

4615 - 51 Street, Delta, BC V4K2V8 604.946.4194 deltasd.bc.ca/de

Friday October 27, 2023

Dear Pacer Families,

With October coming to an end, the cool crisp mornings and the colourful leaves falling remind us that fall is officially upon us. A reminder to students and families that the days are getting shorter and we encourage those who walk or bike to wear bright colours, reflective clothing and to be conscious of vehicles and drivers when visibility is limited. We also would like to remind parents NOT to drop students off at the front door when we have inclement weather (i.e., rain). Please use the designated areas to drop off your child(ren) and please be sure not to block drive ways, cross walks or access points for other vehicles and pedestrians.

Last night we held our Parent Teacher Interviews and it was a lovely opportunity to connect with some of our Pacer families. If you were not able to book an appointment with your child(ren)'s teacher, please send them an email to set up a time to chat about your child's progress in their courses. With Halloween on Tuesday, I know many of our students are excited for Halloween and we look forward to seeing all the creative and detailed costumes.

Halloween Safety:

Halloween is fast approaching and as students gear up for a night of tricks and treats, it's important to remember to stay safe and respectful while celebrating the spookiest night of the season:

- **No Face Masks** - If wearing a costume to school, students should be easily recognizable and/or able to identify themselves to any staff members when asked
- **Respectful Costumes - costumes that are offensive in any way will not be allowed.**
 - Please consider the rights maintained in the Canadian Human Rights Act when selecting costumes (e.g., race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, family status, genetic characteristics, disability)
- **School codes of conduct must always be followed, even when in costume.**
 - This includes maintaining respectful and appropriate behaviour with others and with school property. • Replica weapons (guns, knives, etc.) are not allowed.
- ***Students should be aware that fireworks and firecrackers are prohibited on school property and the city of Delta.***

In recent years, there has been an increase in anti-social behaviour from some youth in the community at Halloween. We recognize that this type of behaviour varies widely from school to school, from community to community, and even from year to year. *However, we would like to remind students that vandalizing property, setting fires, fighting and underage drinking can have serious and potentially lifelong consequences including suspension from school, criminal charges, a criminal record, and injury.*

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We would appreciate all parents/caregivers having a conversation with their child(ren) regarding the need to respect our community and to keep Halloween safe and fun for everyone.

In addition to this letter, information regarding general school information can be found on our **school website**: <https://de.deltasd.bc.ca/> . Please see the important information items below:

Important Dates:

- October 30 Grade 12 Literacy Assessments (pre-scheduled)
- November 1 Musqueam Day
- November 1 Gr. 9 Take Our Kids to Work Day
- November 9 Remembrance Day Assemblies at DSS & 1:45pm Early Dismissal
- November 10 District Closure (School Closed)
- November 13 District Closure Stat Holiday for Remembrance Day
- November 15 PAC Meeting, 7:00pm (Conference Room)
- November 16 Report Cards (Mid-Semester 1 / Linear Term 1)
- November 20 20 Days of Giving (Food & Hamper Drive) Launch
- November 27 Non-Instructional Day (no classes in session)

Musqueam Day:

Musqueam Day Monday, November 1st is an important day for the Musqueam First Nation. November 1 represents the day in which Musqueam changed the history of Indigenous rights and title for all Indigenous Nations in Canada - the Crown must now recognize Indigenous title to Indigenous land. On November 1st, 1984 Musqueam won a landmark case with the Supreme Court of Canada called the Guerin Case. This day has since been celebrated as Musqueam Day. For more information click on the following link: [Musqueam Day 2023](#).

Provincial Assessments – Literacy 10/12 & Numeracy 10:

Literacy 10, Numeracy 10 & Literacy 12 are required components of the graduation program and students in grade 10 – 12 must write all three Provincial Assessments prior to graduation. These assessments focus on the demonstration and application of numeracy and literacy. Students will be excused from their scheduled classes for any assessments that they need to write. Below are the dates the assessments taking place this school year:

- Literacy 12 October 30th
- Literacy 10 January 15th – 26th
- Numeracy 10 April 15th – 19th
- Provincial Assessments June 10th – 14th
 - *Specific assessment dates and times will be shared in an email to students and families closer to the date.*

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Attendance & Student Absences:

Student attendance is directly correlated to student success in the classroom. Students are expected to be in class, on time, unless there is a justifiable reason for absence. *When students are absent, they miss valuable teacher instruction, opportunities to demonstrate their learning, and the shared experiences that help build class belonging and connectedness.* A **“parent excused absence” is still considered an absence** - these absences are known and acknowledged by the parents. Occasionally, students must miss classes for unavoidable reasons such as illness or emergencies. A reminder to parents to contact the school by phone (604-946-4194) or email (delta.sec@deltaschools.ca) to advise us of the absence and it will be recorded on our attendance system.

Counsellor Support:

A reminder to students and families that our counsellors are available to meet with students to address any concerns, issues or challenges they may be having in or out of the classroom.

- Last Name A – Che (*Mr. Lalli on leave*) Ms. Colls hcolls@deltaschools.ca
- Last Name Cli - Lei Ms. Greene sgreene@deltaschools.ca
- Last Name Leo – Or & International Ms. Rohwer erohwer@deltaschools.ca
- Last Name Os – Z Ms. Gillis bgillis@deltaschools.ca

Career Education Corner:

Mrs. Day is our Career Programs/Work Experience Coordinator and is available to support students with work experience and apprenticeship opportunities (Grade 10 – 12). She can be reached by email at cday@deltaschools.ca for any inquiries.

Junior Firefighting Camp Academy:

- Do you have students in grade 11 or 12 that are interested in pursuing a career as a firefighter? Have them apply for the Delta Junior Fire Academy Camp. **Applications are due November 17, 2023.** Students should see their career program facilitator at your school or learn more here <https://deltalearns.ca/careers/firefighting-camp/>

Each month the district puts out a newsletter related to Career Programs, Work Experience and Apprenticeship opportunities. Please see this month’s newsletter:

<https://deltalearns.ca/careers/newsletters/>

Athletics Home Games:

Yesterday, our Cross Country Team and Swim Team competed in their respective South Fraser Athletic Association Regional Championships. Congratulations to our student athletes who competed at the regionals as well as to those who qualified for the Provincial Championships!!! Way to Go Pacers! As the fall season winds down, our volleyball and soccer teams are in the final stretch of their regular season before playoffs, regional tournaments and the opportunity to qualify for their respective Provincial Championships.

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We are also gearing up for our Winter Sports Season (basketball, gymnastics, curling) and information regarding tryouts will be shared with students over our PA announcements and through our Athletics Instagram account we want to wish all of our student athletes a successful fall season!

Below are some upcoming volleyball home dates to come cheer on our Pacers!

- October 30th @ 3:30pm Gr. 8 & Junior Boys Volleyball vs. Seaquam
- November 1st @ 7:30pm Sr. Boys Volleyball vs. Seaquam (Seniors Night)
- November 2nd @ 3:30pm Jr. Girls Volleyball vs. Southpointe
- November 3 – 4 Sr. Boys Volleyball – Pacer Classic Tournament
- November 4th Cross Country Provincial Championships
- November 17 – 18 Swimming Provincial Championships
 - *Volleyball Playoff Schedules - TBD*

Take Our Kids to Work Day Wednesday, November 1, 2023

A reminder that permission forms for this year's Take Our Kids to Work Day (TOKWD) were due today in the office. If you have not submitted your permission form, please do so by Monday October 30th. Grade 9 students NOT participating in this year's event are expected to attend all classes on that day. For more information regarding TOKWD or the Career Education 9 course, please feel free to contact Mrs. Visscher by email kvisscher@deltaschools.ca.

PAC (Parent Advisory Council)

Our next PAC meeting will take place on Wednesday November 15th. We will start this meeting at 7:00pm in our Conference Room (next to the main office). For more information on PAC or the minutes from any of our meetings, please visit our PAC website:

- <https://deltasecondaryschool.wordpress.com/>

We want to thank you for your continued patience and support during the month of October. Continue to stay safe, healthy and well. Enjoy the weekend and any upcoming Halloween activities.

Sincerely,

John Pavão,
Principal
Grade 12's

Mike Annandale,
Vice Principal
Grade 9 & 11's

Joanna Macintosh,
Vice Principal
Grade 8's & 10's