

# Skwo:wech Newsletter

From the Office of  
Skwo:wech Elementary  
October 30 - Nov. 24





## ANIMALS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

The School District's policy regarding bringing pets to school is designed to ensure the safety of our students. Animals are not allowed on school property without the prior approval of the Principal. Guide dogs and police dogs are allowed under the control of their owners. **We are reminding everyone; dogs or other animals are not allowed on school grounds.**



**Mark  
your calendar**



2023	OCTOBER/NOVEMBER			
				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
30	31	Nov. 1	2	3
	<i>Happy Halloween!</i>			<i>No Stone Left Alone</i>
6	7		9	10
		<i>Early Dismissal - Student Learning Conferences - 12:05pm</i>	<i>Early Dismissal - Student Learning Conferences - 12:05pm</i>	<i>Remembrance Day Assembly</i>
13	14	15	16	17
<i>Remembrance Day (No School)</i> 	<i>Non-Instructional Day (No School for Students)</i>			
20	21	22	23	24
			<i>PAC Meeting - 7pm</i>	

**October 31**  
Happy Halloween

**November 3**  
No Stone Left Alone

**November 8**  
Early Dismissal –  
Student Learning  
Conferences -12:05pm

**November 9**  
Early Dismissal –  
Student Learning  
Conferences – 12:05pm

**November 10**  
Remembrance Day  
Assembly

**November 13**  
Remembrance Day  
(No School)

**November 14**  
Non-Instructional Day  
(No School for  
Students)



Dear Skwo:wech Families,

We are all very excited for the Halloween Howl tonight, we do hope to see you there! Children are invited to wear their costumes to school on Tuesday for our costume parade. Individual teachers will reach out with any special information about activities that might be happening in their classrooms. Please be reminded that costumes at school must follow district guidelines which includes: no masks which cover a child's face, no weapons, ensuring cultural sensitivity when selecting the costume. A big thank you to all the parents who came out to support the PAC Halloween Howl and our Pumpkin run-on Monday. The weather was perfect, and the winners of the class pumpkin draw went home with the prized pumpkins! We are pleased to let you know that our first Book Fair of the year will be held November 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Please look for the message in the newsletter from Mr. Leclair regarding the details for the book fair. This is a great opportunity to pick up a few books at great prices and maybe even a few early Christmas presents to tuck away!

We are all looking forward to the upcoming Student Learning Conferences which will be held on November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Students will be dismissed at 12:05 on these days to allow time for the learning conferences. You likely have already received a message from your child's teacher informing you of their format and how you will be able to sign up for the meetings. We do ask that younger siblings do not attend the meeting in order to focus on your child's learning. The format of the meetings will vary slightly, and you will receive this information directly from your child's teacher. While our formal conferences are a very important part of our reporting process at school, I want to remind all parents of the importance of connecting with your child's teacher if any concerns arise. Your child's teacher is the most important contact for you at school and we want to support any challenges that arise swiftly; so please be in touch!

With gratitude,

Kathleen

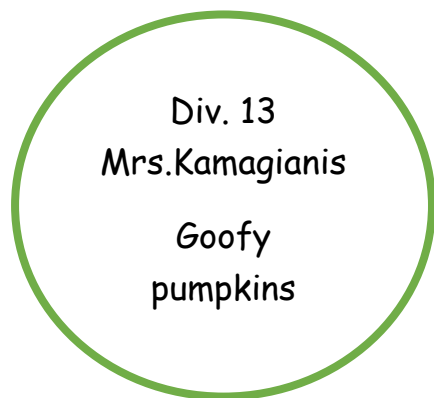
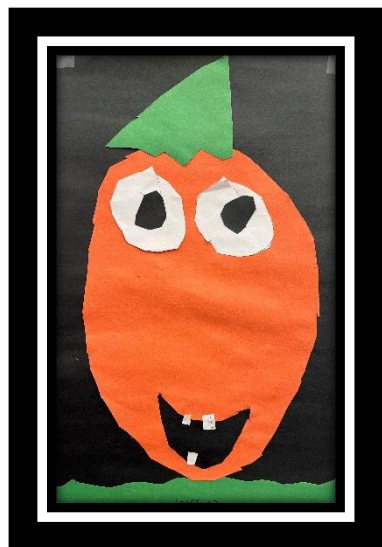




Enjoying family reading ...





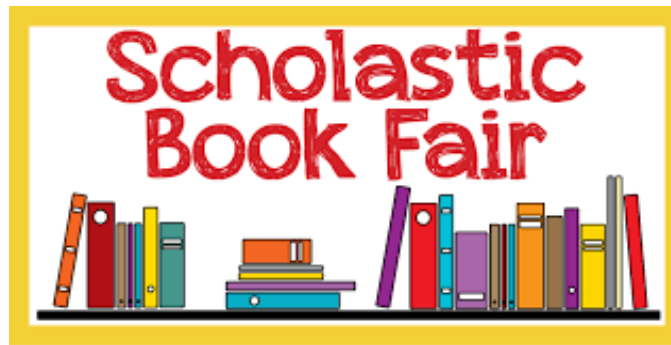






Division 3 - Mrs. Bhatti  
Halloween Haunted  
Houses





The Scholastic Book Fair is returning to Skwo:wech Elementary! Families are invited to come shop at the Scholastic Book Fair the week of Student Learning Conferences.

The Book Fair will be open after school **Monday and Tuesday, November 6-7, from 3:10 - 4:00**, and after the Early Dismissal on **Wednesday, November 8 from 1pm-4pm**. Please come by and support our Book Fair.

Mr. Leclair is looking for a few parent volunteers to take some shifts helping with set up, running, and packing up the Book Fair. If you are interested and available, please contact Mr. Leclair directly at [oleclair@sd40.bc.ca](mailto:oleclair@sd40.bc.ca).

Scholastic has retired Virtual Book Fairs, so please come to our library in person to pick up some great new titles and help support our growing library collection.

Mr. Leclair





## SAVE The DATE

Circle the date for our Winter concert!! Similar to last year, our concert will be held in the afternoon over two days. This will be on December 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. We will have two tickets per family available. Families with last names which begin with letter A-M will be invited to join us Wednesday, December the 13<sup>th</sup> and Families with last names beginning with letters N-Z will be invited to join us on Thursday December 14<sup>th</sup>.



## **2024-2025 Registration**

It's time to register new students for the 2024-2025 school year! Please read the following information carefully.

**NOTE: You only need to register your child if they are not already attending school in the district. You can safely ignore this message if your child is a student in a district school or if they are transitioning between elementary, middle, or high school.**

New registrations for the 2024-2025 school year will open on **November 6, 2024** and close on **January 26, 2024**. As long as you register before **January 26, 2024**, the day you register will not affect your chances of getting into your catchment school.

1. Although we do our best to place new students at their preferred schools, it is regrettably not always possible. Our district has significant capacity challenges because of limited space in schools and a growing student population.
2. If the number of requests for a catchment exceeds the number of available spots, the district reserves the right to use a lottery system to determine placements.
3. The district will confirm all enrollment requests by the end of **March 2024**.

For more information, [learn more about capacity status at our schools](#).

### **How to Register a New Student as a Parent or Legal Guardian**

1. Book a 10-minute appointment with our Registration Team.
2. If you need a translator for your registration appointment, please let us know in advance and we will do our best to accommodate your request.
3. [BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT ONLINE](#)



**NOTE: We do not accept bookings before November 6. Please ensure you choose appointments on days and times from November 6, 2023 until January 26, 2024.**

For more information on registration, including the forms and guides, [visit the district website's Registration section](#).

### **What to do on the Day of Your Appointment**

1. Visit our Registration Team at the Welcome Centre located in New Westminster Secondary School (enter through the south side of the building at **820 6th Street, New Westminster**).
2. Bring a completed [registration form](#) and copies of the documents outlined in the [Document Guide for Parents and Caregivers](#). **OR** Bring original versions of the documents outlined in the [Document Guide for Parents and Caregivers](#) and our team will help you print, photocopy and complete the required paperwork.
3. If you do not have the suggested documents outlined in the Document Guide, our team will be happy to speak with you confidentially to find a solution.

### **Key Dates**

1. **November 6** – Registration opens.
2. **January 26, 2024** – Registration closes.
3. Looking for a list of other important registration dates, including Programs of Choice enrollment info? [Download a list of key dates for the 2024-2025 school year](#).

We look forward to connecting with your family.

- The New Westminster Schools team

We are always excited to welcome new families to the District. Here are the things you need to know to ensure your student is enrolled with the best placement to support their needs.

#### Key dates for regular registration:

	In-catchment applications	Transfer requests & Out-of-district applications
<b>Regular registration opens</b>	November 6, 2023	February 5, 2024
<b>Regular registration closes</b>	January 26, 2024	February 23, 2024
<b>Placement offers</b>	March 29, 2024	June 14, 2024

*Please note: our District is facing significant capacity challenges, due to growing enrollment. Decisions about the 2024-25 school year are based on enrollment demands identified within the regular registration window. Enrollment applications received outside of this window will be placed within the district but may not be possible at the catchment or preferred school requested, as some schools may be deemed as being at full capacity at certain grades, or in some limited cases, for the full school. All placements follow the rules outlined in [Administrative Procedure 300](#).*

Questions can be sent to: [registrations@sd40.bc.ca](mailto:registrations@sd40.bc.ca)

#### How to enrol:

Our Central Registration team works out of the Welcome Centre (south side of New Westminster Secondary School, via the external entrance). Information on documents required, process, how to book an appointment and more can be found on our website: <https://newwestschools.ca/our-schools/registration/registration-information-forms/>

#### Programs of Choice:

Applications for our Programs of Choice are accepted from Monday January 8<sup>th</sup> to Friday February 2<sup>nd</sup>, via links that will be posted on the District website. Parent information sessions are hosted online in early January. **Students applying for a Program of Choice must first be enrolled at their regular catchment school, following the above process.**

Program	Grade of intake	Location(s)
Early French Immersion	Kindergarten or Grade 1	Herbert Spencer, Qayqayt and Lord Tweedsmuir elementary schools
Late French Immersion	Grade 6	Glenbrook Middle
French Immersion	Grade 9	New Westminster Secondary
Montessori	Kindergarten or Grade 1	Skwo:wech and Connaught Heights
Home Learners Program	Kindergarten to Grade 8	Hume Park Learning Centre

Questions can be sent to: [programsofchoice@sd40.bc.ca](mailto:programsofchoice@sd40.bc.ca)

All forms, Administrative Procedures, and information about capacity status can be found on our website.