

The Arbutus Global Week at a Glance...



THIS WEEK’S REFLECTIONS

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I am filled with *gratitude* for so many things this week. Everyone is getting more and more settled into routines, and it’s a *joy* to see smiling eyes behind masks, and the *creative energy* of the building hitting its stride. Our Music and Exploratory classes are now up and running, we had our first PAC Meeting (thanks to all who attended!) and we had our first in-depth Earthquake Drill today which included students who “won” a spot to be injured or missing to see if staff noticed they were gone (and to hang out with Mr Lemon and Mr Stephen at the First Aid post and have some fun)! Thanks to parents who volunteered to help us with the Reunification portion of the drill. It really helped to run through it in an authentic way.

There were lots of *social justice* activities at Arbutus Global this week—the staff Indigenous Committee met to make plans for our observation of Orange Shirt Day on Wednesday, as did the Anti-Racism Student Leadership Group. There is a small but mighty Girl’s Empowerment Group starting, and the GSA will begin on Tuesday, October 5th. Our Pro-D Committee has planned a day of reflection and deep learning around Anti-Racism for staff on Monday. I am extremely *proud* of all of the students and staff who are actively taking a role in trying to make the world a better place for all.

Next week will be a time for *reflection* for all as we lead into the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. One of the activities some teachers and students will be engaging with is #MyReconciliationIncludes—considering and making a *commitment* to how they can contribute to Reconciliation. Here are some ideas for you to consider:

- Keep learning about indigenous teachings
- Read books from the library
- Use place names in the language of the land that you are on
- When buying indigenous art, check to make sure the artist is indigenous. It should list the name of the artist and where their indigenous ancestry is from.
- Find out whose land you are on when you are travel
- Find out whose land you were born on
- Get to know the names of our local plant and animal relatives

I am personally committed to *Reconciliation* through many of the above examples, as well as making it a focus of our professional learning and growth, and our students’ learning, here at Arbutus Global.

Have a great weekend with your families.—Carrie Schlappner, Principal

SWIM CLUB ORGANIZER / PARENT SPONSOR NEEDED

Pacific Coast Swimming is looking for a Parent Sponsor for the School Swimming FAST Program. F.A.S.T stands for “Friends Achieving Skills Together” and that is what they do. This program gives the students swimming skills, endurance in the water, teamwork, fitness and fun!

The swim season will begin the week of October 12, 2021. Practices are Thursdays from 3:15-4pm at Gordon Head Rec, and the Tentative F.A.S.T Meet Dates (Hosted at Saanich Commonwealth Place) are:

Sunday, November 21, 2021, Sunday January 16th, 2021, Sunday March 6th, 2021

• All Swim meets will be held from 9:30am-1pm.

If you are interested in being the sponsor please email Ms Schlappner at cschlappner@sd61.bc.ca and she will forward all of the detailed information.



	YOUR WEEK AT A GLANCE
Monday, Sept. 27	Pro-D Day—students not in session
Tuesday, Sept. 28	
Wednesday, Sept. 29	Orange Shirt Day observed
Thursday, Sept. 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation—school not in session
Friday, Oct. 1	

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2021

TEAM AVALANCHE

The Arbutus Global Week at a Glance...



Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Oct 5	International Teachers' Day
Oct 6	School-wide Terry Fox Run
Oct 11	Thanksgiving (school not in session)
Oct 19	PAC Meeting 7pm
Oct 19 & 20	Parent-Teacher Interviews
Oct 20	Grade 6 immunizations
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.



Music classes are now all up and running. It is so great to see so many students choosing to make music a part of their lives! If your child would still like to join band, choir or strings it is not too late. E-mail arbutusmusic@sd61.bc.ca if you have any questions.

Music Schedule:

Junior Strings: Monday after school (2:45-3:45) in the drama room for all instruments, Wednesday lunch recess in the drama room for Violins and Thursday lunch recess in the music room for cello and viola.

Choir: Tuesday at lunch recess and Wednesday at 7:30 am in the cafeteria.

Band: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday during the school day

Intermediate Strings: Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30 am in the drama room.

Avalanche Band: (optional for Grade 7/8 students that participate in band): Tuesday and Friday at 7:30 am in the music room.



Important Reminder for Parents –Please find SAFE alternate drop off location in mornings

For those who may have missed it in last week's WAG, drop off will no longer be an option in our parking lot for three main reasons:

- We would like to promote more active, healthy transportation overall.
- To reduce traffic congestion around Arbutus in the morning.
- To prevent unsafe driving in the parking lot, which was putting students at risk.

There are also the added benefits of increasing student independence, responsibility, and self-confidence, which are all goals of the Middle School experience.

We thank those families that have already adjusted to this, as we noticed a marked difference in congestion and safety over the past two mornings. We ask families to continue to consider alternate options for their children to travel to school, including having students travel by walking or bike from home, or dropping off further away from the school. Please do not park in the bike lanes and avoid U-turns.

Please see the September 17th WAG with more detailed suggestions under the section **IMPORTANT: Sustainable, SAFE and Healthy Transportation.**

We appreciate your support in keeping our students safe.

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Donate to Arbutus Global at Peppers!

Did you know that when you shop at Peppers you can donate to Arbutus Global? You can donate through Peppers in two ways.

1) **Purchase a pre-paid gift card** from Peppers and use it towards future purchases. Make sure to tell them you want to donate to Arbutus.

2) When you get to the till with your groceries, **tell the cashier that you would like to donate to Arbutus**. They will put your purchase on hold, sell you a gift card for that amount, and then you pay for your groceries with the card.



Thanks for your support! :)

SPORTS - here are the current after school sports happening at Arbutus:

Touch Rugby

Practices: Mondays at lunch, Wednesdays after school

Games: 3:45-4:45pm

Tuesday, September 28th at Royal Oak Middle School

Tuesday, October 5th at Royal Oak Middle School

Ultimate

Practices: Mondays after school and Tuesdays at lunch

Games: 3:45-4:45pm

Wednesday, September 29th

Wednesday, October 6th

Cross Country

Practices: Tuesdays and Thursdays after school

Meet days:

Monday, Oct 4th at Juan de Fuca

Race starts at 3:45pm for grade 6, 3:5- for grade 7, and 3:55 for grade 8

SIGN-UP FOR ALL SPORTS IS NOW COMPLETE. NO NEW REGISTRATIONS CAN BE ACCEPTED



South Island Counselling will be putting on a **Youth Anxiety Workshops** coming up in October, anxiety is such a hot topic right now in schools. This course runs for 8 weeks and has 2 different age groups.

They will also have their popular **Triple P Parenting** course for free coming up in October as well for parents of children age 2-12.

Please see the posters attached to the email for further details.



Masks are Required!

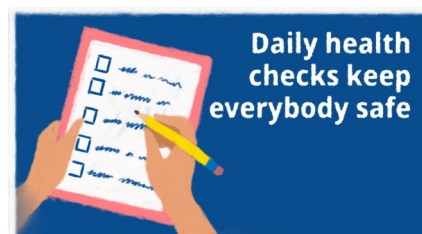


All visitors, K-12 staff, and students in Grades 4-12 are required to wear a mask indoors at school.
Students in Grades K-3 are also encouraged to wear a mask indoors in schools.

One Learning Community



As mentioned above, **ALL STUDENTS must wear a mask at ALL TIMES at school. We have already given out over 100 masks in 3 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.

Please do not call the office in the morning for attendance



**A successful
Earthquake Drill today
in the Sunshine! :)**



**Some of
our Cross
Country
Runners**





The winners of our “injured and missing students” receiving treatment in our medical area.

