

The Arbutus Week at a Glance...



THIS WEEK’S REFLECTIONS

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Week two, and our first full week, has been a flurry of activity: Advisory classes settling in, Exploratories starting, Student Vote today (Thanks to Ms Mawson for organizing!). I am filled with gratitude that we are back together, in person, and able to connect more this year. Students and staff are staying safe, following protocols, and doing a great job of wearing masks. (Though many students are still forgetting theirs in the morning – your help in ensuring they have EXTRAS in their backpacks would be much appreciated!)

Thank you for all of your support in helping your children adjust to being back to school in year three of a pandemic. We know that it is a challenge for some to come to school every day. We also know nothing can replace the benefits of in-person connection, relationships, experiences, and activities on deep learning. I have noticed both staff and students happier and lighter overall this year, and that brings me such joy.

Have a great weekend with your families.
Carrie Schlapper, Principal

IMPORTANT: Sustainable, SAFE and Healthy Transportation

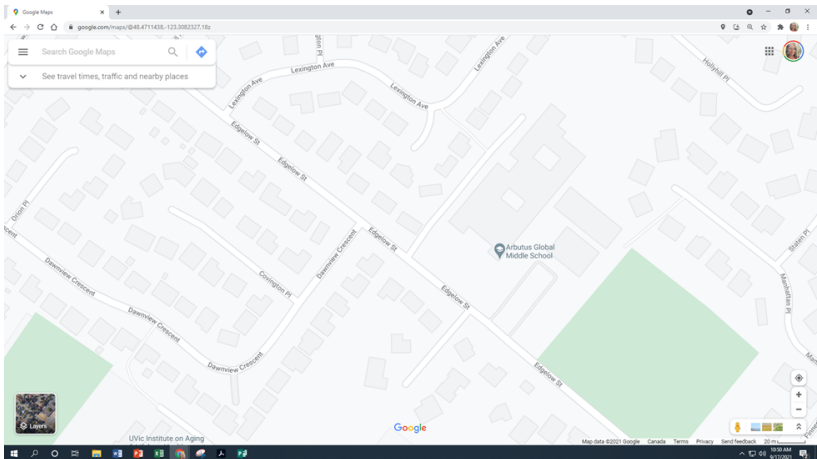
As a global school we try to promote sustainable and healthy living. We have also unfortunately noticed very unsafe driving in our parking lot at drop-off in the mornings. We are concerned about student safety, and so will be asking parents to drop their children off on Edgelow, or one of the neighboring streets such as indicated below. **We will be putting up cones to indicate no entry to the parking lot starting Wednesday, September 22nd.** Here are some alternate ideas to parking lot drop-off:

Parents

- “Drive to Five” - drop your child off so they have a short but healthy 5 minute walk to school.
 - Recommended pick up and drop off points include Lexington Pl, Dawnview Cr, or further down Edgelow. If you pick up on a side street, please be mindful of our neighbours driveways.
- Ride your bike with your child to school, then carry on to work.

Students

- “Two-Wheel it!” - try and see how many friends will join in and ride their bikes with you
- Hike and play - Invent a game to play (e.g., Who Can Spot the Most....) while you walk with friends to school.



	YOUR WEEK AT A GLANCE
Monday, Sept. 20	Election Day—Gym is a Polling Station
Tuesday, Sept. 21	PAC Meeting—7pm
Wednesday, Sept. 22	Meet the Teacher Night—6pm via Zoom
Thursday, Sept. 23	
Friday, Sept. 24	Earthquake Reunification Drill in PM

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

TEAM AVALANCHE



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Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Sept 21	PAC Meeting 7pm
Sept 27	Pro-D Day (school not in session)
Sept 29	Orange Shirt Day at Arbutus
Sept 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (school not in session)
Oct 11	Thanksgiving (school not in session)
Oct 19	PAC Meeting 7pm
Oct 22	Pro-D Day—Provincial (School not in session)

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation:

Thursday, September 30th is now a **national day of remembrance** and **school will not be in session, and students do not attend that day.** We will recognize this day on **Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 29th** by **wearing our Orange Shirts** and having a whole-school assembly, amongst other things. We wear orange to recognize past injustices to indigenous people in Residential Schools, and it is also a time to celebrate the importance of indigenous culture in our community and country. Students and staff are encouraged to wear orange to mark this occasion.



Do you have an hour to spare in the afternoon of Friday, September 24th?!?

In the **afternoon of Friday, September 24th**, we will be doing an **in-depth practice of our Earthquake / Emergency Procedures, including reunification with some parent volunteers.** We plan on making this a FUN and educational afternoon for students, with a game element to it. If you are available that afternoon and would like to take part in the drill, **we are looking for about 10 parent volunteers to help us practice our reunification procedures.** Please email Principal S you are interested at cschlappner@sd61.bc.ca



Masks are Required!

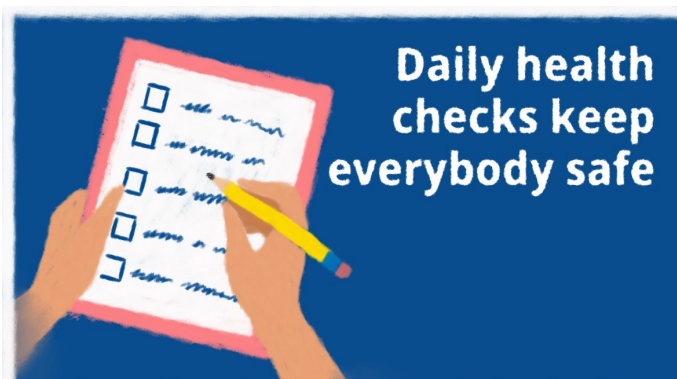


All visitors, K-12 staff, and students in Grades 4-12 are required to wear a mask indoors at school.
Students in Grades K-3 are also encouraged to wear a mask indoors in schools.

One Learning Community



As mentioned above, **ALL STUDENTS must wear a mask at ALL TIMES at school.** **We have already given out almost 100 masks in two weeks.** 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.



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](tel:250-360-0725).

Please do not call the office in the morning for attendance

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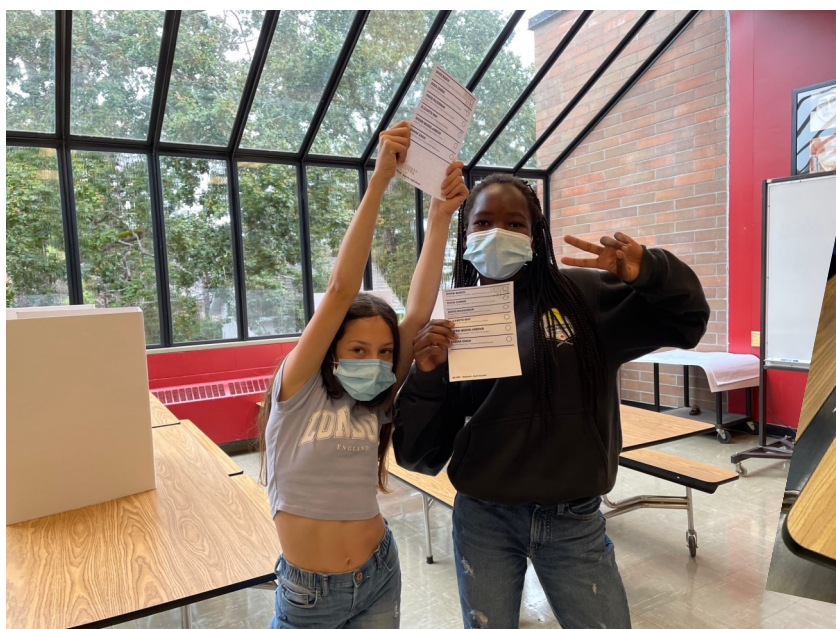
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STUDENT VOTE 2021

Here are some photos of today's student vote. Thanks to Ms Mawson for organizing, and all the staff and students who participated in it, whether it was helping hand out ballots and supervise voting, to casting a ballot. It was great!



Sports have started!

Signups were at the beginning of the week, and practices have started for most sports. It is not too late to join though. Please have your child pick up a form from the sports board across from the office and attend the next practice.



Current sports:

Touch Rugby. Practice: Monday at lunch and Wednesday after school. Game this Tuesday at Royal Oak Middle School

Ultimate Frisbee. Practice: Monday after school and Tuesday at lunch. Jamboree this Wednesday at location TBD.

Cross Country. Practice: Tuesday and Thursday after school. Meet this Thursday at Cedar Hill Rec Centre.



PAC Meeting Tuesday, September 21st at 7pm via [this Zoom link](#). Please join us for our first PAC meeting this coming Tuesday. All parents are welcome. We appreciate your support!

Don't forget to also join 200 other parents in our [private Facebook Group](#)!