



Don Christian Elementary School
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<http://www.surreyschools.ca/donchristian>

Newsletter #4

October 25, 2018

Messages from the Principal

Thank you everyone for your participation in any of a number of recent special school events:

- Our Open House on September 27 was well-attended. I enjoyed meeting many of you present and past attendees at our school and enjoyed several stories of families who have attended Don Christian Elementary for generations.
- We had hundreds wearing the colour Orange on September 28, Orange Shirt Day,  a nation-wide event aimed at recognizing Truth and Reconciliation.
- We honoured our C.A.T.S. on October 16 with a special recognition assembly. We no longer provide pizza lunches for some of our CATS; however, we will continue to acknowledge all the students in other ways. Our list of CATS appears on page 3 of the newsletter.
- And of course, we had a report card day; an interim report with still some reflective feedback from teachers and students themselves about their progress.
- We also just finished an earthquake drill, and participated in the province-wide BC ShakeOut!
- Finally, we thank all those students and families who participated in the *Be Active Everyday Challenge*. Sponsored by Doctors of BC, students were challenged to do one hour of activity every day for October. Our students are doing very well and by non-scientific polling, it appears that all students are taking the challenge seriously. Kudos Wildcats! We hope parents continue to promote daily activity as we do at the school.

We look forward to seeing more of you during upcoming events including the Halloween parade at 9 am on October 31, and the Remembrance Ceremony on November 8, at 10:45. Please see our fridge-ready calendar on the last page. Go Wildcats Go!

Safe journeys! John Morrison

Happy autumn from the DC PAC!



It's been a busy start to the year with lots in the works for the coming months. Thank you to all for supporting our fundraisers so far this year – hot lunches, coffee, pumpkin sales – and another big thank you to all those who have volunteered so far. Tickets for our Parents Night Out on Friday, November 2 are now available in Munchalunch.

We'd love to connect with you this year. If you'd like to be added to our mailing list for future newsletters and volunteer opportunities, please email donchristianpac@gmail.com

Another way to reach us is to like our Facebook page "Don Christian PAC" for updates and up to date information on what's happening within our Don Christian community. Our next PAC meeting is November 19, 6:30 pm.

Halloween Safety Reminders

As you know, we have students at Don Christian with **life-threatening allergies to peanuts**. We try to ensure no one is exposed to any products containing peanuts, nuts or their by-products. Children want to bring candy to school. However, many treats contain peanuts, traces of peanut and/or peanut oil. Therefore, we remind you to leave these treats at home and NOT bring them to school. Children need food that will aid in their thinking and learning development; please send healthy snacks to school.

Replica or toy weapons are not allowed at school, even if they are a part of a Halloween costume. As per Safe and Caring Schools Policy 9410 and Regulation 9410.1 - "It is expected that students will not use, possess or display any weapon, replica weapon or toy weapon, on any school property or at any event that is organized or sponsored by a school. Also, **inappropriate costumes (bloody/gory/excessively scary) are not permitted**. We have children as young as 5 years who have had traumatic experiences. We don't wish to recreate trauma for anyone. Thank you for your support.

Full face masks are not permitted; this is district policy. However, we will allow children to wear a mask – if appropriate - during the Halloween parade only.

Student Absences

If your child is going to be away from school, we appreciate it if you inform the office by calling the school at 604-576-1381. This is a 24-hour line. If it is after school hours, please leave a clear message stating the absent student's name and division.

Visitor Badges

The office has lost some of its visitor badges. We suspect sometimes people walk out still wearing the badges. If you have one, please return it to the school. We thank everyone for helping keep our kids safe by ensuring a visitor's badge is worn after checking in at the office. Thank you!

After school program

On Thursdays at Don Christian, we have the "Schools Out" program, run by Alexandria Neighbourhood House. It focuses on building self-esteem and confidence. The program follows the Reggio Emilia approach to learning where children engage in activities that foster connections with their peers, and engage in healthy activities. Further information: call 604-535-0015 ext 229 for information and registration; visit www.alexhouse.net; or pick up info at the office. The program starts Thursday, November 1.

Allergy-Aware Schools

Don Christian is an allergy aware school. We have students with severe allergies to seafood, nuts, or eggs, just to name a few. Please be aware of these allergies and help our community by refraining from bringing food containing nuts. We remind children to not bring these items to the classroom. Children are also encouraged to not share food. The school has additional snack items for students who forget their lunches.



Wildcat Spirit Wear

Keep your eye out for notices and information after Halloween about opportunities to purchase school spirit wear clothing, featuring our stylized school logo. Sample sizes will be on display near the office. The spirit wear is optional of course. Your PAC and school staff support this initiative. Many thanks to Mrs. Domonkos and Mrs. Slind for taking the lead.

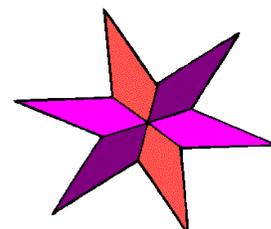
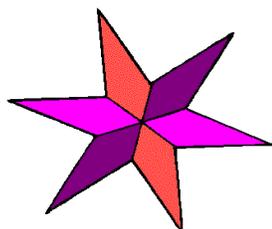
Thrill the World Surrey

Students and parents are invited to join Thrill the World Surrey on Saturday, Oct. 27, at Surrey's City Hall atrium from 1-3 pm. Some of our students and staff have been practicing the thriller dance to help acknowledge next week's Halloween festivities. You can take a crash dance course on Saturday and then join in. By donation, proceeds to the Surrey Food Bank.

C.A.T.S.
October 2018

At our Assembly on **Tuesday, October 16, 2018**, the following students were recognized for their achievement in four areas:

C is for Caring
A is for Accountable
T is for Trustworthy
S is for Safe



Division 1:	Dominic A. Cacee S.	Kalleigh P.	Dustin H.	Tanner D.
Division 2:	Ethan S.	Julia H.	Jacob C.	
Division 3:	Kailie C.	Brooke H.	Thomas S.	Gavyn S.
Division 4:	Lukas U.	Johnny P.	Bree B.	Sally L.
Division 5:	Sehaj D. Leila T.	Chloe N.	Mackenzie V.	Robert T.
Division 6:	Jiyaa B. Georgia W.	Nikhail S.	Suhaani G.	Caine M.
Division 7:	Yusuf A.	Lashelle G.	Eden S.	Sean S.
Division 8:	Zaara S.	Talen S.		
Division 9:	Jaclyn B.	Ryan B.	Nicholas A.	Ishmeet K.
Division 10:	Jacob K.	Ella M.	Charlie M.	Sylke R.
Division 11:	Murhaf K.	Jason D.	Deveena M.	Austin R.
Division 12:	Sienna P.			
Division 13:	Karis H.	Luke P.	Naseeb G.	
Division 14:	Jaiden D.	Jakob U.	Brynn B.	Anya P.
Division 15:	Amelia M.	Trudy B.		
Division 16:	Cameron A.	Sydney B.	Savanna Q.	Levi R.
Division 17:	Mia P.	Oliver O.	Richart T.	Allison M.

Halloween fireworks safety

Every Halloween, children and adults are seriously injured and sometimes killed by fireworks.

According to Surrey and White Rock city bylaws, **it is illegal for any person to be in the possession of fireworks of any kind.**

The only exception is for persons who have a valid federal supervisor's certificate from the Explosives Regulatory Division of Natural Resources Canada. However, city permits must be obtained and other restrictions still apply.



The penalty for violating the bylaw is a fine of up to \$5,000 and seizure of the fireworks.

Any fireworks brought on school property will be confiscated and students involved face suspension.

If you have any questions about fireworks use, please contact your fire department.

Halloween “Trick or Treat” Safety Tips

Have a fun and safe Halloween!

Costume safety

- Make sure that drivers can see your child. Use costumes with reflective tape and give each child a flashlight. Carry a glow stick that can be worn around the neck or wrist.
- Make sure your child can see. Use face paint instead of masks.
- To prevent falling, costumes should not be longer than your child’s ankle.



Trick or treating safety

- Walk in groups and stay together. Visit houses on one side of the street at a time.
- Cross only at an intersection or at a marked crosswalk.
- Never walk out between cars to cross the street and never cross in the middle of the block.
- Children should stay in populated and well-lit areas and only visit homes that have their outside lights turned on. Children should never go inside any house.
- Carry a cell phone in case of emergencies.
- Examine your children’s candy before they eat it. Throw out any treats that are not wrapped.



Driving safety

- If you are driving on Halloween night, be extra careful. Slow down and look ahead. Be aware of your surroundings. Children are excited on Halloween and may forget some of the safety rules.
- Pay more attention to intersections and crosswalks.
- Be prepared to stop for kids who may run out in front of you.
- Remember that there will be more foot traffic on Halloween night and most of it will be excited young children.
- If you are going to be attending an office party or an adult Halloween celebration, don’t drive if you have been drinking.

An adult should always supervise younger children.

Marijuana (cannabis) and schools

District policies regarding cannabis are consistent with provincial and federal laws, and similar in approach to district policies regarding alcohol or tobacco.

Minor students (18 years and younger)

- The possession of cannabis and cannabis products in British Columbia is limited to adults 19 years or older. A minor must not possess, consume, produce, supply, sell, purchase or attempt to purchase cannabis, nor market, advertise or promote cannabis. In addition, minors cannot possess, make, supply, sell, purchase or attempt to purchase a cannabis accessory (equipment related to cannabis use, production, etc.).
- A minor must not operate a vehicle, whether or not the vehicle is in motion, while there is cannabis in the vehicle.
- If a student is found in possession of what is believed to be cannabis or a cannabis-infused product, the product will be confiscated. Further actions may also be taken against the student.

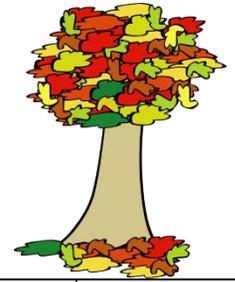
Adults (19 years and older)

- Adults cannot consume cannabis in any form in or on school property.
- Adults cannot smoke or vape cannabis in or on public spaces such as skating rinks, sports fields, swimming pools, playgrounds or skate parks (noteworthy for adults in adjacent schools).
- Adults cannot consume cannabis while operating a vehicle or consume cannabis while in a vehicle being operated by another person. An adult must not operate a vehicle if the adult knows that another person is smoking or vaping cannabis in the vehicle.

For additional information on cannabis and cannabis laws, please visit: cannabis.gov.bc.ca or Canada.ca/cannabis.



November 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30 Immunizations (HPV) 	31 Halloween 	1 Photo Retakes 9am 	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Remembrance Assembly 10:45 am 	9 Pro-D (no school)	10
11	12 Remembrance Day 	13 Kindergarten Dental Screening 	14	15 Kindergarten Vision/Hearing Screening  	16	17
18	19 PAC Meeting 6:30 pm	20 CATs Assembly 9:00 am	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Hot Lunch	

Dec. 7 Report Cards home
Dec. 12 Early Dismissal, 1:30 pm



