
COOK COUGARSOctober 3rd, 2016**NEWSLETTER**Issue #2

MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Everyone has settled comfortably into their new classrooms and parents had an opportunity to meet the teachers at our Meet the Teacher night. This is going to be an excellent year of learning for all the children with many fun learning activities to experience. Thank you to all the families that were able to attend. This year, the teachers will be implementing the province's redesigned curriculum. Many teachers may be referencing the new curriculum in their upcoming newsletters or year overviews that will be sent home this month.

SCHOOL SUPPLY PAYMENTS ARE NOW DUE

If you have not yet sent in money for school supplies, planners and/or cooking fees (Kindergarten students), please do this by the end of this week (October 7st). It is most helpful if parents send individual cheques for each child in the family. If you can only write 1 cheque, please send a note to each teacher indicating who took the cheque to school, how much you paid and for which payments. Here are the details again:

School Supplies Payment = \$30

School Planner (Grade 2 – 7 only) = \$6

Cooking & Craft Payment for Kindergarten = \$10

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Our RCMP Liaison Officer, Constable Tammy Walker, has been visiting the school and monitoring driving habits around Cook School.

Traffic Safety is a problem at our school. The speed limit on Cook Road during school hours is **30 km per hour!** Please drive responsibly. Constable Walker will continue to monitor the traffic situation and take steps, including ticketing violators, to help keep everyone safe.

We understand some parents have concerns about traffic safety on Eckersley Road. This is the next area we will try to have the city attend to, as we make our school the safest possible place.

BREAKFAST CLUB HAS STARTED!

Our Breakfast Club runs on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. This is an opportunity for all students to eat a healthy breakfast before school and have a bit of play time with friends as well. Parents and staff make breakfast for the students.

In addition to providing breakfast for many of our students, we maintain a small supply of lunch items for those students who forget their lunches at home.

We know having a healthy breakfast and lunch is important for learning. We are pleased to be able to offer these options for our students.

MEET THE TEACHER OPEN HOUSE

Many parents were welcomed into classrooms to see their children's work and meet their child's teacher. It was wonderful to see so many parents join us. If you were unable to join us for Meet the Teacher and you are available to come in at another time, please feel free to contact your child's teacher to make arrangements for a visit. Most likely the visit will be before or after school and you will be able to take time with your child to see where they sit and learn about their weekly activities.

TERRY FOX RUN!

We had our annual Hao Hao's Run for Terry Fox this year on Thursday, September 29th at 2:15. We collected many donations throughout the week for the Terry Fox Foundation and are proud to announce that Cook school raised over \$550.00! A big thank you goes to the PAC who

provided a healthy snack for all the students. Thank you for your support of this wonderful event!

WALK OR WHEEL TO SCHOOL- OCT. 3-7



bike

This week is **Walk or Wheel** To School Week. Families are encouraged to walk to school to save energy and keep everyone healthy.

A letter detailing the related activities has been sent home last week. Your children will have a chance to win some prizes and hear more about our plan for **Walk or Wheel** to School Week this week!

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES – OCTOBER 18TH

Each school year the Ministry asks schools to organize two informal conference times at their schools. Our first conference day will be Tuesday, October 18th. On this day, school will end for students at 12:00. Please note this is 20 minutes before our typical lunch break. The early dismissal allows teachers to begin booking conferences early in the afternoon.

Most teachers offer a wide range of days and times for these conferences. Please watch for a note from your child's teacher. If you are not able to attend during the times offered, contact the teacher to arrange another time.

AFTER SCHOOL TIME ON THE PLAYGROUND

The fall weather is almost always lovely and families should take every opportunity to let kids play outside. Our playgrounds are available after school for children to play on but school staff do not supervise during this time. It is expected that children will be supervised by their parents after school. When children are playing on the playgrounds they often play with a variety of children. Games and conflicts are a part of regular play and an opportunity for children to learn how to handle a variety of social situations. Parents should be monitoring their children's behaviours during this time, but not necessarily intervening. We always try to work toward independence with our children and handling uncomfortable social situations is one way for these skills to develop.

If you do see a situation escalate to aggressive verbal or physical interactions, we encourage you to call your child over and talk to them. You

could tell them what you thought you saw and ask them what the situation is (is it a game or a social interaction), what their role is, how they think it should be solved, etc. Often calling your child over to talk will put an end to the conflict. You might also suggest they play in some other area of the playground.

We strongly discourage parents from disciplining other children – that is the sole responsibility of a child's parent on a playground. If negative interactions continue it might be time for you and your child to take a break from the playground for the day. By doing this, you are teaching your child to use some strategies (use your words, walk away, find something else to do) and model good decision-making that is not related to 'getting back at the person' or 'winning'.

PAC MEETING – OCTOBER 4TH @ 8:45 AM

PAC meetings are held in the mornings at Cook, right after students have been dropped off. We encourage ALL parents to join the meeting. We always share information about school events and plan special events such as Pizza Day! Our first meeting of the year will be on Tuesday, October 4th at 8:45 in Rm. 3. Please join us! The meetings usually run about 1 hour in length.

HOT FOOD DAY – OCTOBER

Thursday, October 20th is Hot Food Day. Primary students will pre-order their pizza.



Intermediate students will bring their order form back for the PAC but they bring their money on the day Pizza is delivered and purchase their food at that time. In addition, PAC will be selling a limited number of 'pizza plates' from Fresh Slice that can be reused by sending it to school on Pizza day each month!

ONLINE NEWSLETTERS

As always, you will find our newsletters on our school website. If you believe a newsletter should have been sent home but you didn't get a copy, check our website and you will find all the newsletters published for the year.

TRANSLATIONS FOR NEWSLETTER

We will be posting our Chinese translation of the newsletter highlights. Please check our website for the translated document.

