



October 2023

Helen Plummer, Principal | Jason Kemp, Vice Principal | Chris Falk, Vice Principal | <https://stitos.sd33.bc.ca>

Message from the Admin Team...

We are happy that September is behind us and that we had a TYPICAL start up this year. We had our first W.A.V.E. team welcome our grade 6 students and these students are continuing to assist our grade 6's settle in. We held behaviour matrix assemblies, figured out an alternative to our unfortunate agenda warehouse file, began outdoor learning and have had several field trip ventures out to explore fall. We also held assemblies on Orange Shirt Day where our school weaving (completed last year) was presented to the school helping to deepen our learning about truth & reconciliation.

As we prepare for Thanksgiving it was easy to think of what we are thankful for this year: dedicated staff, students who arrive every day ready to learn, supportive families who walk beside us as we do our daily work and a community that believes in our school. We invite you to connect with your student's teacher to be involved with your school and stay informed through joining the Stitós PAC and checking out our website.

We hope you have a wonderful long weekend celebrating what you are thankful for.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Helen Plummer, Jason Kemp & Chris Falk



Athletic Fees

Last year the school district covered all athletic fees from the family affordability fund which was one time funding. This year all fees associated with extra-curricular athletics are the responsibility of schools. Athletic fees go towards paying for referees and officials, bussing (where applicable), taxis (where applicable), BC School Sports fees, Fraser Valley East fees, uniforms, and equipment. The extra-curricular athletic program is intended to be cost neutral and we try to charge the minimum amount to offer the sport. If a team is participating in tournaments they may be additional fees to cover the tournament fee.

Student Pictures with Artona Photography

Images from photo day (September 22nd) are now online for students and families to view and order. Please scan the QR code on the access card that students brought home or log in on the Artona website: (https://artona.com/student_requests/digit_code).

If students aren't happy with their photo or missed photo day, they can have a photo taken on October 24th. Then have until October 31st to order for free shipping to the school.

Upcoming Dates To Remember

October 5 th	Last Day to Order Coupon Books
October 6 th	Non-Instructional Day - (No School for Students)
October 9 th	Thanksgiving (School Closed)
October 12 th	Interim Reports Go Home Today
October 13 th	Terry Fox Run
October 16 th	Last Chance to Order Neufeld Farms
October 16 th – 19 th	Scholastic Book Fair
October 17 th	PAC Meeting @ 6:30 pm
October 18 th	Parent / Teacher Conferences
October 19 th	Early Dismissal Day @ 11:33 am
October 20 th	Non-Instructional Day – (No School for Students)
October 24 th	Picture Retake Day
October 26 th	Neufeld Fundraiser Pickup @ 6 pm
November 10 th	Non-Instructional Day – (No School for Students)
November 13 th	Remembrance Day (School Closed)
November 24 th	Assessment & Evaluation Day - (No School for Students)
December 6 th	Band Concert @ 6:30 pm
December 7 th	Term 2 Begins

Halloween Activities

We will have classroom and school-based activities taking place for Halloween. Please ensure that costumes are school appropriate and do not include blood, gore, weapons, or anything that would be against our school code of conduct.

Also, no masks as we need to see our students to ensure they belong here.

Instructional Time with Students

During class time we make it a practice to minimize classroom disruptions to teachers and students. Learning time is important. If you have a message or lunch for your child during instructional time, please leave it with Mrs. Mercer at the office. If you drop off lunch for your child, please make sure their name is on it.

Volunteers (Police Information Checks)

It is particularly important that parents who wish to volunteer at our school in any capacity, including accompanying a class on a field trip, complete a Police Information Check (Criminal Record Search) form that you complete and turn into the RCMP and School District Office.

These forms are available at the school office or emailed to you per your request at stitos@sd33.bc.ca.

In / Out Days

October brings cooler shorter days. We have a number of classes going to community gardens, corn mazes and involved in outdoor learning. We will go outside most days! With the fall weather on its way, we can expect more frequent wet, windy weather. Even on days with drizzle or light rain, children will be sent outside to get fresh air. Please encourage your children to make responsible choices and ensure they are dressed properly for the weather.

Walk Your Wheels

Please remind your children to “walk their wheels” once they are at the school path. Also, students are reminded to wear their helmets to protect their developing brain.



Reporting a Student Absence

To report your child absent we have a District Safe Arrival program. These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time.

You can use one of the following options:

Option 1: Download and install the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store. The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.

Option 2: Use the SafeArrival website at <https://www.sd33.bc.ca/safearrival>. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.

Option 3: Call the toll-free number **1-833-698-6567** to report an absence using the automated phone system. If you don't want to receive notifications when your child is absent, be sure to report your child's absence in advance. If you do receive notification of your child's absence, be sure to provide the reason as quickly as possible, using one of the 3 methods listed above or during the phone call notification itself.

If you cannot set up your account, you do not see the ATTENDANCE option, or you do not see your child(ren) listed in your account, please email the school (stitos@sd33.bc.ca) to check that your correct email address is associated with your child(ren).

Did You Know You Can Access...

School Information

Looking to see what is on the school calendar, what the bell schedule is for your child, or view the newsletter??? Check out the School Information section on the school website.

Athletics Calendar

Looking to see when the next practice or game is??? Check out the school Athletics Calendar on the school website.

Counsellor Corner

Looking for loads of resources for families??? Check out the school Counsellor Corner section on the school website.

Learning Commons

Looking to see what activities and events are taking place in the Learning Commons??? Check out the Learning Commons section on the school website.

PAC Information

Looking to see who is your 2023/2024 PAC Executive or when the next PAC meeting is??? Check out the Parent Information section on the school website.

<https://stitos.sd33.bc.ca/>

A fun exploration of natural sciences, designed to inspire girls and marginalized genders aged 11-14 to fulfill their curiosity & consider a future in STEM!

Celebrate STEM

with *Dr. Carin Bondar*

Where: Stó:lō Territory
 UFV Chilliwack
 45190 Caen Ave, Building A
 Indigenous Meeting Space

When: 6-8:30pm

October 13 - Mt. Slesse, Stitos
November 17 - AD Rundle, Chilliwack Middle
January 12 - Rosedale Traditional, Vedder Middle
February 9 - Chilliwack Secondary
March 15 - GWG, Distance Education students
April 05 - Imagine High and Kwiyeqel
May 10 - Sardis Secondary

Food! Art! Prizes!

UFV Science communication students Manjot Benning (left), Rhlen Hare (ctr), Jusnoor Dheria (right) and Taylor Evans (not pictured) will be taking turns moderating alongside Dr. Bondar.

Background Image - Stó:lō logo

To register for the STEM session with Dr. Carin Bondar, please use the following link:
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/celebrate-stem-with-dr-carin-bondar-tickets-699305530667?aff=erelexpmlt>.

PARENT / CARE TAKER MENTAL WELLNESS CONVERSATION



Presented by the CVC Committee & the Middle Years

When: November 2nd
Time: 6:30pm - 7:30pm
Where: Stitō:s Lá:lém Totl:it Elementary / Middle

Childcare provided

- 6:00 - 6:30** Doors Open & Resource Tables
- 6:30 - 6:50** Family Smart & Fraser Health
- 6:50 - 7:30** Conversation circle led by Restorative Justice
- 7:30 - 7:45** Questions & Feedback

Please register @ Kjones@ncrs.ca
 By Monday October 30th

2023-2024 Bell Schedule

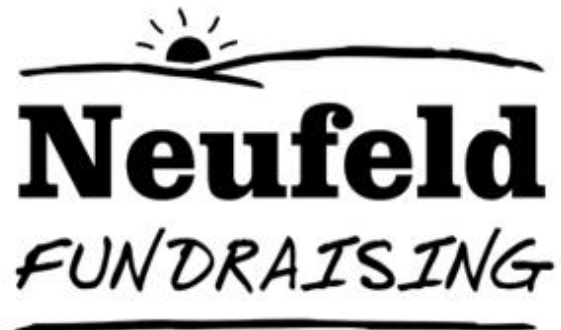
Elementary		Middle	
Time	Period	Time	Period
8:33 am - 11:33 am	Instructional (180 Minutes)	8:33 am - 9:47 am	Period 1 (74 Minutes)
11:33 am - 11:48 am	Eat (15 Minutes)	9:47 am - 10:02 am	Break (15 Minutes)
11:48 am - 12:13 pm	Outside (25 Minutes)	10:02 am - 11:16 am	Period 2 (74 Minutes)
12:13 pm - 1:13 pm	Instructional (60 Minutes)	11:16 am - 11:41 am	Outside (25 Minutes)
1:13 pm - 1:28 pm	Recess (15 Minutes)	11:41 am - 11:56 am	Eat (15 Minutes)
1:28 pm - 2:24 pm	Instructional (56 Minutes)	11:56 am - 1:10 pm	Period 3 (74 Minutes)
		1:10 pm - 2:24 pm	Period 4 (74 Minutes)

View our Gourmet Foods by scanning the QR code below
All of your favorites are just a click away...



**Stitó:s Lá:lém Totí:It Elementary Middle School
NEUFELD FARMS FUNDRAISER**

Orders In By: October 16 2023, end of day
Pick up: October 26th 2023, 6:00 pm



<https://app.neufeldfarms.ca/fundraising/2023-stits-llm-totlt-elementary-middle-school>



Fair Notice

The Chilliwack School District and community partners are committed to making our schools safe for students and staff. As a result schools will respond to all student behaviours that pose a potential risk to themselves, other students, staff, and members of the community.

What behaviours initiate a Student Violent Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA)?

A Student Violent Threat Risk Assessment will be initiated for behaviours including, but are not limited to, serious violence or violence with intent to harm/kill, verbal/written threats to harm/kill others, online threats to harm/kill others, possession of weapons (including replicas), bomb threats (making explosive and /or detonating devices), fire setting, sexual intimidation or assault, or gang related intimidation and violence.

Duty to report

To keep school communities safe and caring, staff, parents/caregivers, students, and community members must report all threat-related behaviours.

What is a threat?

A threat is an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something. Threats may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the Internet, or made by gesture. Threats must be taken seriously, investigated, and responded to.

What is a Threat Assessment Team?

Each school has a Threat Assessment Team which is multi-disciplinary. The team may include Principal, Vice-Principal, School Counsellor, Resource Teacher and Police.

What is the purpose of a VTRA?

- o To ensure the safety of students, staff, parents and others
- o To ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat
- o To understand factors contributing to the person of concern's behavior
- o To be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the person of concern
- o To promote the emotional and physical safety of all

What happens in a VTRA?

All threat making behavior by a student shall be reported to the Principal who will activate the protocol for the initial response. Once the team has been activated, interviews may be held with the student(s), the person of concern, parents and staff to determine the level of risk and develop an appropriate response to the incident. Intervention plans will be developed and shared with parents, staff and students as required.

Can I refuse to participate in a VTRA process?

It is important for all parties to engage in the process. However, if for some reason there is a reluctance to participate in the process by the person of concern or parent/caregiver, the threat assessment process will continue in order to promote a safe and caring learning environment.

Collection Notice

The School District is subject to personal information privacy laws and will undertake the collection of information in compliance with the requirements of such laws. Collection of information will be limited to that which is relevant and necessary to address a risk or threat. Information that is collected from online sources will only be obtained from open source sites. The School District will not collect information as part of a threat assessment unless there is reason to believe that a risk exists. Information collected as part of a threat assessment may be provided to law enforcement authorities in appropriate circumstances.