

November 2020

Noel Sharman – Principal | Tel 604.823.6738 | noel\_sharman@sd33.bc.ca | <u>http://ges.sd33.bc.ca</u> "Preparing Hearts and Minds for the Future"

# Principal's Message

With November now approaching many wonderful things come to mind. Our students are settled into their classrooms and our teachers are undertaking a variety of assessments in order to gauge and promote student learning. Our children are showing growth in terms of demonstrating Safety, Outstanding Effort, Achievement and Respect and when I visit our classrooms each day, I notice students making strong decisions and demonstrating powerful listening, speaking, reading, writing and numeracy skills. I continue to be impressed with the hard work and dedication both by our staff and our parents that takes place each day in our building. As we have been learning how to cope with Covid-19 I am extremely proud of our school community as they have been diligent in following the Health and Safety protocols to keep everyone safe. You may have seen me outside at the front of the building greeting parents and student in the morning or out on the street as I am supervising the school zone and the drop off area. Please do not hesitate to stop and have a conversation or ask any questions you may be wondering. For this month, our virtue will be Understanding and our school wide focus is on demonstrating excellent behavior in assemblies. Greendale is truly is a terrific place to learn!

Sincerely, Noel Sharman

"Intelligence plus character, that is the goal of true education." - Martin Luther King Jr.





Chilliwack School District

Nov 9	Photo Retake Day	
Nov 10	Virtual Remembrance Day Assembl	
Nov 11	Remembrance Day	
Nov 13	Rock your Mocs!	
Nov 16	Non-Instructional Day	
Nov 18	PAC meeting 7pm on Zoom	
Nov 27	Non-Instructional Day	
Nov 30-Dec 6	Virtual Book Fair	
Dec 9	PAC meeting 7pm on Zoom	
Dec 19-Jan 3	Christmas Holidays	

# **Remembrance Day**



Greendale Elementary will be remembering a little different this year. The Chilliwack School District will be streaming an online Remembrance Day video on Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Sharman will be going around the school to collect any donations on Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup> for the Poppy

Fund. Poppies will be made available for students next week. Please consider donating to the Poppy Fund. For more information, please visit

https://www.legion.ca/remembrance/the-poppy

#### **School Communication**

Our school is trying to promote more environmentally friendly options to communicate. We will be using email, our website, and Facebook to communicate regularly with parents. Our school website has a great deal of information on it and is regularly updated. Please check it out at http://gcs.sd33.bc.ca/.

There will be a Friday email with updates for the following week. Newsletters will be written monthly and emailed to parents. All newsletters will also be posted on our school website.

## **Dressing for the Weather**



We are in rainy West Coast season and we play outside in the rain or shine! Please make sure your child comes to school dressed appropriately for ALL types of

weather: Boots, gloves, hat, rain jacket, winter jacket. Unless it is extreme wind, rain, or cold, students will be playing outside during recess and lunch.

# **Photo Retakes**

Photo Retakes are happening on November 9<sup>th</sup>. The photographer will be here first thing in the morning, so if your child missed or needs retakes, please have them at school on time. Thank you!

# Drop off and Dismissal Procedures

Parent parking is available across the street on the road, school parking lot and the church parking lot as well. Please be aware that as a bussing school, busses need to be able to access the front pull-in



lane to safely drop our students off. Cones will be placed on either side of this area to help with this. Thank you in advance for your patience regarding our parking areas. Please enter and exit the drop off zone appropriately. Please have your children arrive at school no earlier than 7:44, as we are unable to provide adequate supervision before that time. As mentioned in communication home we would like to have students dropped off as close to 8:00 as possible as we are limiting the use of our playground with Health and Safety protocols. The Playground will be closed in the morning and we are asking that all students report to their assigned lineup/designated area. Thank you for your help providing a safe environment!

# Library

If you haven't done it yet, check out our library website. It can be found on the main Greendale page under "Parent Information." I have links to several virtual reading websites, and I update the page regularly. New this year is a link where students can place books on hold, similar to the public library. This should help us out this year with students not being in the library as often physically. I have shown the grade 3s how to do this, and I will be teaching the grade 4s and 5s soon. In a time where the books are being quarantined and students are only getting into the library every other week, it is a quicker way to access books like the newest Dog Man or Guinness Book of Records 2021.

Chilliwac School Di

I have been in touch with the public library, and they plan to run the Reading Link Challenge again this year. This is a voluntary "book club" for students in grades 4 and 5. Most of the elementary schools in Chilliwack, and even B.C., participate in the program. I will let you know more as I find out more, but I would expect books to be announced some time in the next month.

I have been in touch with Scholastic, and I am hoping to run a "virtual" book fair this year. Scholastic is still in the process of getting this up and running, but the hope is to run it the first week of December. If you are planning to buy books for your kids for Christmas, think about purchasing at the "virtual" book fair and then the proceeds can come back to our school library. More details to come . . .

### **Greendale PAC**

Our next PAC meeting is Wednesday, November 18th at 7pm via zoom. A link and agenda will be emailed out prior to the meeting. Join us to hear what's happening at the school!

We have 2 fundraisers to pay attention to in November. We run fundraisers in order to provide equipment and services for the school. This past year we were able to contribute to many fun activities including reducing the cost of field trips, purchasing a sensory path, and contributing to the sound system in the gym. This year looks a little different, but we continue to support the school with funding for various important things like emergency preparedness and technology upgrades. Because we can't be as involved in the school this year we will have fewer fundraisers, but the events we choose are thought out to provide a service (something many families might purchase anyway like food and Christmas shopping) while supporting our little school, and we have put a lot of effort into ensuring that the fundraisers can be done with safety measures in place.

We are currently running a Neufeld Farms fundraiser the order deadline is Thursday, November 5th, with delivery on November 18th. Pick-up will be a drive-thru style at the Greendale MB Church parking lot to ensure social distancing requirements are met.



We will run a Purdy's Chocolates fundraiser in November - the order deadline is Monday, November 23rd, with pick-up Tuesday, December 8th. Pick-up will be at the library backdoor.

#### Student Absences

If your child is ill or planning to be absent, please give the school a call in the morning at 604-823-6738 or you may email Mrs. Holmes at



cassandra holmes@sd33.bc.ca ;otherwise our office will phone home to ensure your child is safe in the event of absence. Thank you for your support!

Please consult the daily health check before sending your child(ren) to school.



#### Student Daily Health Check

First Name:	Last Name:			
Date: School: Parent/Guardian:				
	Fever	YES	NO	
	Chills	YES	NO	
	Cough or worsening of chronic cough	YES	NO	
	Shortness of breath	YES	NO	
	Sore throat	YES	NO	
	Runny nose / stuffy nose	YES	NO	
	Loss of sense of smell or taste	YES	NO	
	Headache	YES	NO	
	Fatigue	YES	NO	
	Diarrhea	YES	NO	
	Loss of appetite	YES	NO	
	Nausea and vomiting	YES	NO	
	Muscle aches	YES	NO	
	Conjunctivitis (pink eye)	YES	NO	
	Dizziness, confusion	YES	NO	
	Abdominal pain	YES	NO	
	Skin rashes or discoloration of fingers or toes	YES	NO	
2. International Trav	el Have you or anyone in your household returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	YES	NO	
3. Confirmed Contac	t Are you or is anyone in your household a confirmed contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	YES	NO	

If your child answered "YES" to any of the questions and the symptoms are not related to a preexisting condition (e.g. allergies) they should NOT come into school. Notify the school office of the absence and if you are experiencing any symptoms of illness, contact a health-care provider for further assessment. This includes 8-1-1, or a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner.

If you answered "YES" to questions 2 or 3, use the <u>COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool</u> to determine if you should be tested for COVID-19.

# Kindergarten 2021-2022

If you have a child or know of someone who will be 5 years of age before December 31, 2021, you can register now! You will need the following to complete the registration:

- **Birth Certificate** •
- Proof of Residence •
- Valid email address •

Please visit https://sd33.bc.ca/registration to register and FAQs. If you require assistance, please email ereg@sd33.bc.ca



Chilliwack School District

2020/2021

Students

#### INCLEMENT WEATHER SCHOOL CLOSURE GUIDELINES Information for Parents and



Inclement weather conditions such as freezing rain, significant snowfall or high wind can occur during the fall and winter months. In such conditions, decisions on the opening or closure of school district facilities are made by the Superintendent of Schools in consultation with management and supervisory staff who have checked first-hand on the driving conditions, walking/sidewalk conditions, and general condition of buildings and accessibility to sites. *For more details on how this is done, <u>click here</u>.* 

While service to students and parents is a priority and schools will be kept open as much as is reasonably possible, student and staff safety is the primary consideration.

In the event of extreme weather conditions, parents are urged to check the School District website <u>www.sd33.bc.ca</u> or tune into radio stations STAR FM (98.3 FM) or THE DRIVE (89.5 FM), to receive up-to-date information on school closures and information on the buses. Reports will start after 6:00 a.m. and will be repeated often. The information broadcast is directly from the School District. The reports are confirmed and there is no need to call your school, the School District Office or the radio station.

In the event that there is inclement weather but the school remains open, it is the parent's decision, based on their assessment of the relative safety of travel conditions, as to whether or not their children attend school. Students will be marked absent for the day, but such an absence will not affect a perfect attendance record.

A **Transportation Snow Plan** is in place for students who rely on travel by school bus and live in <u>higher elevations</u> such as Chilliwack Mountain, Little Mountain, Majuba Hill, Ryder Lake and some areas of Columbia Valley and the Eastern Hillsides. An announcement will be made should travel in these areas become challenging due to slippery road conditions. (*Please note: the greater Promontory area does <u>not</u> have a snow plan).* 

All inclement weather announcements will be posted on the District website www.sd33.bc.ca