
COOK COUGARS**NEWSLETTER**

November 1, 2019

Issue #4

MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Fifteen of our teachers are trying a new way of *Communicating Student Learning and Reporting* using digital portfolios, which will provide you with the information you need in order to understand where your children are in their learning and where they need to go. By using the e-portfolio, you get to read comments about your child's learning while simultaneously viewing a sample of your child's actual work. This gives you a clear link between student work and teacher assessment. E-portfolio posts will happen on an ongoing basis throughout the school year. We hope that both you and your child will actively participate in an ongoing dialogue about learning through these e-portfolios.

The most important kind of assessment for student learning is what educators call 'Assessment for Learning'. This is feedback that teachers give students as they are working. It guides student thinking and provides insights for improvement. This 'Assessment for Learning' is done every day in classrooms as students work and interact.

When teachers talk about 'Assessment of Learning' they refer to the kind of assessment done at the end of a unit of study or at the end of a term. This kind of information is helpful to parents and to teachers but is less helpful for students as they learn. It is not immediate enough for students and the suggestions can't be easily applied to the new work they are doing.

Report card time is also a great time to set new personal learning goals. Parents may want to talk to their children about what they are good at and what they want to get better at in school. Setting small goals is a great routine for children to get into when they are young. It helps them become lifelong learners!

CONFERENCES A GREAT SUCCESS

The Parent Teacher conferences in October were very well attended. Teachers truly appreciated the time they got to spend with each family, learning more about their students and asking many questions.

At Cook School we want parents and teachers to work together to support children's learning. When students know that home and school communicate, they feel safer and are more focused on their work.

Thank you to all the parents who took time out of their busy days to attend the meeting!

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Please remember to move your clocks back one hour on Saturday night.

**TERRIFIC HALLOWEEN ASSEMBLY**

Thursday, Oct. 31st was Halloween and we had a wonderful day of fun! Many children and staff were dressed in costume and enjoyed our assembly in which we enjoyed our costume parade, songs and a presentation by our Cook Dance team. Thank you to all the parents that came to participate in our exciting day.

DONATE LEFTOVER HALLOWEEN CANDY

Have any leftover Halloween candy?

You can donate your leftover candy to the Good Shepherd Ministry (Outreach to the homeless in East Vancouver). There will be a bin with a sign near the school entrance

for donations. November 8th is the last day to donate.

STAFF MEMBER RETIRING

Mrs. Hass will be retiring from the Richmond School District and her last day at Cook will be on Monday, November 4th. She has been an administrative assistant at Cook for the past eleven years. She has also worked at Burnett Secondary and Talmey Elementary as an administrative assistant.

We will miss Mrs. Hass dearly and wish her all the best in her retirement.

Ms. Amy Hsieh, who has been working in our office on Friday's will begin working full time at Cook as of Monday, November 4th.

PIZZA DAY

Our Pizza Day is Thursday, November 7th.



REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH**



Parents are invited to attend our Remembrance Day ceremony on **Friday, November 8th at 10:45am**. It will be approximately 50 minutes long. Again this year, the planning committee has organized a

Parade of Nations highlighting the many different countries of the world that our students were born in. Several classes will be performing during the assembly.

For this assembly students who are part of Brownies, Cubs, Sparks, Beavers, Girl Guides, Boy Scouts, Cadets and St. John's Ambulance are encouraged to wear their uniforms on this day. All students will receive a poppy on November 9th. We ask for a small donation for the poppy. All funds go to the Poppy Fund that provides support to the veterans of wars.

The assembly we have each November is solemn and serious. Students and members of the audience are asked not to clap at the presentations they watch. They are expected to sit quietly and listen carefully.

School will be closed on Monday, November 11th, 2019.

VOLLEYBALL TEAM IN ACTION

We have a large and enthusiastic grade 6 & 7 Volleyball team this year. They will be participating in the MacNeill Volleyball Championship on November 13th at MacNeill Secondary from 3:00pm – 7:00pm.

PHOTO RE-TAKE DAY **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER** **14th**

If any families wish to have their child's picture re-taken, please complete the section "**Need A Retake?**" on the order form, with a parent signature, and return the form to the school on re-take day for the photographer.



Should Your Child Be At School Today?

Children who come to school not feeling well or with cold symptoms (runny nose, cough) may spread their germs to their classmates and/or teacher. Cold and Flu germs are spread when infected drops are sneezed, coughed or spit into the air. When others breathe in these drops, they too may become ill. Children who do not feel well are unable to take part in school activities or schoolwork.

Children should stay home from school if they:

- are unable to take part in the everyday activities of school
- have a rash - see your family doctor
- have discharge from eyes, ears, nose
 - see your family doctor
- feel hot

Early Warning



Cook Elementary has an Early Warning Program. The Early Warning system is designed to ensure your child's safe arrival at school.

If your child will be late or absent, please leave a message at 604-668-6461, stating your child's name, division, teacher's name and length of absence. When teachers complete attendance in classes, they indicate students

who are absent without a reason. These are the students we check on by listening to the answering machine messages and then phoning home to be sure they are accounted for by parents and caregivers.

RICHMOND CHRISTMAS FUND



Each year the city of Richmond provides support for families in financial need during the Christmas season. Registration and

distribution will take place at the Richmond Caring Place in late November and early December. Program registration and toy distribution will happen on the same day. This means that families will need to arrange for child care on the day they register (children are not permitted in the toy room) and families must be prepared to take toys home with you that day.

There are certain documents required to access this service. For more information call or email the Richmond Christmas Fund: 604-279-7035 or

christmasfund@volunteerrichmond.ca