



École Christine Morrison School

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Parent Handbook and Calendar

2010 -2011



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École Christine Morrison Elementary School

Annual Report



2009-2010

Brian Tucker, Principal, Veronica Cheater, Vice Principal
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Mission Statement:

The mission of École Christine Morrison Elementary is: "to create a community of learners who work together to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for life."

Unique Features:

École Christine Morrison Elementary is a dual track public school offering early French Immersion and regular English programs to a population of 500 students in grades kindergarten to seven. We take pride in our vibrant inclusive school culture. Our dedicated and caring staff provides many opportunities for students to be successful academically. We have programs in place to meet the needs of all students. A few examples include our annual Speakers Conferences, Concours d'art oratoire, Student Leadership Program, Class Buddy Program, Peer Counseling Program, and Action Schools Program. The Stand By Me Program, implemented last year, continues to be an important way to help promote social responsibility. Other programs and initiatives are outlined below.

Community Partnerships/Initiatives:

We have a number of community partnerships. This year we are pleased to have a brand new Strong Start program offered on site, for preschoolers and their parents to attend, free of charge. The Friends program brings a counsellor from the F.O.R.C.E. Society for Kids Mental Health to present lessons about reducing anxiety to students in grade 4. Through a partnership with Van City Savings, students run a school credit union. Our students participate annually in the Terry Fox Run, Jump Rope for Heart, and Unicef. Every second year we host an Aboriginal Cultural day, with members of the local Aboriginal community presenting workshops for our students. Every year, our students participate in the Optimist Club's Speaking Contest. Our Students' Council organizes an annual food drive for the local food bank, and our PAC assembles Christmas hampers for local families in need. This year, our school has committed to the Me 2 We program, which encourages student leadership and compassion towards making the world better, locally and internationally. Our Me 2 We local commitment has been to provide additional support for the food bank, starting with a Halloween for Hunger campaign. This year our Me 2 We group also supported Seeds of Hope, a locally initiated charity which supports orphans in Zambia and Africa as well as Pennies for Peace, a charity which raises funds for rural schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan.



Students participate in the Terry Fox Run

School Goals:

Goal # 1: Literacy: Improve literacy skills for all students.

Objective 1: Increase the percentage of students fully meeting and exceeding expectations in reading

Objective 2: Increase the percentage of students fully meeting and exceeding expectations in writing

Objective 3: Increase the percentage of boys meeting and exceeding expectations in writing

Goal # 2: Numeracy: Improve student numeracy skills by developing problem solving skills

Objective 1: Improve the percentage of students fully meeting/exceeding expectations in problem solving

Objective 2: Improve student ability to use appropriate number operations to solve problems

Goal # 3: Social Responsibility: To continue to develop socially responsible students.

Objective 1: To continue to develop student understanding of behaviour expectations, through use of consistent language.

Objective 2: To continue to develop student understanding and appreciation of diversity within our school community.

Objective 3: To continue to help students become responsible for their own health and well being.



Students in a grade 5/6 class work on a Reading Power strategy

Parent Involvement:

Parent participation is encouraged and appreciated at Christine Morrison. Our PAC coordinates school fund raising for field trips and coordinates and runs our concession. We provide a breakfast and lunch program for students who might otherwise start their school day with an empty stomach. Our concession offers a variety healthy menu items for students who wish to purchase a lunch. Our Little Readers' program is organized and run by parent volunteers. Parents also organize and run a Christmas store for students every year. Various extra curricular sports programs are coached by a combination of staff and parent volunteers. Our PAC also contributes to the sense of school community by running an annual carnival and hosting several family movie nights each year.

Future Directions

More information about our school can be found on our website. Details about our progress on our school goals are outlined in our School Growth Plan, which is available on our website and at our school office. We are proud of the programs we have offered this year and of the achievement of our students. Join us, as we continue this exciting and rewarding work with our community of learners!

3. **BELL SCHEDULE (SCHOOL HOURS)**

École Christine Morrison operates on an “Extended Day” schedule. Four days of the week are extended in length by 30 minutes. One day (Wednesday) is shortened by 120 minutes. This schedule contains the same amount of minutes per week as a regular schedule. The Wednesday afternoon time is great for student appointments and for staff development.

Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri. (5 1/2 hrs/day)

A.M.

First bell	8:25
AM session begins	8:30
Recess	10:00 - 10:15
Lunch hour	11:45 - 12:25

P.M.

Warning bell	12:25
PM session begins	12:30
School ends	02:45

Wednesday only (3 hours/day)

First bell	8:25
AM session begins	8:30
Recess	10:00 -10:15
School ends	11:30

4. **TRAFFIC DROP OFF & PICK UP AREAS**

The parking lot at the front of the school and McRae Avenue are the only drop off and pick up areas. Edge Street and the side parking lot are not parking, drop off, or pick up areas. Please respect the safety of students riding bicycles and walking along Edge Street. Thank you for your co-operation

5. **SCHOOL ROUTINES**

a) **ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL & SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM**

- Students are expected to attend school every day unless they are ill or schools are closed.
- Students must be on time. Late students must report to the office for a late slip.
- If absences are extended or frequent, a doctor's certificate may be required.
- Students must bring a note from home if they need to leave school early.
- Parents, please phone by 8:30 a.m., to let us know that your child will be absent or late.
- Our secretaries phone the homes of all absent students if we do not know

why they have not arrived. The purpose is to ensure that students, whose absence has not been confirmed by their parents, are not lost or abducted.

b) **STUDENT SUPERVISION**

Student supervision begins at 8:15 a.m., or earlier if students are participating in morning sports or arts practices. Please time your child's arrival so that he/she does not arrive prior to 8:15 a.m. Students arriving before that time will not be supervised. Students line up by the outside door of their classroom to enter the school when the first bell rings. Students are supervised until 3:00 p.m. (11:45 a.m. on Wednesdays), or later, if work needs to be completed, or games or practices are scheduled.

Adult "Supervisor Assistants" supervise students during the lunch hour. Activities supervised by teachers are also available at various times throughout the year.

c) **FIELD TRIPS**

All students require a signed permission form from their parents in order to take part in any field trip. Siblings may not accompany supervising parents on such field trips because of safety and insurance concerns. All volunteers need to go through the process of a criminal record check. The forms are available at the school office.

d) **ILLNESS OR INJURY**

If a student becomes ill or injured while at school, parents are contacted and asked to take the child home. If parents cannot be reached at home or at work, the school will contact the person designated as your emergency contact. Children will not be allowed to go home unless they have signed out at the office and the parent or emergency contact has given the child permission to leave the school. In case of an injury requiring medical attention other than first aid, the parents or the emergency contact will be called immediately.

If the parents or the emergency contact are not available, the child will be transported to the hospital and the family physician will be contacted. We will keep trying to contact the parents.

e) **STUDENT PLANNERS**

All grade 2-7 students are required to purchase student planners from the school. These planners help students learn to organize their time, to keep track of due dates for projects and tests, and to keep track of required homework. These planners can serve as daily or weekly home-school communication between parents and teachers concerning specific student goals - academic or behavioural. Parents are asked to sign their child's planner every night. Primary students (Grades K-1) will be using clipboard folders. Both of these items can be purchased through the school.

f) **LICE**

Head lice are tiny insects. They are difficult to see, but their eggs, or "nits", are found glued to the hair. Nits are different from dandruff as dandruff is easily removed while nits have to be pulled along the hair shaft. Head lice are spread by direct contact with an infested person, or indirectly by contact with their personal belongings like combs, hats, hair bands, clothing and towels.

Public Health Nurses are no longer available to check for lice in schools. To make

sure that this nuisance does not spread, parent volunteers come to our school near the beginning of each month to check kids' heads. If they find lice or nits, parents are contacted and letters go home with all children in that class warning parents that a case has been found. Parents of children with head lice must carry out an insecticide program (Kwelada shampoo) and must keep the children at home until all nits are removed from the hair. Call the Health Unit at 604-814-5500 for additional information.

6. **ÉCOLE CHRISTINE MORRISON SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT & S.T.A.R. BEHAVIOUR**

Our school's code of conduct is designed as a tool to help students make socially responsible decisions in a variety of situations. This code was developed by staff and senior students. The program is reviewed and refined annually by staff and parents as part of our annual cycle of reviewing school goals.

S.T.A.R. Behaviour

S – Be Safe

T – Be Trustworthy

A – Be Accountable

R – Be Respectful

Our expectation is that all people in the building (students, staff, and visitors) apply the code at all times.

STAR matrix posters are displayed throughout the school, in French and English, showing in chart format the expected specific behaviours for each word in the various school settings (school/playground, hallway, washroom, assembly, concession). The entrance foyer has a large mural depicting the five key words in a star shaped pattern.

Students are taught the STAR matrix in class at the beginning of each school year. Senior students make daily announcements on the PA system, including a different daily focus on STAR behaviour. Students receive positive recognition slips from teachers and supervisors to acknowledge appropriate behaviour. For misbehaviours, a citation slip categorizes common misbehaviours according to the STAR categories. Teachers and administrators use the STAR matrix poster to discuss behaviour, consequences, and goals for improvement with individual students as needed.

7. STAR BEHAVIOUR MATRIX

	S.	T.	A.	R.
	Safe	Trustworthy	Accountable	Respectful
All Settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ keep hands and feet to yourself ~ keep doorways clear ~ enter and exit in an orderly way 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ be honest ~ give your best effort 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ make good choices ~ dress appropriately ~ use garbage cans and recycle bins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ be kind and polite ~ use appropriate language ~ respect each others differences
School/ Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ play safely ~ stay in bounds ~ use equipment properly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ play fairly ~ wait your tum ~ speak positively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ problem solve ~ know when to get help ~ report unsafe behaviour and bullying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ be a good sport ~ follow supervisors' directions ~ put garbage in cans
Hallways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ walk on right ~ look where you are going 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ keep hands and feet to yourself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ walk quietly ~ hands off walls and displays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ walk quietly ~ say "excuse me"
Washrooms Change rooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ flush toilet ~ wash your hands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ clean up after yourself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ report vandalism and bullying ~ keep feet on floor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ use appropriate language ~ respect the privacy of others
Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ enter and exit in an orderly way ~ keep hands and feet to yourself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ applaud appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ sit and listen without talking ~ sit properly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ sing "O Canada" appropriately ~ look at speaker
Concession	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ line up properly ~ keep hands and feet to yourself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ listen to concession leaders ~ wait your tum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ make healthy food choices ~ follow leaders' instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ say "please" and "thank you" to concession ~ use inside voice

8. CODE OF CONDUCT: SPECIFIC EXPECTATIONS

In accordance with the STAR code, and our district code of conduct, the following specific expectations apply:

a) **School Dress Code**

Our school dress code is intended to reduce unnecessary distraction, and to support a safe respectful learning environment, while still allowing students freedom of choice and individual expression.

All hats, jackets, coats and boots must be removed in the classroom. Students are expected to come to school dressed in a manner appropriate for the environment. This includes an appropriate neckline, skirt-line, and short length. Beachwear, spaghetti straps and clothing with offensive slogans or graphics, (including those which promote alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs) are not acceptable. All students must have a pair of indoor running shoes. Indoor shoes are required in order to maintain a clean learning environment, and running shoes are needed for appropriate support and safety in Daily Physical Activity and for P.E.

Students who do not meet the dress code appropriate for the school environment will be asked to change into appropriate clothing. “Modesty” shirts are available at school, as a temporary solution for students who do not have appropriate clothing available. Students who do not have appropriate safe running shoes may be required to sit out gym and daily physical activity programs.

b) **Weapons (Real and Toy)**

In accordance with our School District code of conduct, no weapons, real or toy, are permitted at school. Laser pointers are considered in this class, due to the potential for serious eye damage.

c) **Electronic Devices (Including Cell Phones)**

Electronic devices such as portable electronic games (Game Boy), Walkmans or Discmans, cell phones, MP3s, and personal digital assistants are not permitted in school. In the event that a student ignores this policy, the item will be confiscated and parents will be notified.

Students are discouraged from bringing cell phones to school, unless parents feel it is absolutely necessary for communication and/or safety. Students may not use cell phones on school property during school hours. Cell phones are to be turned off and kept out of sight, in back packs, (for valid “emergencies” during school hours, students are permitted to use the office telephone.) Parents need to complete a cell phone permission form if they wish to have their children bring a cell phone to school.

d) **Toys**

Students are not to bring roller blades, skateboards, bats, hockey sticks or toboggans to school. Students who chose to bring toys to school are expected to assume responsibility for their toys (expensive or special toys should be left at home.)

e) **Attendance**

Students are expected to arrive on time and to attend school every day, unless they are legitimately ill. Student attendance patterns are reviewed monthly by the school's administration. If a student's attendance pattern becomes concerning, the school's administration will bring that to the attention of the student and the family, in order to assist with improving the student's attendance pattern.

f) **Recess and Lunch**

- Students are to eat lunch in a courteous appropriate way, at their own desk, from 11:45 to 12:00 pm. Games, musical instruments, etc., should be left alone during this period. Students are expected to remain at their desk until they are dismissed by a supervisor.
- All students are to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. If a student exhibits unacceptable behaviour, parents may be asked to make other arrangements for lunch hour.
- Outdoor lunch hour - all students are expected to be outside by 12:00 pm. All students are expected to go outdoors at recess and lunch on outdoor days.
- At recess, students will be provided with enough time to unwrap snacks in class so that litter can be placed in classroom garbage cans.
- During outdoor recess and lunch, students use central washrooms by obtaining a pass from a monitor at the outside door near room #124.
- IN DAYS will be announced on the P.A. Appropriate indoor behaviour is expected. Students may leave the room only to use washrooms. Students are expected to stay in their rooms for quiet activities. Students should not be wandering aimlessly around the room or loitering near doorways.

g) **Student Movement**

Students use of the front door of the school is restricted to emergencies, late arrivals, and early arrivals for practices in the gym. When attending early practices in the gym, students are to wait quietly outside the front door of the school until the supervising teacher lets them in. Students may not go to classrooms at this time.

- When dismissed, students must exit through their outside classroom doors. Students picking up younger siblings are asked to meet them outside their classroom door.
- When attending after school practices in the gym, students should take all homework and other belongings with them. If the coach is not in the gym, students are to sit quietly on a gym bench near the entrance doors.
- Students are expected to walk in the hallways in a safe and quiet orderly manner, keeping their hands off the walls, door jambs, and other students.
- Students are expected to line up quietly outside their classroom doors at bell times.

h) **Washroom**

Only one student out of a class at a time, using a sign-out book. No pencils or pens, food, or other objects to be taken to the washroom.

i) **Gum**

Gum is not allowed at school.

j) **Telephone**

Students must obtain a phone pass from a teacher before using the office telephone, for emergencies only. Students are expected to make personal arrangements (rides, permission to visit friends, etc.) before school; not at school.

k) **Consequences for Inappropriate Behaviour**

When students display inappropriate behaviour, staff will respond in a manner that is appropriate to the particular student and behaviour. The range of consequences includes verbal warnings, thinking papers, written citations, loss of privileges, and suspension. Consequences for wearing hats in school or inappropriate use of toys or other personal possessions may involve confiscation of the item for a period of time ranging from one day to the remainder of the school year.

9. **POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR ENCOURAGEMENT AND RECOGNITION**

Positive behavior is encouraged in the following ways:

- Buddy classes: older students provide guidance and show positive role modeling to younger students
- Peer counseling: older students are trained to help other students solve problems
- Student leadership opportunities: students provide service to the school, for example, helping in the concession, office monitors, primary classroom monitors, crossing guards
- Stand By Me program: students are taught appropriate ways to respond to negative behavior
- Classroom meetings: students learn and practice attentive listening and respectful problem solving
- STAR behavior matrix lessons are taught and assessed in classes

Positive behavior is recognized in a number of ways, depending on the situation and the child:

- Verbal compliment by a staff member
- Note to student
- Note to parent in planner
- STAR recognition slip, displayed on hall bulletin board, and entered in monthly STAR behavior draw at assembly
- Extra Recess once a month for all students with no citations in the previous month

10. **ÉCOLE CHRISTINE MORRISON STUDENT WORK EXPECTATIONS**

At Ecole Christine Morrison we encourage and support all of our students to work to their potential (the best of their ability) by completing class work and homework with pride on a regular basis. Good work habits and attendance are keys to student achievement and we believe in working together with parents and students to ensure success at school.

a) **Standards of Work**

Specific standards for student work are outlined in more detail at the classroom level, however, the following school wide guidelines apply:

- Work done is complete and reflects student effort.
- Notes are well-organized and useful as a reference.
- A minimum of waste of both time and materials is indicated.

- Same format for beginning work, with emphasis on organization and consistency, i.e. name, date, page number.
- Use of separate books for separate subjects.
- Clear, neat labelling of books. (Absolutely no doodling, stickers, etc., on notebooks.)
- Neat, careful writing, printing, drawing, colouring, etc.
- Pages filled, both sides used, assignments separated.
- Crossing out done with one line, bracketed.
- Appropriate use of pen or pencil, handwriting, printing, as per teacher's instructions.

b) **Homework**

Research shows a strong link between regular completion of homework and achievement. The concept of homework is introduced at the primary level in the form of spelling, home reading, math facts, and other assignments. The amount of time required for homework increases as students progress through the grades. Typically, an intermediate student can be expected to receive homework every day, with some variation in time required due to amount of effort spent in class, long term assignments, etc.

Students are responsible for ensuring that they understand homework assignments before leaving school, and for remembering required books and supplies. If students are absent they are responsible for catching up on missed assignments. Clipboards (grades K-2) and planners (grades 3-7) are required for students to record homework and to facilitate home-school communication. Students are expected to use these items regularly and appropriately.

Daily: Parent signature is requested by the teacher to indicate that the parent has viewed and is aware of their son/daughter's homework.

c) **Classroom Supplies**

Students are expected to have all supplies listed on the supply list. Students are encouraged to take good care of supplies and to replace items which are broken, worn out, or lost. All intermediate students are expected to have a gym strip and indoor shoes.



d) **Consequences for Failing to Complete Assigned Work**

Students who fail to complete homework or classroom assignments can expect a consequence. Some typical consequences are:

- staying in at lunch or after school to complete homework.
- contacting parents.
- lower grades.
- parent/student/teacher conference to develop a plan for improvement.
- referral to the office..
- I Reports (a special report to parents indicating that a student may be about to receive a failing grade in a particular subject unless the student completes specific assignments within a specific timeline, as outlined in the I Report.)
- failing grades.

e) **Consequences for Completing Assigned Work**

Students who consistently complete homework and classroom assignments to the best of their abilities can expect certain consequences:

- sense of personal satisfaction of having done a job well
- positive self esteem

- positive recognition from teachers (compliments, comments, student of the month certificates)
- positive comments and grades on report cards
- most importantly, these students can expect to show good growth in learning and achievement

11. **PARENTS AS PARTNERS**

a) **COMMUNICATION/PROTOCOL FOR PARENT CONCERNS/INQUIRIES**

Communication between home and school is continuous both through formal newsletters, bulletins, school and classroom notices, and many information contacts. If you have a concern (and no concern is too trivial), do not wait, contact the school immediately. Come in person and resolve the concern.

The teachers and administrators at École Christine Morrison School work within a developing framework of reasonable expectations which has been established for the safety and well-being of all. We share the hope and concern of all parents that we provide the best educational experience possible for each child.

Should a concern arise, please observe the following guidelines in seeking its resolution:

- I. contact your child's teacher.
- II. contact an Administrator should further assistance be required.
- III. on the rare occasions when resolution cannot be reached at the school level, contact the School Board Office.

b) **PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)**

The École Christine Morrison Advisory Council performs a wide variety of functions for the benefit of our students. The council also provides a forum for communication between the home and the school so that parents and educators work as partners in the education of our students. All parents and guardians of children attending École Christine Morrison are members of the council.

General membership meetings are usually held once a month. Read the calendar and school newsletters for the dates. These monthly meetings provide a forum for discussion of educational policies and issues, programs and school events; an opportunity to hear items and presentations of interest; and, a time and place to meet with other parents who share common goals.

The Executive PAC members meet one additional time each month. This hard-working and enthusiastic group is responsible for many of the "funtastic" activities we have enjoyed in our school history, e.g. craft fair, winter carnival, hot lunches, and much, much more! Please consider joining our PAC.

c) **SCHOOL PLANNING COUNCIL (SPC)**

The School Planning Council is an advisory body. The major responsibility of School Planning Councils is to consult with the school community in developing, monitoring, and reviewing school plans for improving student achievement. For more information, contact École Christine Morrison's P.A.C. or the principal.

d) **VOLUNTEER WORK**

Your participation at school as a volunteer means enriched learning experiences for children, and usually, increased student motivation! All parent volunteers must complete a Criminal Record check before assisting a child in any capacity. Here are just some of the ways parents can help:

- read stories to students
- hear students read
- play instructional games with students
- provide drills in various skills for individual students
- assist the teacher in a variety of ways within the classroom
- support and assist our crosswalk students/Walking School Bus Program
- be a "guest speaker" about your area of interest or expertise
- be a lice checker
- be a Block Parent
- assist on special lunch days
- be part of our Parent Advisory Council Executive
- help supervise field trips
- demonstrate your favourite crafts to classes
- assist in a variety of ways as the needs arise

All parent volunteers at school and in the classrooms must keep all school information, and all matters dealing with student information or school personnel, strictly confidential.

e) **HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM A PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE**

When parents and teachers work together, they make an unbeatable team. Parent conferences can help build teamwork that helps students learn better. Some planning by parents can help make conferences a success.

- (1) Think about what you want to learn in the conference. Prepare some questions. For example:
 - I. How is my child doing in class?
 - II. Does my child use his/her time well?
 - III. Does he/she have good work habits?
 - IV. Does my child usually turn in homework?
 - V. Does he/she have missed assignments?
 - VI. Does my child have friends?
 - VII. How well does he/she get along with others?
 - VIII. What can I do at home to support what the teacher is doing?
- (2) Talk with your child. Ask what he/she thinks the teacher will say. Ask if he/she has any concerns, and talk about likes, dislikes, problems and successes.
- (3) Ask the teacher to explain anything you do not understand. Special programs and services for students are sometimes referred to by their initials. For example, "LAC" means "Learning Assistance Centre."
- (4) Be prepared to talk and listen. Tell the teacher what you see at home. Talk



about your child's interests. Tactfully talk about any concerns. Be sure to let the teacher know about anything that might affect your child's learning.

- (5) Follow up. Stay in touch with the teacher. If you think of a question you didn't ask, write a note.

f) **HOMEWORK: HOW PARENTS CAN SUPPORT**

Parents can take an active role in helping their children to be successful in school by assisting in the development of good study habits. Some suggestions for supportive actions by parents:

- Ensure a quiet area, free from distractions and equipped with a desk or table is available to the student.
- Be aware of "normal" requirements for homework – if unsure, contact the school.
- In consultation with student, establish a regular time for homework that fits into the family routine.
- Review with student the completed work. Remember, your role is supporter, not critic.
- Encourage "success" - doing the best you can".
- Sign your child's planner to indicate completion of homework and awareness of the assigned classroom work.

Home Reading

Independent silent reading is one of the most important activities for the reading development of students of all ages. Children who read a lot become better readers because independent reading:

- enhances their reading comprehension
- provides them with a wide range of background knowledge
- accounts for one third or more of their vocabulary growth
- promotes reading as a lifelong activity



One of the best methods of encouraging children to read at home is to have parents model reading at home. If children see adults reading, they recognize the importance of reading. They will also learn that reading is a source of information, entertainment, and enjoyment. Children of all ages love to have a story read to them.

We encourage students to read daily and to view reading as an enjoyable activity. We encourage parents to read to (or with) their children daily for at least 15 minutes.



École Christine Morrison Elementary

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CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

September, 2009

Dear Parents,

This is a reminder of school policy about cell phones and electronic devices. Electronic devices such as mp3 players, i-pods and portable gaming systems are not permitted at school. These items are often expensive, can be easily lost or stolen, can cause distraction and disruption in classrooms and can be used to share inappropriate material. If students choose to bring these items to school, the items will be confiscated, and parents will need to contact school administration to discuss arrangements for collecting the items.

We strongly discourage students from bringing cell phones to school, for the same reasons that other small electronic devices are not allowed. We do understand that there may be some parents who wish to have their children bring a cell phone for safety and/or communication before and after school. All telephone communication during the school day should be through the school office. As you are aware a phone is available for student use, with a teacher's permission.

Please complete the attached form if you wish to have your child bring a cell phone to school.

I require my child, _____, Division: _____ to carry a cell phone to and from school, for safety/communications requirements before and after school.

- I understand that there is a risk that the cell phone may go missing and that the school will not take responsibility for missing, lost, or stolen cell phones.
 - I also understand that my child is not permitted to use the cell phone on school property, before, during, and after school.
 - I understand that if my child chooses not to follow these guidelines, the cell phone will be confiscated.
-
- My child will be handing in the phone to the office each morning, and collecting it after school each day. (We recommend this as the most secure method of storage of cell phones at school.)
 - My child will keep the cell phone in his/her backpack, turned off, during the school day.

Parent Signature

Telephone Number