



NEWSLETTER

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Website: www.sd61.bc.ca/school/MargaretJenkins

Thursday, October 4, 2014

School Goal – To increase students' ability to be self-regulated learners and citizens with a focus on oral language, reading and writing.

Welcome Back students and families! C'est la rentrée à l'école!

This promises to be an exciting year at École Margaret Jenkins Elementary. We are looking forward to working together with the whole school community to bring about the best learning opportunities for our students. The students themselves are to be commended on how well they did during our first week activities that included a truncated and wet, but fun, Terry Fox Run. It has been a very busy first week back and I want to thank everyone for their patience and support as we have hit the ground running. We are very pleased with the excitement and positivity our students have brought with them to open the year. The children are quickly getting settling into school routines and easing into the transition to a new grade. Well done, students!

Thank you to the very dedicated team of people who made the start up a success. Thank you to our amazing front office staff, Anna Moniz and Jess Clark, who, on top of everything else, have made certain the opening week has gone smoothly.

In the next few days they will be sending home the startup information package. Please make all corrections to the verification form. Please date and

sign each form and return the whole package with your student by October 10.

Our teachers, educational assistants, and our counselor are working with our students to make sure they are adjusting well to their new environment and that they have opportunities to make new friends. Our custodial staff members have prepared the school well, setting up classes and equipment, and making sure that everything is in place for the school year. A special thanks to our hard-working educational assistants who were indispensable in the smooth start up this year!

THANK YOU, THE SCHOOL LOOKS GREAT!

I want to thank the parents who came in to support our PAC's Welcome Back Coffee and to help at the Terry Fox Run. The opening PAC Meeting brought an amazing turnout of parents and staff members. Thanks to PAC President Doug Tolson and the rest of our tireless PAC Executive for hosting such a vibrant evening. It is humbling indeed to join such a strong partnership here. I am very excited to be at Margaret Jenkins and I look forward to getting to know you all.

Here's to a Great Year! Commençons une belle année!

Brett Johnson, Principal

Upcoming Important Dates

Pizza Payment Due	Oct 3
Pizza Sushi Day	Oct 8
Hot Dog Orders Due	Oct 8
Hot Dog Payments Due	Oct 10
Thanksgiving-no school	Oct 13
Individual Photo Day	Oct 14
Hot Dog Day	Oct 15
The Great Shakedown Earthquake Drill	Oct 16
Pizza Sushi Day	Oct 22
Raffle Basket donations due	Oct 22
PAC Meeting in library 7:00 pm	Oct 23
Pro-D day - no school for students	Oct 24
ArtStarts - Ballet Victoria	Oct 28
Hot Dog Day	Oct 29
PAC Fall Dance 5:00 to 8:00 pm	Oct 30
Black and Orange Spirit Day	Oct 31

PAC Corner

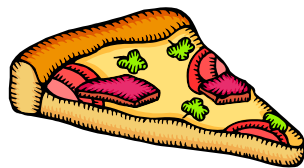
Welcome and Bienvenue to new families and staff and Welcome Back to returning families and staff! We hope everyone had a great, restful summer and is excited to get the school year started!

"Welcome Back" Coffee

Thanks to everyone who was able to stop by for a cup of coffee and a Timbit last Thursday before school. It was great to see staff and parents enjoying a few minutes of visiting before starting their busy day!

Pizza/Sushi Lunch

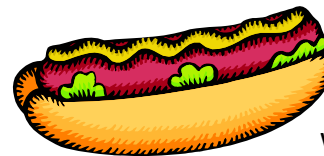
Pizza/Sushi Lunch days are back but you have to be quick! Orders were supposed to be in by yesterday (Wednesday) and payment is due by tomorrow (Friday)! Run, don't walk, to the nearest computer and get your order in because you don't want to miss the chance to get out of making a few lunches! For those of you who are new to the school, the Pizza/Sushi Lunch program is the PAC's main fundraiser and is enjoyed by over 90% of the student population each term. Every second Wednesday, starting October 8, we will deliver lunch to your child in



their classroom. For more information and to place an order:

<https://sites.google.com/a/emjspac.ca/hot-lunch/home>.

While we are on the topic, a number of families have asked whether they will be receiving a refund for the lunch days that were missed in June due to the labour disruption. The answer, unfortunately, is no. The money paid for the lunch program is used by the PAC to support many great programs at the school and any refunds given now would have to come out of this year's budget, reducing the number of programs and events we can support and offer to students this school year. Also, identifying, locating and refunding all the families affected would be very labour intensive and a huge amount of work for the few volunteers involved. We hope you understand and we do apologize to all those families affected. We can assure you that the money has been put to good use.



Hot Dog Days

Want to avoid making lunches every

Wednesday? Your EMJS

PAC is pleased to offer Hot Dog Lunch on opposite Wednesdays to Pizza/Sushi Lunch, starting Wednesday, October 15. You can choose between an Organic World Turkey Hot Dog or an Yves Jumbo Veggie Hot Dog coupled with a high fiber, low glycemic index hot dog bun from Cobb's Bakery and an apple juice. **Orders must be submitted by Wednesday, October 8 and payment is due Friday, October 10.** For more information and to place an order:

<https://sites.google.com/a/emjspac.ca/hot-lunch/home>.

Fall Dance

The PAC has already been hard at work organizing the first big event of the year...drum roll...the Fall Dance! There will be a dance, raffle baskets, photo area, games, pizza, bake sale and a few other ghostly surprises! Make a note in your calendar for **Thursday, October 30** that you are "BOOOO-KED" from **5pm to 8pm** to have fun with your kids at the scariest dancehall in town! Costumes are welcomed and encouraged!

As with all our great events, they are only as great as their great volunteers! Attached is an electronic sign-up sheet for volunteer positions associated with the Fall Dance. Please take a minute to look through the sheet and volunteer a bit of your time: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f49aabb28a7f49-fall2>



Raffle Baskets

As with past years, the great Raffle Baskets will be part of the Fall Dance again. The baskets are a hugely successful part of the

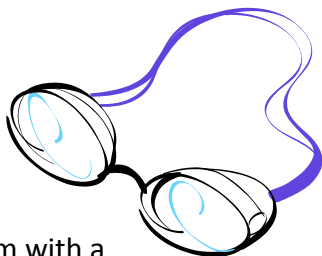
PAC's fundraising efforts and the money raised continues to provide our children with extra activities such as yoga, chess, field trips, Artists in Residence and so on. **Class themes have been chosen and a list, by division, is attached.** You should soon be receiving more information from your Class Parent. Donation boxes will be in place in the classrooms by **Tuesday, October 14.** If families would prefer to make a monetary donation towards the raffle baskets (PAC members will do the shopping for you!) cash or cheques (payable to EMJS PAC) can be brought to the office or your child's teacher. If families own local businesses and are interested in donating goods or services, we would certainly be interested in that. Please contact Jen Palmer at jiloree@telus.net. The deadline to donate items or cash is **Wednesday, October 22.** Raffle tickets will be on sale the week of October 27.

EMJS Swim Club

Friday October 3rd to
Friday December 5th
from 3:30 - 4:15 at
Crystal pool

A Learn to Swim program with a fitness focus for K - Gr 5 and any younger siblings (3 and over) who would like to swim.

Please Contact Kate at info@tyeeaquaticclub.com for more information.



Your EMJS PAC Executive for 2014/15

Doug Tolson – Chairperson
Jen Palmer – 2nd Vice Chairperson
Shari Roubini – 1st Vice Chairperson
Anne Tomy – Treasurer
Joanne Gemmill – Minutes Secretary
Jen Chapman – Correspondence Secretary
Carolyn Wick – School Planning Council (SPC) Exec Representative

Next Pac Meeting

Come find out what's happening behind the scenes at EMJS. The next PAC meeting is Thursday, October 23 at 7pm in the school library. Free child minding available for children 3+ years.

The Call Back Program – 250-598-7151 Reporting Absent or Late Students

Please remember to call the call back line, **250-598-7151** if your child is going to be late or absent. Our volunteers are in the call back room until 9:30 am daily, so if you arrive after that, please come to the office for your late slip.



Individual Photo Day is Coming! Tuesday, October 14, 2013

This year our school photographer is **Edge Imaging.** A notice was sent home with the background ordering information. These forms must be received by Tuesday, October 14 – 8:40 am, to have a background other than blue. Parents will be able to see a proof sheet first and then order your picture package.

Carousel Daycare

A few full time and part time spots are available. For more information please email www.daycarevictoria.ca

Allergies in our school

We now have 17 students with life-threatening allergies; 11 of these are to food products, primarily nuts.

The Greater Victoria School District recognizes that it has a duty of care to students who are at risk from anaphylaxis while under school supervision.

The Board also recognizes that this responsibility is shared among the student, parents, the school system and health care providers. This is addressed in POLICY 5141.21

"All children including those at risk of life-threatening allergic reactions have the right to access public education within a safe, healthy learning environment. The Greater Victoria School District cannot guarantee an 'allergy free' environment. It is expected that school staff, parents and students will take reasonable steps to establish an 'allergy aware' environment which minimizes the risk of potential anaphylaxis. Schools must take realistic and practical actions that will encourage the support of everyone involved..."

It is not district policy that ÉMJS be a nut-free school, however, to ensure the safety of our allergic students and to ease the mind of their parents, we work towards specific nut-free classrooms.

Teachers have now sent home a letter to the families in these classes informing them that a student in the class is has a life-threatening health issue. In many cases, parents have been requested to refrain from sending snacks and lunches containing nut products. In addition, an allergy poster has been posted at the entrance of these classrooms as a reminder.

We have a lunch time allergy procedure. To make this work safely and effectively, we ask that parents sending lunches that may put our students with life-threatening allergies at risk to inform the teacher.

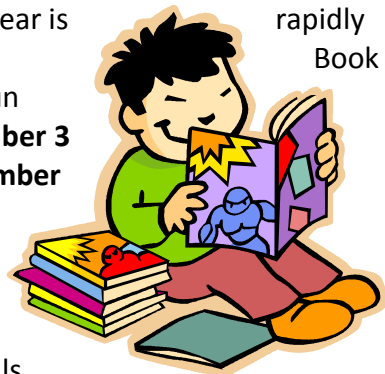
- Teachers will put the sign (Allergy Table) on the table that needs to be cleaned.

- Custodian will clean table and place the sign on the Teachers desk to show it has been cleaned.
- If the sign is still on the table be aware it has not been clean.

If you have any questions or concerns about our lunch time procedures, please contact the office or Laurie Cairns.

Scholastic Book Fair

We are currently looking for someone to fill the role of Scholastic Book Fair Coordinator(s), as our first book fair of the year is rapidly approaching! Our Fall Fair of the year will run from **Monday November 3 through Friday November 7**. Scholastic book fairs directly benefit the school, and bring roughly \$3000 worth of new materials



into the library each year. For more information or to volunteer for this position, please see Ms. Maddern in the library, or email her at mmaddern@sd61.bc.ca Thank you!

SCOUTS CANADA

Program Registration for Boys and Girls

- Beaver Scouts** (5-7 years) —
Tuesdays (4:00-5:15) or
Wednesdays (6:30-7:30)
- Cub Scouts** (8-10 years) —
Tuesdays (6:30-8:00) or
Thursdays (6:30-8:00)
- Scouts** (11-14 years) —
Mondays (6:30-8:30)

For more information, visit www.scouts.ca or contact 2fortvictoria@victoriascouts.ca
