

April 2017

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Dear ESR Families,

Last week Intermediate Students showcased their Genius Hour Projects in the Gym. One of the significant changes to the new curriculum that was introduced this year is Inquiry Based Learning. This change has been brought about through the realization that children now have more information at their fingertips, via technology, than ever before. Educators are now tasked with the job of having children critically assess the validity and biases of the huge amount of information that they access. Having them research and learn about a subject they are passionate about is a great way to do this.

It was wonderful to see the range of topics children are interested in and how they can direct their own learning when they are given the opportunity to do so. Look forward to seeing more of this as the years progress and we all get a bit more used to this new format.

Another change that the Ministry of Education has made is in regards to the June report card. The new Reporting Order asks that at the end of each year children are required to provide a self-assessment on how they have grown and developed in regards to the Core Competencies of: Communication, Thinking, Personal & Social Skills.

Obviously, their ability to reflect on this will look different depending on their grade level. However, this change also is a result of the fact that information is now easy for any of us to obtain and that success for our children as they grow will depend on how they critically think, communicate and interact with others in meaningful ways. As this is our first year for this requirement some students may only be asked to reflect on one of the core competencies as it is important to us that this exercise is deep and meaningful to students.

This Wednesday we are hosting a visit from the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia. This is a significantly formal event and we have been practicing "God Save the Queen" and our most respectful audience behavior, and we will have two student presentations: the Chime Choir will perform and two classes will sing and Aboriginal Song. Children are invited to wear their school shirts and/or school colours of blue or green on that day. Parents are cordially invited to attend the assembly with begins promptly at 10:00 am. (please know that some younger students adamantly believe that it is the Queen who is visiting and we are not inclined to burst their bubble...)



As always if you have any questions my door is always open to you.

Melinda Dempster, Principal

Important April Dates:

4, 5 & 6	Martial Arts in the gym at lunch grades 1 – 3
5	Lieutenant Governor Assembly 10:00 am (recess 9:30 – 9:45)
6	Ready Set Learn @ 6:00 for this and next year’s kindergarten students
7	Hot Lunch Pannago
7	Reading Link Challenge students to Public Library 8:45
7	Division 3 & 5 to Rock and Gem Show in Abbotsford
13	Hand Bell and Tone Chime Assembly
14	Good Friday
17	Easter Monday
21	Subway
24-27	Marion Rose – Ceilidh lessons during Gym Time
25	Booster Juice
25	Div. 4 & 8 to Stave Falls Dam and Power House
27	Ceilidh evening family dance & Storytelling
28	Elaine’s Hot Lunch

May

5	Panago Pizza
10	Odd Divisions Spring Celebration/ Food Bank Donations
11	Even Divisions Spring Celebration/ Food Bank Donations
12	Sushi
16	Subway
19	Non Instructional Day
22	Victoria Day Monday
24	Aboriginal Student Recognition Dinner Hatzic Middle
26	Primary Genius Hour Fair
30	Booster juice

W.I.T.S. Assembly

Last week we held our W.I.T.S. assembly where Constable Young of the Mission R.C.M.P. and his team taught students the W.I.T.S. strategies to use when involved with conflict and/or bullying. You may want to find out more here at: <http://www.witsprogram.ca/> as there is information there re. “W.I.T.S. for families”. Thanks to Daxton’s mom Constable Williams who not only made time to support us but also brought the truck with the siren!

Spring Celebration

We are working with our Artist in Residence, Lori Sherritt-Fleming on our Spring Celebration and you are going to be so impressed when you see the great things students are accomplishing. Please mark the dates in your calendar. We will be having an afternoon presentation and an evening presentation as well. Thanks to teachers and staff for all the extra time and effort you put into the additional events held at our School of Integrated Arts.

Spring Has Sprung!

Thank goodness the snow, ice, hail etc. is behind us for the year. This is just a gentle reminder that staff are busy in the morning preparing for a the day ahead and if it is not raining hard outside that the procedure we use is to have students enter through the outside door to the classroom and not wait inside the school in the morning. We are also so fortunate to have a great covered area to get some fresh air and stay nice and dry outside.

School Ceilidh

Definition of CEILIDH (FROM THE MERRIAM WEBSTER DICTIONARY)

Scotland and Ireland: a party with music, dancing, and often storytelling

As you know our Arts “theme” for this year is storytelling and we have been focusing on this in many ways throughout the year. It is also the theme in which our Spring Celebration centers around. One of the things I have **always** wanted to do is to have an evening at school where we hold a family dance. It is my belief that it is good for children to see moms and dads, grandmas and grandpas, dancing in a multi-aged setting – More fun than any family movie night you would ever have! So I thought this is the year to give it a go.

In April we are so lucky to have Marion Rose is visiting us from Ontario. During the week she will teach children the steps to some dances (they are akin to square dances) and on April 27th we will hold a family dance night at the school with live fiddlers and during the break a storyteller! It will be a ton of fun and we look forward to having you join us.

School Cash On Line

<https://mpsd.schoolcashionline.com/Registration/ProfileTabs>

Why Use School Cash Online?

- Convenient** Make secure payments 24/7 from the comfort of your home
- Easy To Use** Online with various payment methods
- Safe** Your child won't be carrying cash or checks to and from school
- Saves Time** Manage your school expenses and view payment history in one place

PAC News

Online Auction

Our online auction starts April 23rd – Thanks to Jamie Hayes! We are still looking for auction prizes and silent auction prizes for the paint fundraisers – see info below on the Paint Nights—if you would like a sneak peek at what we have so far see: <https://esrichards2017.eflea.ca>

Paint Night

Join us for a fun paint night with Savor your Palette @ the Mission Springs Pub 7160 Oliver Street, Mission, British Columbia V2V 6K5. Tickets are \$50 ea and \$20 goes right back to ESR PAC! Seats are limited to 30. Invite friends and family to join you for this fun night. Doors open at 2:30pm.

There are 2 dates to choose from, Sunday April 23rd from 3pm to 5:30pm or Sunday April 30th from 3pm to 5pm. If you would like to go to both night we are offering a deal! Purchase tickets for both paint night for only \$80!

To get your tickets email the PAC at esrpac@yahoo.ca. Tickets will be sent home once the PAC has received payment. Tickets need to be ordered and paid for by April 14th. Once you email the PAC (esrpac@yahoo.ca) to order your ticket you can pay by cheque written to ESR PAC, cash, or we can charge your online hot lunch account so you can then pay via PayPal or cc.

If you have questions please contact the PAC at esrpac@yahoo.ca

Mission Public Library events for April :

LEGO Club

Tuesdays, April 4 to June 27; 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Love LEGO? We provide the LEGO, you bring your imagination! Come play, create, and experiment. LEGO Club is a fun after school program for kids.

Wiggle Time

Wednesdays, April 5 - May 31; 10:30 am - 11:30 am

Enjoy interactive rhymes, songs and stories with lots of movement for half an hour, followed by half an hour of play and social time.

Babytime

Thursdays, April 6 to May 25; 10:30 - 11:30 am

Enjoy bouncing, singing and rhyming with stories. Babytime is a fun, social bonding activity for babies AND caregivers.

Storytimes

Fridays, April 7 - May 26; 10:30-11 am

Introduce kids to the love of books and language with Storytime! Children and caregivers will enjoy interactive stories, songs, rhymes, and more.

Make It and Take It Craft Program

Wednesdays, April 26, May 24, June 28; 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Calling all kids! Want to create something cool and learn something new? Come to the Make It and Take It zone at the Mission Library. Each month we'll have a different project and all the materials needed to complete it. Take the finished product home and wow your family