



NEWSLETTER

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MISSION STATEMENT: *At Suncrest School, our mission is to create a respectful, safe, supportive community in which each student reaches full potential in order to empower all to become life-long learners and contributing world citizens.*

September has been a very, very busy month. Our students, teachers, staff and families have been working hard to establish the positive relationships, attitudes and routines that will contribute to a successful year for the students. It was great seeing our families connecting with their children's teachers during the Parent Intake Meetings earlier in September. We encourage families to continue to maintain those good lines of communication with their children's teachers throughout the year.

In September, building connectedness to our Suncrest Elementary School community has been our primary focus. This school year we have welcomed a number of new students to our school and it is important that everybody in our community comes to understand our values of togetherness while embracing the diversity that enriches our school. The "Ringing In the School Year" assembly at the end of September was a perfect example of how we celebrate these values.

I look forward to the month of October and all the additional special occasions and learning that will take place.

Beta Mini-School Information Night – 7:00 p.m. on October 12th at Burnaby Central

A specialized program for Highly Able Learners entering grade 8, the BETA Mini-School is offered at Alpha Secondary. It is designed to challenge and support students who have demonstrated high potential, talent and ability. In an inclusive environment of intellectual peers, students participate in rigorous, complex, creative, cognitive challenges. This differentiated program offers an exciting and engaging learning environment designed to support students of high ability to reach their intellectual, personal and social potential.

MACC Program Information Night – 7:00 p.m. on October 13th at Burnaby Central

Multi-Age Cluster Classrooms (MACC), which is hosted at Suncrest and Capital Hill, is an interdisciplinary, inquiry based programs for highly able learners seeking heightened cognitive and creative challenge in an inclusive and supportive community of intellectual peers. MACC is responsive to the needs of high-ability learners whose cognitive, personal and social skills may be developing at varying rates.

Upcoming October Dates to Remember

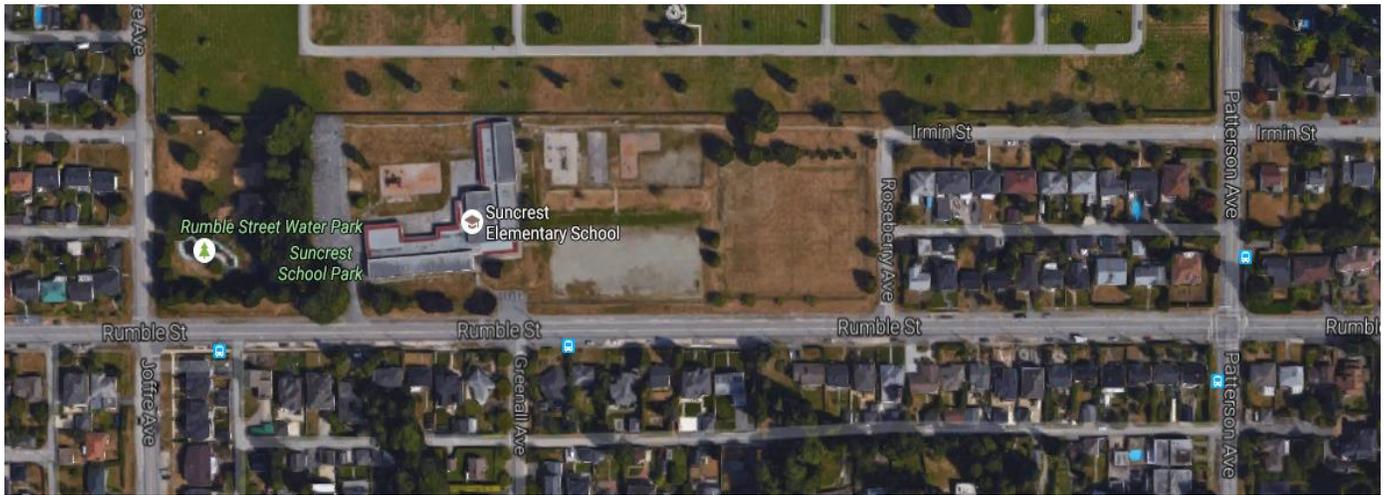
Monday, October 7 th	- Thanksgiving (No school)
October 11 th to 17 th	- Martial Arts Program
Wednesday, October 19 th	- Fun Lunch - PAC Meeting (6:00-7:30 p.m.)
Thursday, October 20	- Great BC ShakeOut Earthquake Drill (a.m.) - Family Photo Night
Friday, October 21 st	- Professional Development Day (No school for students)
Thursday, October 27 th	- Celebration of Learning (Time TBA)
Friday, October 28 th	- Pumpkin Patch
Monday, October 31 st	- Pumpkin Carving and Costume Parade

PAC News

The October PAC Meeting will be on the evening of Wednesday, October 19th from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Free childcare will be provided for parents who want to attend the meeting.

A Family Photo Night will be held on Thursday, October 20th. Take this opportunity to get your family photos taken. They make great gifts for the holiday season.

Parents are also asked to keep some time open to help with our Halloween Pumpkin Patch on Friday, October 28th, and the Pumpkin Carving and Costume Parade on Monday, October 31st. More details and ways for parents to contribute to these events will come to families soon.



City of Burnaby Rumble Street Improvement Project

The City of Burnaby is undertaking a utilities and roadway improvement project which will have an impact on the roadways surrounding Suncrest Elementary School. When the project is finished, there will be many improvements to the roads, sidewalks, streetlighting around Suncrest Elementary School. These improvements will include curbs, grass boulevards, and an urban pathway along Rumble Street. There will also be increased streetlighting, curb narrows, and an improved intersection in front of the school to enhance safety for those travelling nearby the school. The small parking lot in front of the school will be removed.

It is important that our community understands that as the project proceeds there will be times when there will be a significant impact on the traffic patterns and parking areas surrounding our school. These could include, but are not limited to, times when Rumble Street in front of the school and adjacent Burnaby parks is reduced to single-lane alternating traffic controlled by flagpersons, times when the pick up and drop off parking zones in front of the playfields is unavailable, or times when access to the Suncrest Elementary School parking lot is limited or restricted. The City of Burnaby and project managers for this project have been, and will continue to be, in contact with Suncrest Elementary and have assured us that safety of the students is of the greatest importance within this project. While they have stated they will attempt to provide some alternative pick up and drop off parking in front of Suncrest Park to the west of the school if our normal street parking is disrupted, we can anticipate that there will be times when parking around the school and within the school parking lot will be very limited. Parents and guardians should plan for these disruptions and take step to avoid frustration as they travel to and from the school. Please consider the following as the project proceeds:

1. Whenever possible, walk to school to avoid congested traffic and parking conditions.
2. Allow extra time to travel to and from the school.
3. Obey any temporary traffic or parking regulations and any traffic flagpersons working with the project.
4. Utilize side street parking areas on Joffre Avenue on the west side of Suncrest Park west of the school and walk your children onto the school grounds using the sidewalk or pathways through Suncrest Park.
5. Utilize side street parking areas on Roseberry Avenue on the east side of the playfields east of the school and walk your children onto the school grounds using the sidewalk or pathway at the north side of the playfields.
6. As always, as you walk to cross Rumble Street use the marked crosswalk and pedestrian controlled stoplight.
7. Avoid using the Suncrest Elementary School parking lot as the amount of available parking will be reduced.
8. BE PATIENT, FLEXIBLE, COURTEOUS and UNDERSTANDING while this project proceeds and **REMEMBER THAT STUDENT SAFETY IS OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE.**
9. Look out for new information coming from the school as we adapt to changes brought about by this project.

The project is scheduled to begin early in October 2016 and continue through May 2017. Please stay tuned for more updates as this project proceeds.

No Peanuts (and In Some Classrooms No Treenut Products)



Anaphylactic allergic reactions are severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reactions to foods or other substances in our environment (e.g. bee stings).

Suncrest Elementary has many students who have anaphylactic allergic reactions to peanuts, and this year, these students are found in many of our classrooms. For some of these students, even consuming small amounts of peanuts or peanut products can be harmful, and this may occur through incidental cross contamination. Preventing anaphylactic allergic reactions for these students is a community concern. For this reason we ask that families do not send products which contain peanuts or peanut products as ingredients to school within their children's snacks, lunches or special treats (such as birthday or holiday treats). We also insist children with anaphylactic allergic reactions not to share their snacks or lunches in order to prevent inadvertent consumption of allergens.

Please note: Some classes have students with anaphylactic allergic reactions to other types of nut and nut products (e.g. treenuts, hazelnuts). The teachers of these classrooms will let their classroom communities know about allergies that may occur within their classrooms.

Families of students with anaphylactic allergic reactions should ensure that the classroom teachers are aware of their child's allergies and should provide EpiPens to the school.

The teachers at Suncrest Elementary School take steps within their classroom try to prevent anaphylactic allergic reactions and have trained with the administration of EpiPens should an allergic reaction occur.

If parents are looking for safe alternatives to nut products, resource will be available at the office.

Please be on the lookout for signs similar to the ones shown above as reminders to keep all of our students safe. Thank you for your efforts in keeping all of our students safe.



Be Prepared for the Weather

Living on the Canadian West Coast means that we have to be prepared for all types of weather. The last few weeks have proven, our weather can change dramatically in a very short time. As we enter our more rainy and cold season, we ask that families please ensure that students arrive prepared for whatever weather may be in store

It is important that students remain active and have the opportunity for physical exercise every day so that they can lead well-balanced lives and achieve to their full potential at school. For this reason, we will be sending students outside for recess and lunch every day unless it the weather makes it unsafe to do so (e.g. saturated, soggy and slippery ground conditions, ice or bitter cold). This means that students should be prepared for the weather with raincoats and/or warm coats, boots, gloves and umbrellas. This will allow them to enjoy the weather while allowing them to return to class feeling dry and comfortable.

In case of those inevitable slips or splashes in puddles, it is a good idea for students to have an extra change of clothing at school.

If Your Child is Away from School

If your child is away from school for any reason, please call the school office at 604-664-8862 to let us know. You can either talk directly to Ms Boleak or leave a message by following the voice prompts.

We will attempt to make contact with the families of any student who is away. Your help in letting us know allows us to know your child is safe and accounted for.

If your child is late arriving at school (*i.e.* after 9:00 a.m.), please ensure that they sign in at the office and receive a 'Late Slip' before they go to their class.