



# News from the Nest



Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Weyt-kp parents, guardians, and caregivers,

The temperature has definitely changed and there is a chill in the air. I even heard on the radio yesterday that there are only 60 days until Christmas. Where does the time go? We've been in school two whole months and some great learning has already taken place. Sometimes it's hard to connect with your child and find out what they are learning in school. Rather than asking "How was school today?" and getting the typical "Nothing" response, try these questions instead:

- What made you smile/laugh today?
- What was hard/difficult today, but you did it anyway?
- How were you brave today? How did you show resilience today?
- What is the word of the week? What does it mean?
- What was the best thing that happened today?
- What book are you (or the teacher) reading in class? Do you like it? Why or why not?
- Tell me one thing that you know now that you didn't know when you woke up this morning.
- What are you looking forward to tomorrow?
- If you could switch seats with anyone in the class, who would it be and why?
- If you could switch places with your teacher, what would you teach the class?
- If you were the principal for the day, what would you do first?

During the month of November, we will be introducing some new assessment tools to help us measure our growth in our School Learning Plan goals:

1. Students will show growth in their ability to recognize the appearance of and the monetary value of currency, solve real-world problems involving money, and identify their needs and wants with respect to spending and saving.
2. Students will show growth in their organization, sentence structure, vocabulary, and conventions in informational texts.
3. Students will show growth in their self-confidence by taking risks in their learning.

Students will show us what they know on a Financial Literacy Pre-Test, a school-wide write, and a survey/self-assessment regarding their strengths and stretches at school. We will perform the same assessments again in the Spring, and if all goes as planned, it is our hope that we will see some growth in all of our students in all of these areas. Using these assessment tools consistently from year to year will also allow us to track the progress of our students from year to year as well as the growth of our school as a whole.

## **School Clothing**

School clothing is now available for ordering on-line through Hansport. The deadline for orders is Monday November 15<sup>th</sup>.

<https://essschoolstore.itemorder.com/shop/sale/>



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## Halloween

Students are welcome to wear their Halloween costume Friday October 29<sup>th</sup> if he/she/they choose to do so. Please contact your child's teacher about their plans for the day and when they will expect their students to change back into their street clothes. Please remember the following guidelines when choosing a costume to wear to school:



- No masks
- No weapons
- No ultra-violent or gory costumes/make-up (we don't want to frighten the younger students)

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, there is no sharing of homemade goodies. However, if you would like to send individually pre-packaged treats for your child/ren's class, you are welcome to do so, **but please check with your child's teacher first.** Also keep in mind that there are many food allergies at our school, so do not send anything containing nuts.

## Pumpkin Carving Contest

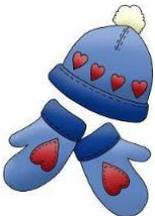


The PAC has organized a Pumpkin Carving/Decorating contest for us. Students are invited to carve or decorate a pumpkin at home and bring it to school on Thursday October 28<sup>th</sup> to enter the contest. It is free to enter, and there will be prizes given. All classes are welcome to come down to the gym to view the pumpkins on Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. The PAC will be accepting donations at this event to cover the costs of the decorations and prizes.

There are several classes carving/decorating pumpkins for Berwick on the Park, a retirement home located just a stone's throw from our school. After the students have finished viewing the pumpkins in the morning, those classes who participated will be bringing their creations down to the retirement home to be set up along their driveway. These pumpkins will be lit up at night and families are invited to come down and view the masterpieces on display. I believe this event is a fundraiser for the Turtle Valley Donkey Refuge, which is located in Chase B.C.

## Dressing for the Weather

As the air temperature drops and the amount of precipitation increases, it becomes increasingly more important for your child/ren to come to school dressed for whatever Mother Nature decides to throw at us for recess and lunch hour. **We will be sending students outside in inclement weather, so it is crucial that they are prepared with outside shoes/boots, a jacket, and soon enough mitts and a tuque.** We will soon be putting mats in the hallways for everyone's boots, and we ask everyone, staff and students, to take their boots off at the door. It just takes one pair of wet and snowy boots to make the hallways slippery and dangerous. Also, no one likes to step in wet snow in sock feet on their way to putting on his/her/their indoor shoes. Please make sure to send a pair of indoor shoes to school with your child, if you haven't already done so.





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## **Closing of the Gate on Whiteshield Crescent**

With the promise of snow in the coming weeks and months, this is a reminder that upon the first snowfall, the gate at the top of the stairs at the Whiteshield Crescent entrance closes for the winter season. You will need to plan to drop off your children at a different location, such as the bus stop/lower parking lot. This does mean that there will be an increase in the volume of cars using this area to drop off or pick up their children, so I ask that you be patient with each other as we all want your children to arrive and depart school safely. This increase in traffic in the drop-off and pick-up lanes also means that you will need to be efficient in the drop-off/pick-up lane. Make your end-of-day plans and give hugs and kisses prior to getting into the car in the morning, so that you can take the time that you need to do so meaningfully, without holding up traffic behind you.

## **Volleyball**

Due to increased interest from parents and a recent decrease in COVID cases in elementary schools, the SD73 Sports Council Executive has decided to provide the option of inter-school games for those schools who are interested. Schools are able to register Tier 1 Competitive and Tier 1 recreational teams. Intramural play and practices continue to be available for Tier 3 players.

At École Élémentaire South Sa-Hali, we will be registering two Tier 1 boys and two Tier 1 girls competitive teams. As public health guidelines require us to keep the number of people in the gym under 50 people, we have split the current players into 2 balanced teams per group. In addition, to maintain these numbers, each player will only be allowed one adult in the gym for the game. There are no playoffs this year, as the goal is to develop skills and give students the opportunity to play.

We recommend and encourage players travel to and from the games with their parent/guardian; however, in some cases, carpooling may be needed. If your child will be carpooling to a game, please keep the following recommendations in mind:

- Spread out occupants as much as possible (limit capacity)
- Non-medical masks must be worn
- Open windows when weather allows
- Ensure high touch surfaces are cleaned regularly
- Sanitize hands before and after the trip

## **Field Trips**

With the introduction of our [SchoolCash online system](#), you are encouraged to pay for these field trips online whenever possible. It makes record keeping quicker, more secure and more accurate than sending cash to school. If you have any issues navigating the system, please phone Mme Lisa at the office so that she can help you to trouble shoot.

She would like me to remind you to log into your account to ensure that you have indeed paid your school supplies, as these are now due.



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## PAC Meeting and PAC FB page

Our next two PAC meetings will take place Thursday October 28<sup>th</sup> and Thursday November 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Because of the everchanging nature of the Public Health Guidelines, they have decided to hold these meetings virtually via Zoom. Meeting invitation information will come out closer to the date on the PAC Facebook page. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Our PAC also has a [Facebook page](#) (South Sa-Hali Elementary PAC-Ecole South Sa-Hali PAC) that you might want to consider joining. In order to be granted access, you will need to answer the questions posted.

## Important Upcoming Dates

If you subscribe to the calendar on our [school website](#), updates to the calendar will be sent directly to your phone. You may also opt for a weekly e-mail as to the week's upcoming events.

Friday, Oct. 29 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Pumpkin Contest
	Wear your costume to school (if you want)
Tuesday, Nov. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Google Read and Write Sessions
Thursday, Nov. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Photo Re-Takes
Nov. 8 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup>	School-Wide Resiliency Survey/Self-Assessment Survey
Wednesday, Nov. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day Assembly (Virtual)
<b>Thursday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Remembrance Day (School is closed)</b>
Monday, Nov. 15 <sup>th</sup>	BC Fruit and Veggie Program Delivery
Nov. 15 <sup>th</sup> - -19 <sup>th</sup>	School-Wide Financial Literacy Assessment
Thursday, Nov. 18 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Meeting @ 6:30pm
Nov. 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup>	School-Wide Write



As always, if you have any questions or have any concerns that you would like to discuss, please don't hesitate to call the office.

Sincerely,

Susie Mabee  
Principal