

Skwo:wech Newsletter

From the Office of
Skwo:wech Elementary
October 2 - 27



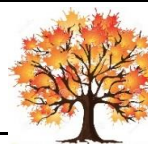
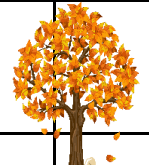


Permissions for
the 2023/2024
school year are on
[School Cash](#)
[Online](#) .



Fuel Up! School Lunch Program
Please submit orders at least 2 business days
ahead of time.
order.lunchlady.ca



| 2023   OCTOBER   | | | | |
|--|---------|-----------|--|--|
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| <i>National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (school closed)</i> | | | | |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| <i>Thanksgiving Day (school closed)</i> | | | | |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| | | | The Great Shakeout | <i>Provincial Pro D Day (no school for students)</i> |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| <i>Pumpkin Run</i> | | | <i>Elementary Collaboration Early Dismissal - 12:05pm Photo Retake Day PAC meeting-7pm Virtual</i> | <i>Family Reading Halloween Howl</i> |

Mark Your Calendar



October 2
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
(School closed)

October 9
Thanksgiving Day

October 20
Provincial Pro D Day
(No school for students)

October 26
Elementary Collaboration
Early Dismissal – 12:05pm
Photo Retake Day
PAC Meeting – 7pm Virtual

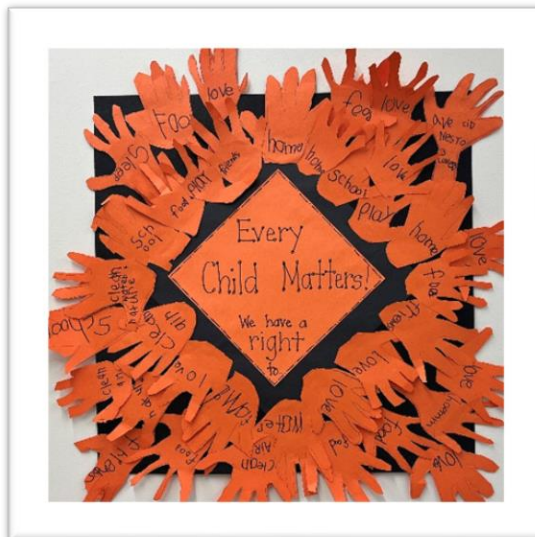
Dear Skwo:wech Families,

Tomorrow, September 30th marks the third national day for Truth and Reconciliation. Across our school this week, children and adults wore orange coloured clothing to demonstrate our deep commitment to Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day. We acknowledge the harm that occurred across Indigenous communities when Indigenous children were removed from their homes and forced to attend residential schools. Through stories, our students learned about the very difficult experiences and suffering that so many children and families experienced at Residential schools. We held an assembly this morning where the story Every Child Matters was read aloud, and children shared highlights of their learning. Children from the Eagle Community shared their work with the witness blanket, students from division 13 shared their thoughts about why they mattered and Division 8 and 4 shared a tribute and farewell to Ms. Danielle. Our gathering opened with everyone joining together to sing "O'Siem" and we closed with the Children's Blessing song. Ms. Danielle was honored for her work in our school community. We shared our gratitude for all the Indigenous teachings Ms. Danielle has so generously shared with our students and staff during her years at our school.

We wish you a peaceful weekend with your family,

With gratitude,

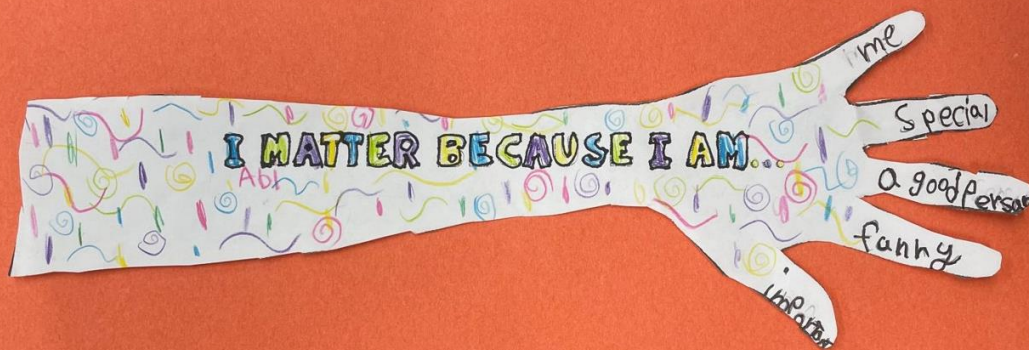
Kathleen



Every Child Matters



Image and design by Katelyn T, Div. 2





"Today we wear orange to honour and be together as one human family. Every Child Matters including you and me. With our orange hearts, we walk in harmony."

Phyllis Webstad





Our amazing grade five student leaders have been making great progress as they work collaboratively on developing our School Wide Charter. We have had children in grades two, three, four and five contribute their ideas to the charter. They are invited to answer the question: "How do I want to feel at school?" We hope to have the completed Charter ready to share in the coming weeks.



Welcome new staff to the Skwo:wech school family:

Hi everyone,

I am excited to extend a warm greeting to all of you as the new School Counselor at Skwo:wech Elementary School. It is an honor to be a part of this vibrant and caring community dedicated to nurturing the growth and well-being of our students.

I am here to work collaboratively with you to ensure a positive and enriching educational experience for every student. Together, we can help our children reach their full potential.

Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education, and I am eager to embark on this journey alongside you and your family.”

Warmly,
Scott

Scott Walter, School Counsellor

Skwo:wech Elementary School - M,T,W,F

Connaught Heights Elementary School - Th



The MyEd BC Family Portal is now opened for families to login and view. The portal allows parents/guardians to view:

- attendance information
- contact information
- student schedules
- published reports (including report cards)

Parents/Guardians who have a new portal account will receive an email from the MyEd BC email (sysadmin@myeducation.gov.bc.ca) which contains their username and temporary password when their account has been enabled. Parents/Guardians who have an existing portal account will not receive an email and should go to <https://myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/logon.do> to access the portal. If you forget your password, please click on the “I forgot my password” link to reset it.

If you have a new portal account but do not receive an email by October 1st or if you experiencing any difficulties logging into your account, please email the school office for assistance.

For more detailed instructions, please use the following:  [Family Portal Instructions-for Parents.pdf](#)

October – Child health screenings: vision, hearing and dental

Article for website or newsletter: /

Make dental, hearing and vision checks part of a healthy routine

Health screenings help find issues early which can make treatment easier and more effective. It's important for your child to have regular eye exams and routine dental checkups. It is also important to recognize any hearing loss early as this is essential for speech and language development. Read on to learn when and how to access services for your child.

Dental

Tooth decay is the most common, but preventable, childhood chronic disease. It is important to establish good oral hygiene at a young age and have children's teeth checked by a dentist regularly. To find a local dentist near you who is accepting new patients, visit the BC Dental Association's [Find a Dentist database](#). If you are a member of a low-income family and you do not have extended health coverage, there are several programs that can help you access [affordable dentistry for your children](#). You can also contact the dental program at your [local public health unit](#) and ask about resources available in your community.

Vision

[BC Doctors of Optometry](#) recommends children receive their first eye exam when they are six to nine months old with a follow up exam at least once between the ages of two and five and then yearly once they enter school. You can find an optometrist accepting new patients near you at the College of Optometrists of British Columbia's [Find an Optometrist database](#). In B.C., basic eye exams, one per year, are free up to the age of 18. Some optometrists may charge a small user fee of about \$35 per visit so be sure to ask about any fees before you make an appointment.

Hearing

Good hearing is essential for speech and language development and plays an important part in a child's social and emotional growth. It is important to recognize hearing loss early and seek out testing and treatment if needed. Fraser Health's Public Health community audiologists provide hearing services for children from birth to 19 years of age. If you have a concern about your child's hearing, referrals can be made by a parent or caregiver, a health care provider or education professional to your [local public health audiology \(hearing\) clinic](#).

Find more information on child health screenings and how to access free vision, hearing and dental exams on Fraser Health's website: <https://ow.ly/oK9z50PegZB>

Anvil Theatre is excited to be presenting three engaging and educational children's performances in our 2023-2024 season for your students to attend! We are looking forward to welcoming you at the Anvil Theatre this year!

For more information about any of these shows, please contact Fleur Sweetman, Performing Arts Programmer with the Anvil Theatre at fsweetman@anviltheatre.ca.



ANVIL THEATRE
777 Columbia Street, New Westminster, BC

The Anvil Theatre is located across the street from New West SkyTrain station and is also on many bus routes.



TICKETS
Group tickets are available for these shows by calling our box office at **604-521-5050**.

Tickets: \$20 for adults; \$10 for children.
One free adult chaperon/15 kids



Green Thumb Theatre
THE MIXOLYDIAN

Friday, October 13, 2023 at 1:00 pm
Suitable for ages 5-10
Duration: 45 min. + 10 min. Q&A

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS:
Yes, teachers study guide
<https://www.greenthumb.bc.ca/resources/studyguides>

Bellevue, an 11-year-old Anishinaabe/Metis girl, is on a journey through the woods. Reconnecting with her culture and language, Bellevue is accompanied by her "imaginary friend", a shapeshifter named Thomas. Having recently lost her grandfather (Shoom), Bellevue feels out of touch with the stories and words her Shoom used to share. Luckily, with some help from ancestor Nokomis, Bellevue learns that Shoom's knowledge lives on in her, and there is more to her friend Thomas than meets the eye.



Bouge de Là
THROUGH MY EYES

Friday Nov. 17, 2023 at 1:00 pm
Suitable for ages 3-10
Duration: 40 minutes

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS:
Yes, teachers study guide
<https://bougedela.org/en/shows/through-my-eyes/>

A dancer enters the stage and discovers a ball. Intrigued, she moves toward it, carefully. As soon as she touches it, the magic of the stage is unleashed: the lights go up, the decor appears all around her, shadows play their tricks...and transform one dancer into many! Now there are four of her, to play together and discover a constantly changing environment: a graphical world made up of forms, colours, textures, sounds, and illusions. A topsy-turvy playground where dance continually shifts with the context, this performance full of surprises invites audiences to see the world afresh through the eyes of a child who explores. An ode to the power of imagination, Through My Eyes stimulates the child's senses and brings us back to one of the loveliest things about childhood: a tireless capacity for wonder.



Axis Theatre
FROG BELLY RAT BONE

Friday, March 8, 2024 at 1:00pm
Suitable for ages 3-10
Duration: 40 minutes

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS:
Yes, teachers study guide
<https://www.axis theatre.com/frog-belly/>

Incorporating beautifully handcrafted puppets and an original pop/rock musical score, Cementland comes to life as two enigmatic garbage collectors tell the story of a very special boy whose singular wish is to find a TREASURE!

One day, the boy discovers a rusty tin box packed with colorful envelopes and an old wrinkled note: "Put my wondrous riches into the earth and enjoy." So the boy opens the envelope and tosses the contents - "hundreds of tiny gray specks" - onto the ground. Nothing happens! But night will come and the specks e protected from junkyard thieves so the boy invents a guard... The gathers wet smelly socks, moldy old pillow stuffing and scraggly wire bringing his creation, Frog Belly Rat Bone, to life.

Frog Belly isn't the sharpest, or the quietest, but it works. In time, Cementland blooms with beautiful flowers and delicious vegetables, and the junk pile of dark grays yields to an explosion of colour. With some strategy, strong communication, a lot of patience and goodwill, we can all grow wondrous riches, transforming dark surroundings into something beautiful.

Massey Theatre Oct. 28 & 29th

Children's Graphic Novel
Writing & Illustration
Festival/Dog Man: The Musical.
Click here for more.

information & registration

<https://www.eighthandeight.com/event/childrens-graphic-novel-writing-illustration-festival/>