



# Ranchero Elementary School

## School District No. 83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap)



**Phone:** (250)832.7018  
**Email:** [ran@sd83.bc.ca](mailto:ran@sd83.bc.ca)  
**URL:** [www.ran.sd83.bc.ca](http://www.ran.sd83.bc.ca)  
**Twitter:** @Ranchero\_83

October 4, 2021  
Newsletter # 3

*Respect, Responsibility, Compassion, Honesty & Fun*

### Principal's Message

Thank you for all your support from home to start the school year. As has been communicated by the School District, masks are now required for kindergarten – grade 3 students. Previously only students in grades 4 – 8 were only required to have masks on inside the school. As a staff we will be supporting this transition with a kind and caring approach. Please have your child bring a mask to school with them, we will also have masks on hand at the school. If you have any questions or concerns with this change, please call me or send me an email.

Fall is here and the mornings are cool. Please ensure your child is dressed for the weather – rain jackets, hats, gloves and boots if necessary. **We will be outside more often this year.** Morning supervision starts at 7:40 am and students wait outside out front of the school until the morning bell at 8:02 am. For students who may have missed breakfast or need food to start the day. Food is by the entrance to the Breakfast room. We will have students sanitize their hands prior to eating.

Thank you for the support from home with the Terry Fox Run. Together we raised over \$430.00 that will go to the Terry Fox Foundation. This year the students ran on our trails in the forest. Thank you to Mr. Mueller and his students for building and maintaining the trails.

Last week, Dielman's fundraising magazines and order forms were sent home. This school fundraiser helps pay for the Mathletics program and other learning resources. Please share with friends and family as every order helps. There are extra catalogues and order forms at the school office. All **Dielman's orders are due back to the school office on Monday, October 25.**

Grade 4 and 7 students will be writing the Foundation Skills Assessment from October 18 – 21. Please see the FSA schedule in this newsletter. As noted to parents of grade 4 and 7 students, while we are not permitted to excuse a student from the FSA because of a parent request, parents always have the right to keep their child at home, and this right will be respected during FSA testing, in the same way it would be in other circumstances. As a courtesy in this regard, please note that we will not have students make up the tests at a later time if they were kept at home by parents for the purpose of test exemption. Please see the assessment schedule in this newsletter. Please call the school and let Kathy know if your child will be absent for this reason.

An informal progress report will be sent home to all families between October 12 - 21. As always, if at any time you have a concern with your child's educational progress please contact your child's teacher or me at the school. The first formal report, which is a Parent / Student / Teacher conference, will be on **November 18. Students will be dismissed at 11:10 am on this day and buses will run early.** More information on how to sign up for your child's conference will be sent to all homes in early November.

Thank you for your continued support from home with your child's learning!

Sincerely,

*Doug Cumming*  
Principal

### Individual Student Photos

Mountain West Studios will be at Ranchero Elementary on **Tuesday, October 19.** Please ensure your child(ren) does not wear green on Photo Day, as this causes issues with the "green screen" that is used for the background. Be sure to have the children practice those smiles!!



**Photo retakes are schedule for November 9 this year.**

## School Fees and Verification, Forms Reminder

This is a friendly reminder that school supply and activity fees are now due. Thank you to those who have paid fees already. All fees directly support student learning. Many used Etransfer and Visa / Mastercard payment this year. Thanks you as this is our preferred method of payment. Cheques and cash is also accepted.

Verification forms are also due back to the school soon. Please make changes or additions, sign and return to the school office.

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## Scent Considerate School

The school district has adopted a regulation regarding chemical fragrances. We are asking all staff, students and parents to be **scent considerate**. Scents can cause serious health problems for people with allergies, multiple chemical sensitivities and asthma. If you have any questions regarding chemical fragrances, please feel free to pick-up a brochure from the school.



*"No Scents Make Good Sense"*

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## Communicating Student Learning

The BC Ministry of Education and our School District are implementing the renewed curriculum and reporting documents that better meet the needs of families. Our goal is to provide parents with a better way of understanding where their children are at in their learning journey. This year we will have a new report card. There will be more information on this later in the school year.

The new report card cards will have a scale that will inform parents and guardians on their child's achievement in subject areas. The scale will be similar to: emerging, developing, applying and extending. Descriptions of the four point scale are as follows:

### **Emerging:**

Work does not yet meet grade level expectations;  
Student may show evidence of progress toward learning standards;  
Requires on-going support.

### **Developing:**

Work meets grade level expectations at a minimal level;  
Student can understand the learning standards at basic level or in familiar situations;  
Requires some support.

### **Applying:**

Work meets grade level expectations;  
Student consistently applies understanding and demonstrates learning in a variety of situations;  
Student generally works independently.

### **Extending:**

Work exceeds grade level expectations;  
Student consistently applies understanding and demonstrates learning in a variety of situations;  
Student independently takes initiative to extend their own learning and understanding.

**There will be no letter grades for students in grades K – 8.**

Once again, this year, the School District will schedule an early dismissal day on November 18 at 11:10am to provide time for scheduled parent/student/teacher conferences. This year these conferences may be done through TEAMS or through calls home or a school visit. ***We will keep families updated on this process.***

These conferences will provide an opportunity for parents to discuss their child's report card and their child's areas of strength and needs and set learning goals for their child's continued academic and behavioral growth. There will be a suggested goal talked about at this conference.

The format for conferencing will be as follows:

1. Discuss the child's progress in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy (10 minutes)
2. Do you have an area of need that you would like us to focus on? Create a goal based upon that need, including a method of measurement. What will the classroom teacher do, student do, and parent do to help the child achieve their goals? Set a timeline to achieve goals -most likely next term (5 minutes).

We know that community-building and establishing strong relationships between home and school are what promote learning in the most fundamental way. Therefore, dedicating two hours of learning time over the course of a school year to Parent/Teacher/Student meetings is a valuable use of time. Research indicates that this method of reporting was found to be more meaningful and informative for teachers, parents, and students.

| <b>Timeline for Reporting Student Progress to Parents 2021-2022</b> |   |
|---|---|
| <b>October 12 – 21</b>  | Interim reports (paper; text; phone )<br><i>(informal report #1)</i>  |
| <b>November 18</b>  | Reporting Conferences (parent/student/teacher)<br>May be done through phone or TEAMS or potentially at school this year<br>Early dismissal at 11:10 am<br><i>(formal report #1)</i> |
| <b>February 17</b>  | Written Report Sent home<br><i>(formal report #2)</i>   |
| <b>March/April</b>  | Interim reports (paper; text; phone)<br><i>(informal report #2)</i>   |
| <b>June 23</b>  | Written Summative report sent home<br><i>(formal report #3)</i>   |

\*Please note there will be two formal written reports home this year; the first in February and the second in June\*

### **Foundation Skills Assessment Schedule for Grade 4 and 7 Students**

| Time            | Monday, October 18          | Tuesday, October 19                                     | Wednesday, October 20                                  | Thursday, October 21                                    |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---|--|---|
| 8:30 – 9:30 am  | Grade 4 online reading.     | Grade 4 online numeracy.<br>Grade 7 Numeracy (booklet). | Grade 7 online reading.<br>Grade 4 Literacy (booklet). | Grade 7 online numeracy.<br>Grade 4 numeracy (booklet). |
| 9:30 – 10:30 am | Grade 7 Literacy (booklet). |   |  |   |

Please call the school and let Kathy know if your child will be home during this time.

### **Halloween at Rancho**

Rancho Elementary will be having its Halloween celebration on **Friday, October 29**. The students will be invited to wear their costumes to school, for the morning only. At Lunch, the students will have a chance to change into their regular clothes. More specific information on costumes will be sent home prior to Halloween.

*We are asking that all candy stay home again this year to avoid any sharing at school. Thank you for your support from home with this.*

## Parent Advisory Council (PAC) News

All parents, with children in the public school system automatically become members of the school's Parent Advisory Council. Please feel free to join the PAC executive, on Wednesday, **October 20 at 6:30 pm in the Library**, to show your interest and learn more about this vital part of our school community.



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## Kindergarten Registration for 2022- 2023

Registration opens for regular Kindergarten, Early French Immersion and the South Canoe Outdoor Learning Program for Kindergarten 2021 on Tuesday, Oct. 12 at 9 a.m. Welcome!

This early date allows for more equitable access and better planning. All registrations on this date are treated as equal so there is no need for line-ups! COVID-19 protocols will be in place. There is also an online registration option available. Please call your child's school and they will arrange this for you.



As well as our regular English kindergarten there are two district programs which are available to all students, Early French Immersion and the Outdoor Learning Program.

For further information about the two district programs to see if they are a good fit for your child please contact Principal Jared King at South Canoe Outdoor Learning at [jking@sd83.bc.ca](mailto:jking@sd83.bc.ca)/250-832-3122 and Vice-Principal Laura Jegues at Bastion (French Immersion) at [ljegues@sd83.bc.ca](mailto:ljegues@sd83.bc.ca)/250-832-3741 with any questions.

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## Provision of Free Menstrual Products by Ministry of Education to All Schools

### Ministry of Education Rational:

Every student in British Columbia should have access to healthy and effective learning environments. The school system is expected to promote gender equality and create an inclusive learning experience. Lack of access to menstrual products can negatively impact students' school attendance and their social-emotional well-being. Providing all students with convenient access to free menstrual products helps to support their full participation in school activities, reduces stigma and promotes gender equality.

Menstrual products will be made available to students free of charge at the school in a private and non stigmatizing way.

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## Bus Safety



School District No. 83 bus drivers take student safety very seriously. We would like to remind students, parents and staff

about the 'Danger Zones' around a school bus.

When school is opening in the morning and closing in the afternoon, it is a busy and crowded area. There are children being dropped off or picked up by either school buses or parents. We ask that all pedestrians cross the parking lot at designated crosswalk areas and NOT in between the school buses. Bus drivers can not see you if crossing in the 'Danger Zone'.

Thank you for helping to keep our students safe!

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## **On the Horizon**

The school calendar can be found at:

<https://ran.sd83.bc.ca/school-calendar/>