

Quilchena Community

The Week Ahead ~ October 30th – November 3rd, 2023

We invite families to visit the [School Calendar](#) on our website for all our future notable dates and events.

October 30 – PAC Hot Lunch Day

October 31 – Halloween & School Wide Pumpkin Patch

November 1 – Musqueam Day

November 1 – Kindergarten Registration opens for 2019 birthyear

November 2 – Division 2 & 3 Fieldtrip to Vancouver Aquarium

November 3 – Hold & Secure & Lockdown Drill

November 3 – PAC Fundraiser ‘Mr. Cooper’s Pies’ starts

It is incredible how the last two months have flown by, and we are already approaching November. We knew it was coming and our colder and wet season has begun. Please ensure your child(ren) come to school dressed for the elements so they are prepared. Please send an extra pair of socks, pants, and shoes in case they do get wet or muddy. Every day is an outside day at Quilchena! Although our weather is shifting into true, west coast fall temperatures, try to get outside and enjoy the outdoors in our beautiful city this weekend!

In Other Quilchena News:



“Trick or Treat” Others with Respect: Halloween is on Tuesday, October 31st and we will be having our annual pumpkin patch at school. Halloween should and needs to be fun; however, we need to be aware that celebrating Halloween needs to be fun for all. Halloween offers an opportunity to have meaningful conversations about costume choices within your family unit. It is important to keep in mind that we need to be sensitive to groups that have been marginalized through mimicry and cultural appropriation during Halloween and other ‘dress up’ events. A few things to keep in mind:

It’s good to keep in mind that the following are NOT Costumes:

RACE (*black face/brown face*)

CULTURE (*Indigenous regalia/dreadlocks*)

RELIGIOUS FAITH (*religious figures/gods/saints/gurus/hijab*)

GENDER (*gender switching for humour or to mock*)

TRAUMA (*hangman’s noose/weapons*)



Many students are welcome to wear costumes if they wish and have started to plan. We are asking students to not bring any weapon accessories to school if they are part of their costume. We also know that some costumes have full masks. We are asking students that they do not wear their mask while at school, both inside the class and while outside during recess and lunch. This not only prohibits vision for safety reasons but can scare our younger student population. Thank you for your understanding.

Hold & Secure and Lockdown Drill: We will be having a **Hold & Secure** and **Lockdown** drill the morning of **Friday, November 3rd** to simulate effective responses to potential safety threats. All staff members have discussed the steps involved in these drills. Just as we practice safe procedures in case of earthquake or fire, we will continue to prepare for other situations that might happen in our neighbourhood (such as a broken gas line or a coyote) or within our school (such as an intruder). These situations

HOLD & SECURE

Emergency Outside Building - Lock Out

would lead us to “lockdown” the school. For the broken gas line example, we would follow *Hold & Secure* procedures – a **perimeter** lockdown. For an intruder, we would follow *Lockdown* procedures - a **full** lockdown. These procedures have been developed with the support of law enforcement agencies and are consistent through all metro school districts. You know your child best and if you feel your child would benefit from some reassurance, please have a brief conversation with him or her before the drill.

Quilchena Elementary, along with the rest of the Richmond School District, is committed to promoting Safe Schools for all students and staff. Part of that commitment is ensuring staff and students are trained and prepared to respond to any threat, minor or serious, to our school population. If you have any questions about the upcoming drill, please contact Mrs. Kusch at school.

Kindergarten Registration: Richmond School District 38 is excited to welcome Kindergarten registration applications for children born in 2019, turning 5 in 2024. These children will begin Kindergarten in September 2024. Online registration opens on **November 1, 2023**. Please visit our [website](#) for more information about our online registration process, required documents, important dates, and FAQs.



We encourage families to complete their registration within the Priority 1 registration window, which spans from November to January, to maximize their chances of securing a spot at their catchment school. All registration applications received any time during the Priority 1 registration period will receive placement decisions by February 2, 2024.

Videos detailing Kindergarten registration have been made available on our District website, providing new parents with guidance on the registration process, English Language Learner (ELL) assessments, and District Program Options (Early French Immersion and Montessori). These videos are available in English and Mandarin. Please view the videos [HERE](#).

Finally, there will be a Kindergarten Information Evening for parents of students with disabilities and diverse abilities on **November 8th from 6:30 – 7:30pm**. A link to the Zoom is available on our District [website](#). Please share this information with your friends and family who have Kindergarten aged children!

City of Richmond Halloween Events and Activities: Over 20 spook-tacular Halloween-inspired events and activities are now on through Tuesday, October 31 with the fang-tastic Halloween Fireworks Festival in Minoru Park on Halloween night. All the details about this year’s 20+ events can be found [HERE](#).



PAC News: Mark your calendars! November 3rd is the start of our “Mr. Cooper’s Pies” Fundraiser. You will have one month to place your savoury pie orders directly through our link, ready for pick up on Thursday, December 7th. Quilchena PAC receives 20% of sales which goes directly to support our students and school. Order [HERE](#) on Friday, November 3rd.

To learn more about our Quilchena Parent Advisory Council (PAC), please visit our [Quilchena PAC](#) page on the school's website. Questions? Email quilchenafundraising@gmail.com

Continue scrolling for “A Peek Into Our Gr.6/7 Volleyball Team”



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