



1585 Summit Drive
Kamloops, BC
V2E 1E9
Directrice: Mme Susie Mabee
smabee@sd73.bc.ca

Telephone: (250) 374-2451
Fax: (250) 377-2229
<https://south-sahali.sd73.bc.ca/en/index.aspx>
Directrice Adjointe: Mme Mélanie Dumas
mdumas@sd73.bc.ca

Thursday, November 26, 2020

Dear Grown-Ups,

Well we have made it to the end of November. It has been 12 weeks since we have been back at school, and between all the handwashing and reviewing of safety protocols, we have been working hard to make up some of the ground that was lost in the months schools that were closed in the Spring. We are slowly and steadily making gains, but it will take us a while to get to where we would have been without the school closures last year.

In the coming days and weeks before the end of November, your child/ren's teacher will be sending home a point of progress in the form of an interim report. In a non-global pandemic year, we would have had a "Presentation of Learning" evening where we would have invited you into the school to have your child/ren share with you all of the interesting things they have been learning this year; however, we will have to make due with this format in the meantime. A formal, more comprehensive, report card will be coming home in early February.

Mr. Hallett has created a website that should help to explain his arts programs and how he assesses the Arts at all levels.

<https://sites.google.com/gedu.sd73.bc.ca/south-sahali-primary-music/home>

As number of cases of COVID-19 have risen in BC, I can appreciate that your level of concern has increased as well. We continue to fine-tune the safety procedures that were developed in September in order to adjust to the ever-changing restrictions and guidelines issued by our Public Health Organization. It has never been more important for us to have your current contact information in case we need to connect with you in a timely manner. If this letter has arrived to an e-mail address that you do not check frequently (i.e. daily), or if you have had a change in your phone number, please call Mme Lisa in the office to update your contact information ASAP.

I'd like to thank all of you who have kept your children home when they are not well. Staying home when you are not well is one of the most effective controls we have to keep the school a safe place to be for everyone. I'd also like to thank all of you who have come quickly to pick your children up when they have begun to feel unwell at school. While we recognize that it can be very inconvenient to interrupt you in the middle of the day to come pick up your child, it is the protocol we are required by the school district to follow.

When you know that your child/ren is/are going to be away from school for any reason (illness, appointments, etc.), please remember to use the School Messenger App to report his/her/their absence. It is fast and easy, and it gives the school the necessary information to account for missing students very quickly. If you haven't already downloaded it, you can find it in your smartphone app store for free.



SchoolMessenger
Reliance Communications, Inc.

GET

If you do not have a smartphone or do not wish to use the app, we ask that you use the safe arrival telephone number [1-844-350-2647](tel:1-844-350-2647) to enter the absence, rather than phoning the school directly. If the safe arrival system calls you to inform you of your child's absence, answer the prompts, otherwise the system will continue to phone you a number of times, or until the prompts are answered.

Because we have been in COVID times for a number of months, it is easy to become complacent, so I'd like to remind you of the symptoms that are listed in the daily health check that you have agreed to perform each day for your child:

- Fever
- Chills
- Cough or worsening of chronic cough
- Shortness of breath
- Loss of sense of smell or taste
- Diarrhea
- Nausea and vomiting



If your child/ren has/have one or more of these symptoms (**excluding fever**), he/she/they should stay home for 24 hours from when the symptoms started. If the symptoms improve, he/she/they may return to school when he/she/they feels/feel well enough. If the symptoms persist or worsen, you will need to seek a health assessment for your child/ren. A Health assessment includes calling 811, or a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner. If a health assessment is required, your child/ren may not come back to school until COVID-19 has been excluded and his/her/their symptoms have improved.

*****If your child/ren has/have a fever, you will need to seek a health assessment for him/her/them.*****

I have attached a copy of this Health Check to this email for your reference, and as always, if you have any questions or concerns about any of this, please don't hesitate to call the school.



In an attempt to create some school spirit in these uncertain times, we will be having a Wacky Hair day this Friday, November 27th. I am looking forward to seeing creative and stylish coifs atop the heads of your children. To stay apprised of the events taking place at our school, please subscribe to the school calendar on our website. You'll get a weekly e-mail with that week's upcoming events.

Another way we are trying to create some school spirit this year is to sell School Spirit Wear. All of the order and payment is done online <https://ecolesouthsahali.itemorder.com/sale>. The deadline for all orders and payments is this FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27th.

Our Remembrance Day Zoom assembly was a relatively good success; however, there were a number of families who were unable to connect due to a host of reasons, necessitating us to make

a few changes for our Winter Concert this year. We have decided to create a primary and intermediate video with class performances that will be uploaded to YouTube. They will be unlisted videos. An unlisted video is a different type of private video. "Unlisted" means that only people who know the link to the video can view it (such as friends or family to whom you send the link). An unlisted video will not appear in any of YouTube's public spaces (such as search results, your channel, or the Browse page). The video link will be shared to parents via e-mail on Tuesday, December 15th and the video will be taken down on Friday December 18th.

There are a number of families who have not signed permission to have the media consent form (see attachment), and as such, their children will not be able to participate in the filming of this winter concert presentation. Teachers will be reaching out to these families to confirm their wishes regarding their child/ren's participation in the video. If you do not want your child/ren to appear in the video, despite having signed the form, please contact his/her/their teacher to make your wishes known. They will still participate in the learning and practicing of the presentation, they will simply not take part in the filming portion.

Our Grade 7 families have started some fundraising efforts for some sort of year-end activity, and are selling Purdy's Chocolates. The deadline to have your orders in is Saturday, November 28th. Please visit this sight to place your order and make your payment: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/join.aspx/1230118-79961>

Our Parent Advisory Council has a few fundraisers taking place as well.

1. Their HotLunch program is up and running quite smoothly. Orders for meals in January, February and March should be open soon. The organizers are just waiting to hear back from a few suppliers regarding availability.
2. They are also running a Gift Card fundraiser.
 - a. www.fundscrip.com/support-a-group
 - b. Enter the invitation code: TGTP5L

SD73 is offering the second part of "Screenagers NEXT CHAPTER: Uncovering Skills for Stress Resilience." It is about helping your people thrive in our screen and stress-filled world. Sign up [here](#) to receive a link to watch the presentation on demand between November 26th and December 13th.

As always, thank you for taking a few moments to read to the end of this letter. I know the deluge of information can get overwhelming at times. If you have questions or concerns about anything taking place at South Sa-Hali Elementary, please don't hesitate to contact me at the office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susie Mabee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susie Mabee