

The Arbutus Global Week at a Glance...



THIS WEEK’S REFLECTIONS

It has been a wonderful beginning to my second year as principal at Arbutus Global. The sun shone all week, students have settled in beautifully, and we had another fun week with Grade Games on Wednesday (Grade 6s won! Woot, woot!) and Beach Day today. (see photos!).

Last May, our staff began conversations around how we could “Start Strong” in September, including finding ways to strengthen student and staff feelings of connection and belonging at Arbutus Global by putting “relationships before learning”. This in part came from the recognition that these past three years of school have been very challenging and different for students (and staff!), and we could all use some grounding around what is most important to ensure we have an inclusive, kind, respectful and safe school culture. We want to make sure every student feels seen, safe and supported in their identities, uniqueness, and gifts, and develop those while here for their three years.



Sunrise over Arbutus—September 7, 2022—Ms Schlappner

We have created a system we are now referring to as “Starting and Staying Strong at Arbutus Global”, which includes common messaging, values, lessons, strategies, routines, and procedures that will be taught across the school. This is one way we are ensuring our school goals around Social-Emotional Learning and Culturally-Responsive Teaching are part of our every day.

Two resources we are using to help with this are the First Peoples Principles of Learning and the Circle of Courage. The Circle of Courage highlights specific ways adults can nurture self-worth in children in the areas of BELONGING (having healthy connections and attachments at school), MASTERY (embracing learning new things and knowing they can and will achieve to the best of their abilities and overcome challenges), INDEPENDENCE (building resilience and the abilities to be responsible and manage challenges on their own) and GENEROSITY (developing a sense of purpose in the world and helping and supporting others). We recognize that we need to give children OPPORTUNITIES, EXPERIENCES and ENVIRONMENTS to learn, develop, and exercise these characteristics. All students need scaffolding and support to reach their full potential, and we will do our best to provide that.

We hope your knowing about “Starting and Staying Strong” will help you understand some of the things your child may come home and talk about, or why we may have approached supporting them with challenges in a particular way.

As you know, we moved into permanent classes yesterday. With 420 students, it is challenging to get every placement perfect. Disappointments usually fade within a short time once students settle and make new connections with staff and fellow students. We appreciate the understanding and adaptability that students and parents have shown in respecting the complexities that go into creating balanced classes for optimum learning.

On Monday, Exploratory Classes will begin, and on Friday we have Photo Day and our Mock Earthquake / Reunification Drill. *Please see the additional info in this WAG for volunteers to help us with our drill on Friday.*

Thank you for supporting your children in having such a successful first week. We appreciate it!

Have a wonderful weekend with your families.
— Carrie Schlappner - Principal

	YOUR WEEK AT A GLANCE
Monday, Sept. 12	Exploratories start
Tuesday, Sept. 13	
Wednesday, Sept. 14	
Thursday, Sept. 15	
Friday, Sept. 16	Photo Day Earthquake/Mock Reunification Drill

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Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Wednesday, Sept. 21	School Wide Terry Fox Run
Wednesday, Sept. 21	Meet the Teacher Night
Friday, Sept. 23	Pro-D Day—students not in session
Thursday, Sept. 29	Orange Shirt Day observed
Friday, Sept 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation—school not in session



Wonderful mural created this week by our Art teacher Jen Maestrello with students.

We will be having a full school Terry Fox run on Sept. 21. Students can bring in donations of a loonie or toonie or more. Homeroom teachers will collect the funds and we will send it off to the Terry Fox Cancer Fund.



Do you have an hour to spare in the afternoon of Friday, September 16th (NEXT Friday)?!?!

In the **afternoon of Friday, September 16th**, 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 VP Suzanne Weckend you are interested at sweckend@sd61.bc.ca with the subject line: "Reunification Volunteer"



Our **student information package of forms** should go home today (or Monday). Please have a thorough read through the forms and return them as soon as possible so we can maintain the most accurate information on your student. Some of our forms can now be filled out online—information on those in the package.

If you have a change of address—please know that we cannot make a change in our system without proof of address verification as outlined on the district website: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/registration-guide/>



Photo Day—Friday, September 16th

Hot Lunch Program

We are again offering a hot lunch program.

Tuesdays—Pizza

Wednesday—Burrito

Thursday—Subway

You can place orders for our first term through our school cash online system: <https://sd61.schoolcashonline.com/>

Deadline for ordering is: Wednesday, September 21

Late orders will NOT be accepted.

Hot lunch's will start Tuesday, September 27



To report your students absence, **call our main phone line (250-477-1878) and select Option 1 for Attendance.**

If you get a call that your student is absent, please call the main phone line and select option 2 to talk to the Office. Please continue to email your attendance to attendance62@sd61.bc.ca and also cc the teacher.

Please **do not** email the general Arbutus email as that is not always monitored in the morning which will result in you getting an absence call-out.

ATTENDANCE

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MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

Wednesday, September 21 you will have the opportunity to come and meet your students teachers.

Families can place pre-orders for a pizza dinner at a **community picnic hosted by our PAC** at 6pm before Meet the Teacher time. Many thanks to Panago Pizza and Pepper's Foods for their generous support!

Please note that orders must be placed by **September 14** (*late orders cannot be processed*).

Orders can be placed through our school cash online system.



Music classes start next week. Notices were sent home about band, choir and strings to interested students this week. If at all possible, please send your child with their instrument(s) for the dates below. If you have not yet rented an instrument for your child please consider visiting a music store in person this weekend rather than booking online so that your child has their instrument on time. If finances are an issue please contact Ms. Schlappner and a solution will be worked out. Privacy will be respected.

Start dates and rehearsal times:

Junior strings: Monday 2:45-3:30, Wednesday at lunch recess in the drama room. First class is Monday Sept 12

Intermediate strings: Tuesday and Thursday at 7:35 in the Drama room. First class is Tuesday Sept 13.

Choir: Tuesday at lunch recess and Wednesday at 7:35 in the Drama room. First class is Tuesday Sept 13.

Band 6: Mon, Tues, Wed during school time. First class is Monday Sept 12, instruments needed Tuesday Sept. 13

Band 7: Mon, Tues, Wed during school time. First class is Monday Sept 12, instruments needed Tuesday Sept. 13

Band 8: Mon, Tues, Wed during school time. First class and instruments needed Monday Sept 12.

Students in music will need an Arbutus Music t-shirt for their uniform for concerts, and are welcome to wear the shirt throughout the year. These shirts can be ordered online through School Cash Online, or will be available for purchase from Mr. Mazza and Mrs. Hill at the Meet-the-Teacher event.

We are looking forward to making music next week!

Mr. Mazza and Mrs. Hill

Music Teachers

Classes have started and sports will start next week. We start with Ultimate Frisbee, Cross Country and Touch Rugby. Everyone is welcome to join, we just ask for a commitment to practices and games. Each sport will play 3 days after school starting the week of September 19th. Some are at other schools and cross country is at local parks. Rugby plays Tuesday and likely practices Monday after school. Ultimate plays Wednesdays and practices Tuesdays after school. Cross country meets are usually Thursdays and practices will be at lunchtimes.



In middle school students are expected to listen to the announcements and pay attention to the Athletics Board to get involved in sports. Communication to parents is via the WAG and on the school website. Sign up for sports will take place on the athletics bulletin board. For Ultimate this year we are trying something new and going paperless for sign-up! Please scan the QR code below and complete the form.



We are always looking for coaches for these sports and for the upcoming basketball season. If you are interested in coaching or have any questions, please e-mail Megan Peddie the Athletic Director at mpeddie@sd61.bc.ca

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2022

TEAM AVALANCHE

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