



École Christine Morrison Elementary

32611 McRae Avenue, Mission, BC V2V 2L8 P: 604.826.6528 F: 604.826.9175



April 2022 – Newsletter



Morrison Message

Hi Everyone,

May is almost here and the end of the school is approaching quickly! For the next two months, there are many events as outlined in the dates listed in this newsletter, so the months will zip by. For our upcoming assemblies we can invite our ECME Families to watch. Our next assembly is April 29th.

This month, our student leaders helped celebrate multiple cultural celebrations such as Vaisakhi, Ramadan, and Easter. Our school took part in Bhangra dancing, Henna art lessons, and a school wide Easter egg hunt. Thank you to our PAC and community sponsors for their kind donations in helping to bring these opportunities to our school community.

Our grade 4-6 students have also started practicing for the upcoming track and field meets. The students are learning a lot and we look forward to a successful finish.

Our Grade 6 students are preparing to transition to Middle School next year. They will visit Heritage Middle School on Thursday, June 23rd as part of their transition plan. Also, the Grade 6 Leaving Ceremony is being held on Friday, June 24th. An information meeting was held online but more information to follow.

As health restrictions change, we continue to monitor and adjust. As a school community we still ask families make the final call if they feel their child is not well to come to school. As we wrap up this school year, we want to keep the safety and wellbeing of our entire school community in mind.

If you are planning to move or change programs at Ecole Christine Morrison for next year, please contact the office to let us know as soon as possible. Planning is well underway for next year.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Thank you,

Upcoming Events

- 29 Apr - Backwards Day
- 29 Apr - Monthly Assembly
- 10 - 12 May - I ride (gr 5 & 6)
- 13 May - Welcome to Kindergarten
- 16 - 26 May - Pride Week (different activity each day)
- 16 May - Interim report cards
- 18 May - Indigenous student award
- 19 May - Jump Rope for Heart
- 20 May - Non instructional day
- 23 May - Victoria Day, no school
- 25 May - Final Run
- 26 May - Rainbow Day
- 27 May - Monthly SOM Assembly
- 7 Jun - School wide field trip (Fraser Valley Bandits)
- 17 Jun - Super hero day
- 17 Jun - Final monthly stars assembly
- 21 Jun - National Indigenous Peoples' Day
- 22 Jun - Intermediate sports day
- 23 Jun - Gr 6 visit to Heritage Park Middle
- 23 Jun - Primary sports day
- 24 Jun - Royal blue day
- 24 Jun - Gr 6 leaving ceremony
- 27 Jun - Gr 6 Cultus Lake Water Slides
- 29 Jun - Dance Extravaganza
- 29 Jun - Last day for students
- 29 Jun - Report cards go home
- 30 Jun - Administration Day

No School -

- 20 May - Non instructional day.
- 23 May - Victoria Day, no school.



École Christine Morrison Elementary

32611 McRae Avenue, Mission, BC V2V 2L8 P: 604.826.6528 F: 604.826.9175

Photos

Pictures from our cultural celebrations!



Our students got to experience food, dance and art from other cultures during our cultural celebrations! Huge thanks to Banda Singh Badhur Sikh Temple in Abbotsford for providing our entire school with mouthwatering food, and Abby Arts Academy – instructor Arsh Kaler, for providing our children with a fun lesson in Bhangra dance!



**Judy Cathers
taking Indigenous
students to
Riverside College
to get a tour and a
hair salon
appointment!**

**Salish Art
created by
our
students**





École Christine Morrison Elementary

32611 McRae Avenue, Mission, BC V2V 2L8 P: 604.826.6528 F: 604.826.9175

Daily Reading

Please continue to read with your child(ren) at home for a minimum of 20 minutes a day and chat with them about what they read. Daily reading has a very powerful impact upon your child's learning from strengthening their creativity to increasing their vocabulary and it is a wonderful chance to have a chat and engage in a discussion about their day. Please remember that if your child is struggling with concepts, continue to encourage them and emphasize that everyone has areas that they need to work hard in and perseverance will make all the difference.

Special Requests & Reminders!

Our Concession Is OPEN

We are very happy to announce that our concession is open. You can now send small bills and/or change with your child to purchase snacks at lunch. There are extra lunch items from hot lunch that can also be purchased daily.

Parking

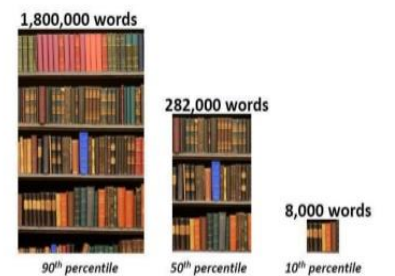
We would like to remind everyone to please abide by the rules in our parking lot and please be kind to one another. Remember, when we break the rules, we are making it unsafe for everyone.

- Please do not park in yellow emergency zones.
- Please do not park behind other parked cars.



Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A" reads 20 minutes each day	Student "B" reads 5 minutes each day	Student "C" reads 1 minute each day
3600 minutes in a school year	900 minutes in a school year	180 minutes in a school year



By the end of 6th grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

REMINDER



Please remember that as per district policy, dogs are not allowed on school grounds. Please leave your dogs at home during school drop off and pick up times.

Student Pick Up

In the event that you need to send someone new to pick your child up, it is necessary that you inform the teacher and also have that pick up person added to your emergency contact list by the office. We cannot release your child to a person who is not on that list.



École Christine Morrison Elementary

32611 McRae Avenue, Mission, BC V2V 2L8 P: 604.826.6528 F: 604.826.9175

News from our Indigenous Dept!



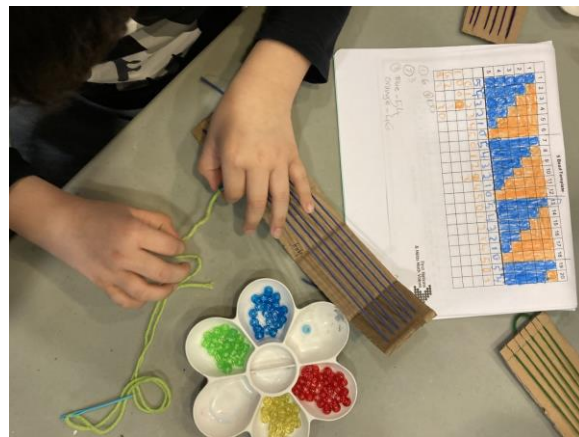
Students from Div. 9 had an opportunity to learn about Starblankets and then create their own using paper. With the loss of buffalo, First Nations women began to make Starblankets (Northern star) for honourings and ceremonies. When we see the Northern Star (morning) it reminds us that we have another day to walk on this Earth in a good way.



Students from Div. 10 were able to create an art project inspired by Metis Artist and Author, Leah Dorion's book called "Relatives with Roots."



Students in Div. 4 and Div. 5 were able to learn about the connection of beading and math.





École Christine Morrison Elementary


32611 McRae Avenue, Mission, BC V2V 2L8 P: 604.826.6528 F: 604.826.9175

Kindergarten Registration



Kindergarten Registration is ongoing. Go to www.mpsd.ca click on School & Programs, Register for School, scroll down and click on Registration Package. If you don't have access to a printer, please phone the school and arrange a time to come by to pick up your registration forms.











Why Choose French Immersion for Your Child?

**K/Grade 1
Enrolment
2022/2023**

Information Sessions
In person - Ecole Mission Central
Wednesday, Dec. 1 6:00-7:00pm
Virtual: Thursday, Dec. 9 6:00-7:00pm

Contact the District's French Programs Coordinator Shauna Néro for more information shauna.nero@mpsdc.ca

	<p>Learn Canada's official languages at school</p> <p>Become global citizens; be a part of the Francophone world</p>		<p>Be a part of an inclusive program that provides elementary LST support in French</p>
	<p>Be immersed in culture; participate in cultural activities</p> <p>Become a part of a local community of French learners</p>		<p>Have an advantage on the job market and bilingual professional opportunities</p>
	<p>Bilingualism/plurilingualism helps the brain process information more efficiently</p> <p>Associated with better memory, visual-spatial skills and creativity</p> <p>Staves off cognitive decline later in life</p>		<p>Receive DELF certification</p> <p>Graduate with a double dogwood bilingual diploma</p>

? Common Questions ?

DO I HAVE TO SPEAK FRENCH?

FRENCH IMMERSION IS DESIGNED FOR STUDENTS WHO DO NOT SPEAK FRENCH AT HOME

WHAT SUBJECTS WILL MY CHILD LEARN IN FRENCH?

100% INSTRUCTION IN FRENCH UNTIL GRADE 3*. THE PROGRAM RUNS FROM GRADES K-12

WHEN CAN MY CHILD ENTER FRENCH IMMERSION?

STUDENTS CAN ENROL IN KINDERGARTEN OR GRADE 1 IN MISSION

*SOME SPECIALTY COURSES MAY BE TAUGHT IN ENGLISH



École Christine Morrison Elementary

32611 McRae Avenue, Mission, BC V2V 2L8 P: 604.826.6528 F: 604.826.9175

Y.E.S.
International
Academy

BECOME A HOMESTAY FAMILY



Share your love of Mission!

Y.E.S. INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY IS A PRIVATE EDUCATION GROUP PARTNERED WITH THE MISSION SCHOOL DISTRICT 75 SINCE 2002.

IN PREPARATION FOR FEBRUARY 2022, AND IN ANTICIPATION THAT POLICIES AND PROTOCOLS FOR SAFE TRAVEL WILL ALLOW STUDENTS TO STUDY HERE, WE ARE SEEKING MISSION SCHOOL DISTRICT 75 HOMESTAY FAMILIES TO HOST OUR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS.

Y.E.S. INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM PROVIDES:

- \$900 MONTHLY COMPENSATION PER STUDENT; (FROM NEXT JULY WILL BE \$950)
- AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM
- WEEKEND ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS
- TRAINING AND ONGOING SUPPORT FROM Y.E.S. PROGRAM STAFF
- EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE

HOMESTAY FAMILIES PROVIDE:

- A WELCOMING HOME;
- A FAMILY CONNECTION;
- PARENTAL SUPERVISION;
- A PRIVATE BEDROOM;
- GOOD WI-FI CONNECTION; AND
- THREE HEALTHY MEALS

CONTACT US

604 826 8737
yesacademy75@gmail.com
Mon-Fri
11:00am - 7:00pm



École Christine Morrison Elementary

32611 McRae Avenue, Mission, BC V2V 2L8 P: 604.826.6528 F: 604.826.9175

Community News !

Community Resources

Click [here](#) for a great list of our community resources, including:

- Free and low-cost food directory
- Family Support Agencies/Resources
- Mental Health & Wellness
- Parent Peer Support
- Financial Support
- Online Activities for kids



Adapted Swim Lessons

NEW!

Red Cross Swim Adapted is for swimmers with disabilities, and uses the progressions provided by the Red Cross Swim Preschool and Kids programs. The performance criteria for each level has been broken down into more manageable steps, and class sizes are smaller than traditional swim lessons in order to make the success of each swimmer more achievable and create a positive learning environment.

For more information view mission.ca/aquatics

Royal Soccer Club

With schools getting back to normal, we're excited about the opportunity to host our day camps again this summer. We're planning to host our 30th annual summer day camps to Mission and surrounding area residents again this summer and so we were hoping for your assistance in sharing our program material (see attached poster/brochure pdf) with the students and families of your school community.

The Royal Soccer Club (NPO#S-0056504) is a registered, non-profit organization that has been hosting summer day camps for 30 years. Our camps not only promote a healthy and active lifestyle but we also promote and teach personal development, team building, leadership and other life skills. Our program encourages inclusivity for all children aged 5 to 13 (kindergarten to Grade 8).



kids and teens spring 2022



Fraser Valley Regional Library

Geohazards for Kids with Statlu Environmental

Friday, Apr 22, 10:30 am–11:30 am

Grades 4–7

Join us for this special Earth Day presentation! FVRL is excited to welcome Eryne and Ryan from Statlu Environmental Consulting.

Geohazards For Kids will explore three themes related to geohazards. Eryne and Ryan will start by explaining what geohazards are. Then, they'll discuss climate, weather and climate change. Finally, they'll synthesize your new information with a discussion on the November 15 and 16, 2021, atmospheric rivers we experienced. This is an exciting opportunity to engage your students with science and current events, and to learn about the real-life activities of both men and women working in STEAM fields in their own communities.

Eryne Croquet works as a Professional Geoscientist for Statlu Environment Consulting in Chilliwack. She works on projects, such as landslide investigation, terrain analysis and terrain stability hazard assessment, with a team of geoscientists. She uses her love of being outdoors to her advantage when doing field work in the diverse landscapes of British Columbia. Eryne's goal is to commute to the office using her e-bike as often as she can.

Ryan Kremsater specializes in understanding soils and rocks surrendering to the will of gravity. He uses his knowledge of geology, geomorphology, rock mechanics and soil mechanics to study unstable slopes in British Columbia. He is always excited to learn new skills and brings a lot of energy to his work. Outside of work, Ryan spends his time mountain unicycling, skiing, hiking, and exploring with his camera, often pausing to inspect interesting rocks and landscapes. If you would like to register your class for one of these presentations, please respond to your local FVRL contact or email Events Specialist Dylan Schroeder directly at

dschroeder@fvrl.bc.ca.



École Christine Morrison Elementary

32611 McRae Avenue, Mission, BC V2V 2L8 P: 604.826.6528 F: 604.826.9175

Kid Activists: Find your Voice, Change the World

Wednesday, June 8, 10 am–11 am

Grades 3–7

Drawing on the book *Kid Activists: True Tales of Childhood from Champions of Change*, this presentation focuses on activism. Robin shares art from the book, quotes from activists, and stories that emphasize themes from the book. She will talk about how activists experienced or witnessed injustice, how they learned from role models in their lives and how their work was fuelled by a vision of a better future. Robin will emphasize the importance of activism being grounded in hope and in the belief that change is possible and worth fighting for — and the idea that there are many different ways to be an activist. She will talk about her writing process, discuss how writing itself can be a form of activism and encourage kids to think about what issues they care about and how they might use their own voices to take action on those issues.



The History and Future of Pride

Friday, June 3, 10 am–11 am

Grades 6–12

FVRL is excited to welcome author Robin Stevenson for a virtual Pride Month program! For LGBTQ+ people and their supporters, Pride events are an opportunity to honour the past, protest injustice and celebrate a diverse community. The high point of Pride, the Pride Parade, is spectacular and colourful. But there is a lot more to Pride than rainbow flags and amazing outfits. How did Pride come to be? And what does Pride mean to the people who celebrate it? In this engaging and interactive presentation, Robin talks about the history of the LGBTQ+ movement, the challenges still faced by LGBTQ+ people and communities today, and the important work being done by activists to carry Pride forward into the future. Using images and anecdotes from the book, Robin shares historical photographs, stories of contemporary teens and pictures from Pride celebrations around the world. Robin Stevenson is the award-winning author of 30 books of fiction and non-fiction for kids and teens. Her writing has been translated into numerous languages and published in more than a dozen countries. Robin's books have won the Silver Birch Award, the Sheila A. Egoff Award and a Stonewall Honor, and have been finalists for the Governor General's Literary Awards, the Lambda Literary Awards and many others. She is the Book and Periodical Council of Canada's Champion of Free Expression for 2022. If you would like to register your class for one of these presentations, please respond to your local FVRL contact or email Events Specialist Dylan Schroeder directly at dschroeder@fvrl.bc.ca.



Black Bear Encounters

How to prevent conflicts with bears

To avoid habituating the bears in your area, follow these steps.

Make trash cans inaccessible. Bring them inside at night or buy a bear-resistant trash can or an enclosure for the container.

Enclose your compost pile. Open compost piles, especially those that include kitchen scraps, are an irresistible treat in bear country. Burying compost won't work because bears will easily find and dig it up.

Recycle wisely. If you store recyclables outside, use enclosed bins. (Persistent bears will break into even ruggedly built bins.)

Keep your barbecue grill clean and as free of drippings as possible. Move the grill away from your house when you aren't using it, and clean it regularly with ammonia or bleach.

Rethink your bird feeders. In the summer, birds can make do with naturally available foods. If you do set up feeders, install them away from your house.

Communities experiencing bear problems can take steps such as fining people who knowingly or unknowingly feed bears, requiring bear-resistant trash cans, distributing educational flyers and training police and animal control officers in aversive conditioning techniques that use rubber bullets, fireworks and pepper spray.

Biologist Stephen Herrero: "There's no question that it's possible for people and bears to coexist without serious problems if we're willing to manage our food and garbage."

What to do if you encounter a black bear

If you see a black bear in your yard, don't fear the worst. A youngster may simply be passing through in search of a home of his own. Or an adult may be checking out an enticing smell or interesting sound. Usually when he finds out there are people around, he'll head for the hills, never to be seen again.

If you do encounter a bear, remain calm and remember that the bear is likely more scared of you than you are of him.

Attacks by black bears on people are very rare and most black bears can be easily scared away with the following approach:

- Stand and face the bear directly. Never run away from or approach him.
- Make yourself look as big as possible by spreading your arms or, better yet, a coat.
- Make as much noise as possible by yelling, banging pots and pans or using other noisemaking devices.
- If the bear approaches and you have bear spray, spray the bear as he approaches.
- In the very rare case that a black bear does attack you, fight back (don't play dead).
- After the bear leaves, remove whatever attracted him to the location (barbecue grill, bird feeder, pet food or garbage).

Please be aware of your surroundings and keep your eyes on your path and your mind on your task.

Have a safe day!



École Christine Morrison Elementary

32611 McRae Avenue, Mission, BC V2V 2L8 P: 604.826.6528 F: 604.826.9175

Preventing conflicts with black bears



PHOTO BY ANTON SOROKIN/JALAMY STOCK PHOTO

HOW BLACK BEARS CAN LOSE THEIR FEAR OF HUMANS

Bears have acute eyesight and hearing. Their sense of smell is seven times greater than a bloodhound's. They have a keen ability to detect pet food, garbage, barbecue grills and bird feeders—and once they locate a food source, they remember where it is.

Bears are normally wary of people, but if a bear is rewarded with easy access to food near human dwellings, he may come back for more. Each time this happens, he can become more tolerant of human presence—and this food-conditioning can lead to problematic behavior.

Bears who become tolerant of human activity and seek food rewards near human dwellings are often labeled as “nuisance bears.” These are most often subadult males—young bears who have just dispersed from their mothers and are still learning how to obtain food—and mothers with young cubs.

PREVENTING CONFLICTS WITH BLACK BEARS

- **Make trash, recycling and compost inaccessible to bears.** The biggest food attractant and source of problem bear behavior is caused by not properly securing garbage. Bring trash and cans inside at night, use bear resistant enclosures or better still, use bear resistant trash containers like the wide range of bear-resistant models certified by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee. (IGCOnline.org)
- **Manage your compost.** At a minimum, keep compost as odor-free as possible by constantly turning it and using lime and dry grass clippings to hasten decomposition. Never introduce meat, fish, oil, grease or dairy products into compost.
- **Rethink your bird feeders.** If bears are part of the community that you live in avoid putting out bird feeders from April 1 to November 30. If you do install feeders, install them away from your house and hang feeders from a thick cable out of reach of bears, at least 11 feet off the ground. Wrap metal flashing around tree trunks to prevent bears from climbing up to access the cable. Switch to sunflower hearts (instead of whole seeds) and avoid seed mixes with millet. Be prepared to remove the feeders if they become a source of bear attraction.

BENEFITS OF BLACK BEARS

People value bears for their considerable ecological and aesthetic purposes; they are one of the most photographed and watched animals across the continent. Black bears are important in maintaining the ecological systems in their forests:

- They disperse seeds across vast distances—even more seeds than birds.
- Bears open up forest canopies that allows sun to filter to the forest floor, which creates greater biological diversity.
- Bears break logs while grubbing, which helps the decomposition process and facilitates the return of nutrients to the soil.



PHOTO BY DON JOHNSTON/JALAMY STOCK PHOTO



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES



École Christine Morrison Elementary

32611 McRae Avenue, Mission, BC V2V 2L8 P: 604.826.6528 F: 604.826.9175

The bike club has started with Mr. Huffman, students in grade 5/6 are enjoying riding their bikes to school and their rides at Heritage Park Middle School. Great to see all the energy.

