Stitó:s Lá:lém Totí:lt Elementary / Middle School Newsletter

November 2026 Jason Kemp, Principal | Brent Pinckney, Vice Principal | Andrea Spedding, Vice Principal | https://stitos.sd33.bc.ca

Message from the Admin Team…

October was another busy and meaningful month at Stitó:s! Our staff supported students through District Assessments and the Foundation Skills Assessment for our Grade 4 and 7 students, while continuing to provide many engaging learning opportunities throughout the school.

Over the next two months, there will be a small change to our administrative team. Mrs. Spedding will be spending time at CSS to gain secondary school experience while supporting their team. During her absence, Mrs. Deacon will be assisting in the office. She will continue to support her class as we work to find a replacement teacher during the time she is out of the classroom.

As the weather continues to change, please remind your child to come dressed for the conditions. Students will continue to enjoy time outdoors during recess and lunch unless weather conditions are extreme.

A friendly reminder that school supervision begins at 8:11 a.m. and ends at 2:46 p.m. Please ensure students are not dropped off before 8:11 a.m. or picked up after 2:46 p.m., as staff supervision is not available outside of these times.

We also ask families to please take a moment to check for any outstanding school supply fees or other charges. Families can make smaller payments toward school fees, field trips, or other charges through their student's account. If you have questions or need support, please contact the school office. We are happy to help.

As our volleyball, cross-country and soccer seasons wrap up, Grade 7 and 8 basketball will soon get underway. A big thank you to all of our coaches who volunteer their time and energy to provide these opportunities for our student-athletes.
Thank you for your continued partnership and for helping make Stitó:s a safe, welcoming, and supportive place for all of our learners. We appreciate all that families do to support our school community.

Remembrance Day Assembly Poppies

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 295 Chilliwack-Vedder has graciously dropped off poppies for our staff & students to wear at our Remembrance Day Assembly.

Our school will be collecting donations for the poppies on behalf of the Royal Canadian Legion, and any contributions would be greatly appreciated.

Unfortunately, with the size of our school, the Remembrance Assembly will be for staff & students only and we are unable to accommodate parents / guardians at this time.



Important Dates to Remember

November 4th	Student Picture Retakes
November 5th	Diwali Celebrations – Henna Art
November 6th	Assessment & Evaluation Day – No School for Students!
November 9th	Diwali Hot Lunch – Order on MunchaLunch.com
November 11th	Remembrance Day (Stat)
November 13th	Rock Your Mocs
November 13th	Counsellors Café for Parents (8:30 – 9:15 am)
November 13th	World Kindness Day
November 26th	PAC Meeting @ 6:30 pm
November 27th	Non-Instructional Day – No School for Students!
December 4th	Spirit Day – Wear Red & Green
December 4th	Counsellors Café for Parents (8:30 – 9:15 am)
December 9th	Term 2 Begins
December 9th	Band Concert

Inclement Weather Information

Inclement weather conditions such as freezing rain, significant snowfall or high wind can occur during the fall and winter months. In such conditions, decisions on the opening or closure of school district facilities are made by the Superintendent of Schools, in consultation with management and supervisory staff, who have checked first-hand on the driving conditions, walking/sidewalk conditions, and general condition of buildings and accessibility to sites.

While service to students and parents is a priority and schools will be kept open as much as is reasonably possible, student and staff safety is the primary consideration.

In the event of extreme weather conditions, parents are urged to check the School District Website (https://sd33.bc.ca/) or tune into radio stations **STAR FM (98.3 FM)** or **JR COUNTRY (89.5 FM)**, to receive up-to-date information on school closures and information on the buses. Reports will start after 6:00 am and will be repeated often. **There is no need to call your school, the School District Office, or the radio station**.

When there is extreme weather and schools remain open, student attendance is the parent/guardians' decision.

Questions About Your Child's Education?

Education is a shared process between home and school, and good communication is an excellent starting point for resolving issues that may arise. School staff welcome the opportunity to talk with you about your child's education. If you have a concern or question about your child's education, the following steps will help ensure an effective line of communication.

Step 1: Teacher

The first person to talk with is the classroom teacher. They know your child well and most concerns can be addressed at this level of communication. Please set up an appointment by contacting the teacher so that your concern can be heard without distractions.

Step 2: Principal

If you need extra assistance with your concern or question, your school principal is there to help you.

Step 3: District Staff

If you have questions that you feel were not resolved at the school level, contact the School District Office at 604.792.1321.

Lost & Found

Our lost and found is overflowing! If your child is missing any items, please stop by to have a look or encourage your child to check the Lost & Found. **Any items remaining after November 5th will be bagged and donated to charity.** Thank you for helping us reunite these items with their owners!

Rock Your Mocs – November 13th

Please wear your Moccasins or Slippers – that represent your individuality! Rock your mocs is an annual virtual event celebrating Native American and Indigenous Peoples' culture by encouraging people worldwide to wear moccasins. The movement, founded in 2011, has grown into a global celebration that takes place every November, primarily on November 15th. Participants share photos and videos of themselves in their moccasins on social media using the hashtag #RockYourMocs to showcase cultural pride and unity.

Halq̓eméylem - November

Season – **Temhilalxw** *(tem he low)* – Autumn
Moon (Month) – **Xets'o:westel** *(Hets ow istal)*

Xets'o:westel means **"time to store away canoe paddles."** *Xets'* means "store away for winter," *-o:wes* means "canoe paddles," and *tel* refers to a device for doing something, in this case, time.

Around November, ice and snow begin to make river travel by canoe difficult or impossible. During this time, Stó:lō people traditionally store their canoes by turning them over or placing them in sheds, with the paddles stored underneath or inside.

This is also a time of preparation for the Winter season. Cottonwood wool, cotton, and Salish dog fur are prepared to be woven into wool for blankets. The falling leaves are

Sardis Secondary Hockey Academy

Applications opened October 1, 2026! The Sardis Hockey Academy welcomes motivated male and female students who have a minimum of two years of organized hockey experience (house league or higher) and a strong passion for developing their skills and reaching personal performance goals. Students will sharpen their abilities through high-quality on-ice instruction, off-ice training, and competitive learning opportunities beyond the traditional classroom. For more information see flyer here. To apply click here.

Stitó:s PAC

Did you know that you are a member of the PAC? All parents are members of our PAC and encouraged to attend the PAC meeting. PAC meetings provide parents with information about our school, a chance to ask questions or raise concerns and a chance to become involved with our school. The next PAC meeting will be Thursday, November 26th at 6:30 pm in Room 1007.







Learning Commons

Here is a link to the Library newsletter: https://app.smore.com/n/m567r

Chilliwack Conscious Dance

De-stress, connect with your body, and dance in a judgement-free, substance-free zone! Conscious Dance is wonderful for mental, physical, and emotional health. There is no lesson, and no wrong moves – just good music and a space for authentic movement. For adults, Tuesday, October 27th, and November 24th, 7:00 – 8:30 pm at Yarrow Community Hall. Come to one or both. Proceeds go to charity. For more information or tickets, see HERE.

Student Demographics Update

If you have an address, email, or telephone number change since you completed the Student Information Verification sheet, please notify the school at stitos@sd33.bc.ca at your earliest convenience. For address changes please include a primary and secondary Proof of Residency from the chart below. Please remember to always notify the school as soon as possible of any changes that would affect our ability to contact you, especially in the case of an emergency.

C. PROOF OF PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE

A Principal Residence is the usual place where an individual lives, makes their home, conducts their daily affairs, receives mail and resides for more than 50% of the calendar year.

Please provide 1 of the following primary documents from the custodial parent or legal guardian:	**AND 1 additional secondary document – examples include:**
• Property Purchase Agreement, if recent purchase, with subjects removed (financial portions of the documents can be redacted) • Completed Residential Tenancy Agreement **from a Property Management Company** • Notarized Confirmation of Residence, **completed by Homeowner/Landlord** • Notarized Affidavit of Identity • A current residential utility bill addressed to one of the parent/guardians (Municipal utility statement, BC Hydro Bill, Fortis BC Bill, Cable TV or Internet Provider – NOT a cell bill) • Property Tax Notice / Assessment	• Driver's License or BCID (with photo) • Canadian Bank Account, Loan or Credit Card Statement • Insurance Statement or Policy, Vehicle Registration • Recent Paystub or Letter from Employer • Income Tax Statement or Correspondence from a Government Agency **Please note:** We reserve the right to request additional documents if required

MISREPRESENTATION:

Applicants should note that a false statement about a student's Principal Residence will result in:

- The District or School Principal repealing the student's placement
- The student transitions back to their catchment school
- Procedural consequences through BC School Sports may apply

Early Pick-Ups

If you need to pick up your child early, **please enter the absence/early pick up in the SafeArrival app first thing in the morning**. This allows the office to notify classroom teachers in advance. Many of our classes spend time outdoors or in the community, so students may not always be in their classrooms when families arrive for an unexpected pickup.

All students (K-8) who are leaving early MUST be picked up and signed out at the office.

Signing your child out ensures they are leaving with an authorized adult and helps us maintain accurate attendance records for safety purposes. For the safety and security of our students, **we are unable to accept verbal permission for early departures**. Whether leaving for an appointment, illness, or family matter, **all early departures must go through the office**.

SafeArrival Reporting Options:

- School Messenger App
- SafeArrival Website https://www.sd33.bc.ca/safe-arrival
- Toll-Free Number: 1-933-698-6567

Counsellors' Corner

Hello Families!

There are lots of great things happening through **Counsellors' Corner** this month!

💚 **Check out our latest Counsellors' Corner Newsletter!**

This edition includes helpful information and resources for families, including:

- **Virtual Counselling** for youth and their caregivers
- **Open Parachute** resources for families
- **Free Food Programs** and community supports
- And **MORE!**

👉 Read the latest Counsellors' Corner Newsletter

☕ **Counsellors' Corner Coffee Time for Parents & Caregivers**

We hope you can join us on **Friday, November 13** for our next Coffee Time! Each month, parents and caregivers are invited to gather for **coffee, treats, conversation, and connection** while we explore a different topic together.

💛 **World Kindness Day: "Show Us Your Kind!"**

November 13 is also **World Kindness Day!** Our **Green Crew Mental Health Student Group** will be helping spread kindness throughout the school with:

- Visits to classrooms
- Classroom kindness challenges
- A whole-school lunchtime activity

And the best part? **Everyone can participate!**

Whether it's helping someone, sharing an encouraging word, including someone new, or simply offering a smile, we want to see kindness spreading throughout our school.

🌎💚 **Show Us Your Kind!**

Small acts of kindness can make a BIG difference. Let's see how much kindness we can spread together!

Safety
Positive Attitude
Achieving Your Best
Thoughtful
Honest

Towards others
Towards yourself
Towards your community

Active for Life Chilliwack

September 1, 2026

To All Chilliwack Grade 5 Students/Parents:
SUBJECT: GRADE 5 "GET ACTIVE!" FACILITY PASS

The Chilliwack Active for Life Committee is once again pleased to provide the Grade 5 "Get Active!" facility pass program. Thanks to our partners, the City of Chilliwack Recreation and Culture Department, YMCA BC and Chilliwack School District #33, the facility passes will be made available to all Grade 5 public, private and home-schooled students in Chilliwack. The primary purpose of the program is to increase participation and fitness levels of Grade 5 students and encourage healthier lifestyle choices.

The "Get Active!" facility pass provides free admission to public swims, skates and selected drop-in sports programs at the following facilities from September 1, 2026 to August 31st, 2027:

- Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre (604-793-7946)
- Cheam Leisure Centre (604-824-0231)
- Bob Chan-Kent Family YMCA (604-792-3371)
- Sardis Sports Complex (604-793-2904)
- Chilliwack Coliseum (604-793-2904)
- Rotary Outdoor Pool (mid- May to September long weekend 604-795-5562)

To receive your free photo ID for the "Get Active!" pass please **bring this letter and proof of age along with a parent or guardian,** to one of these two facilities:

1. Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre – 9145 Corbould Street
2. Cheam Leisure Centre – 45501 Market Way

For more information, please contact one of the facilities listed above or email recreationandculture@chilliwack.com .

Sincerely,

Carol Marleau
Manager of Recreation Services & Corporate Wellness

