Black Day (Students &amp; Staff wear Orange &amp; Black or Costumes)</b>
Nov 3	Diwali (Festival of Lights)
Nov 5	Lockdown Drill

## Grade 6 Immunizations

If you haven't returned your immunization consent forms yet—please do so as soon as possible.

These are for the regular grade 6 booster shots. There will be no covid shots with this regular clinic.



## PHOTO RETAKES



## Photo re-takes

Photographers will be here in the morning on Tuesday Oct. 19 for photo re-takes and to take pictures for those who missed the original date.

Students do not need to bring back their original proofs to have a re-take done.

Please use the online ordering system when possible to expedite your order. Information for ordering is on the proof package.

THINKING AHEAD TO HALLOWE'EN—  
Continued

Here are some links to look at and consider when having discussions with your children and going costume shopping together:

<https://www.ambitgenderdiversity.com/2017/10/ethical-gender-bent-costumes/>

<https://www.cbc.ca/parents/learning/view/your-kids-costumes-matter-how-not-to-be-a-jerk-this-halloween>

<https://ipsociety.ca/have-a-culturally-respectful-halloween/>

[https://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2016/10/16/i-am-not-a-costume-aboriginal-halloween\\_n\\_12514638.html#gallery/5cd5c217e4b0c06a50b27236/9](https://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2016/10/16/i-am-not-a-costume-aboriginal-halloween_n_12514638.html#gallery/5cd5c217e4b0c06a50b27236/9)

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Parent-Teacher Interviews—  
Booking Coming Soon!

**Parent-Teacher Interview Booking will open on Thursday, October 14th**

**Keep an eye out for an email from your child's Advisory teacher with the Booking Link as well as a Zoom link**

**You will only be able to book with your child's Advisory teacher. If you would like to connect with a subject teacher, please email them directly.**

**ALL STUDENTS must wear a mask at ALL TIMES at school. We are still giving out several masks each day.** Your assistance in making sure your children **have at least TWO EXTRA MASKS in their backpacks** at all times would be much appreciated. The trend seems to be that rushing out the door in the morning results in forgotten masks... so we would like to suggest a **check at nighttime before going to bed.** Thanks for your help.

## Masks are Required!



All visitors, K-12 staff, and students in Grades 4-12 are required to wear a mask indoors at school. Students in Grades K-3 are also encouraged to wear a mask indoors in schools.

One Learning Community

SD61



**Attendance** - Please remember to inform the **attendance email or phone line** if your child will be late or absent. You can email to **attendance62@sd61.bc.ca** (please also cc the teacher) or phone and leave a message at **250-360-0725**.

Please do not call the office in the morning for attendance



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2021

TEAM AVALANCHE

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