



Millwood Elementary School Newsletter September 2021

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Website: <https://mle.hrce.ca/>

Up Coming Dates:

- **September 24th: PD day: no students present**
- **September 29: Orange Shirt Day**
- **September 30th: Truth and Reconciliation (no students present)**
- **October 1st: Treaty Day**
- **October 11th: Thanksgiving Monday: no school**
- **October 6th : Picture Day**
- **TBD: SAC meeting**

Thank You and Welcome Back!

As I walk through the hallways and out on the schoolyard, I see many smiling faces, laughter and children loving to have the freedom to connect with friends they have not seen for a couple months. The students continue to do a fantastic job transitioning and following the current school guidelines to help keep our school community safe. Even with the easing of some restrictions, we continue to have health guidelines we need to follow. I would like to thank the teachers and staff for all that they have done to prepare and to continue to create a safe learning environment that allows the students to have a bit more freedom of movement and choice throughout their school day compared to last year.

School Communication

Newsletters will be sent out at the first of each month. Newsletters will be sent out via email only and posted on our website. If you would like to receive a paper copy of the upcoming newsletters, the office will keep a list of families who have requested this and will send out a copy at the first of the month. Please contact the office if you would like a paper copy. If you did not receive the newsletter electronically could you please contact the office so we can update your email address? Please check our website regularly for general information and upcoming events details. <https://mle.hrce.ca> .

Registration Forms/ Early Dismissal

Student registration and early dismissal forms were sent home earlier this week. Please review, complete, update any out of date information and return all forms to school as soon as possible. Thank you!

Media Release Forms

Many times throughout the year, we take pictures of our students or display their work. A personalized Media Release permission form has been sent home to all students. Please sign and return as soon as possible.

Milk Program and Lunch Lady

We will be offering a milk program to families if you would like to purchase milk this year starting in October. We will also be reaching out to the Lunch Lady and inquiring about providing this service beginning in October for families who might be interested. More information will be sent home later in the month.

Before arriving at school/Daily Screening

We need families to continue to monitor the health of their child(ren) each day before they come to school using the COVID-19 Daily Checklist (posted on our website). Students should remain home when they are ill, even if their symptoms are mild, and contact 811 for guidance. I have also attached information that can help you determine when your child may return to school if they had to remain home because they were ill.

Addressing Concerns and Questions

During the school year, you may have questions or concerns regarding your child and their progress. The first line of communication is with the classroom teacher. The teacher will respond to you within 48 hours. If you feel that the situation requires further consultation after speaking with the teacher, contact the principal via email or phone to address the situation further.

Essential Visitors Only

According to public health guidelines, only essential visitors are permitted in the building. They will review the COVID-19 Daily Checklist and confirm they have no symptoms. They will wear a mask in accordance to public health guidelines while in the building.

Student Drop off times

Student arrival time is between 8:10-8:25. When students arrive, they will go directly to their classroom through their class door unless directed otherwise by their teacher.

Parking Lot

The driveway is now a bus loop and is closed to non-authorized vehicles between 8:00-8:30 AM and 2:20-3:00 PM. The parking lot is for authorized personal and vehicles with priority access designation only. Parents must park on the side streets drop their child off there or they may walk them to the playground and instruct them to go directly to their classroom through their assigned door.

I recognize that parking is a challenge in the area in the morning and many parents and residents in the area are concerned with obedience to HRM traffic signs, particularly on Sawyer Cres, Noria Cres, and Beaverbank Cross Rd. I have attached a map indicating the side streets parking options available.

Grab and Go Breakfast

Grab and Go breakfast has begun. Breakfast baskets include individually packaged food items and whole fresh fruit. These baskets will be delivered to classrooms each morning. Students have access to a selection of items including, yogurt, fresh fruit and cereal bars.

Orange Shirt Day

The purpose of the day is to honour First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Survivors and their families and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of our history and the harm caused by residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process.

On September 29th, students are invited to wear orange to school to encourage communities to come together in a spirit of reconciliation and hope because every child matters.

I am looking forward to another great year and working with the families and students at Millwood Elementary. Thank you again for all your support, flexibility and patience during our start up and through out the upcoming year.

Michelle Andrews
Principal