

February 5, 2021| Issue 5

Linda Hamel, Principal | 33621 Best Avenue, Mission, BC V2V 5Z3 | Tel 604-826-4187 | Fax 604-820-48980| hillside.mpsd.ca

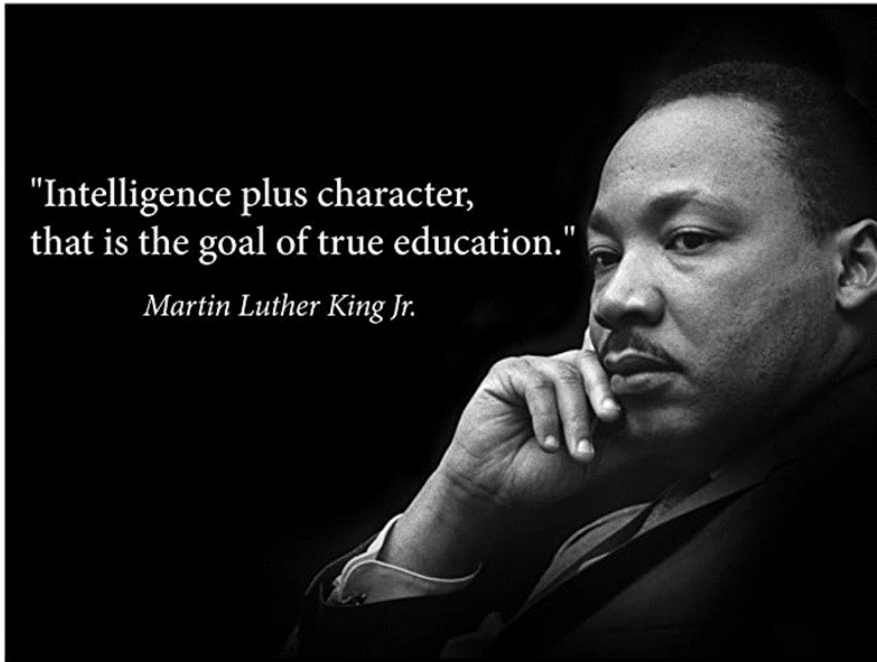
Message from the Principal

It is hard to believe that we are starting the second half of the school year! Our students and staff continue to demonstrate resiliency during these difficult times. Thank you to all families for their continued support of the Covid protocols put in place for infection prevention. In order to ensure our school remains a safe and welcoming environment for our students, it is imperative that public health measures are followed. This will reduce the chance of our students getting sick and bringing the virus to school.

Please refer to the Fraser Health COVID –19 School Update—Winter 2021 posted on our website.

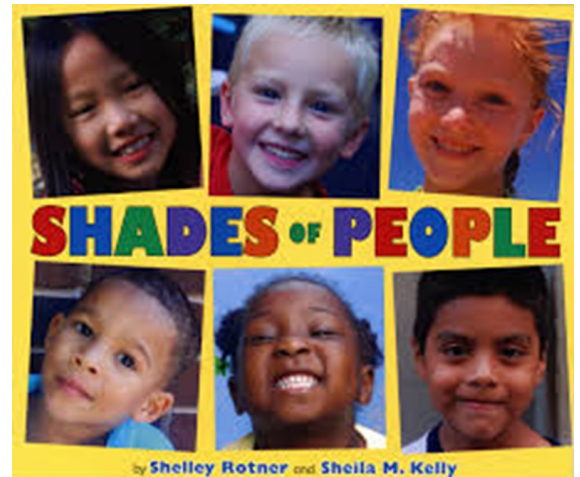
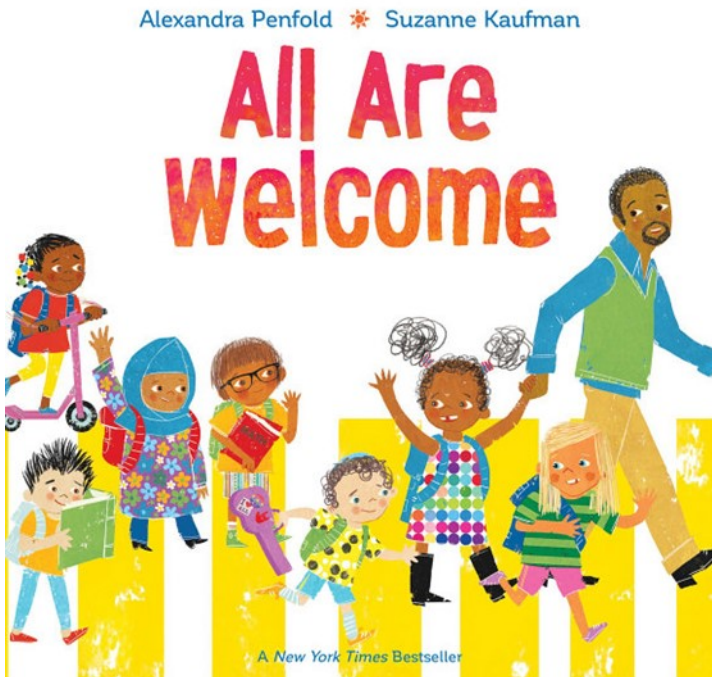


On January 15th, 2021, HTA staff and students recognized and supported the first “Black Shirt Day”. In doing so, we hoped to foster solidarity against all forms of racism, racial injustice and hate.



Our students learned of the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

As well, literature promoting acceptance of all was shared with our students.





Upcoming Events in February

February 10th “Virtual” Cultural Day

MPSD’s Siwal Si’wes Staff will be providing a variety of learning opportunities for our students virtually. Your child may be participating in some of the following:

- * Directed Drawing
- * Button Blankets
- * Spirit Stones
- * Medicine Pouches
- * Warrior Shields
- * Medicine Wheels
- * Metis Tuppees

- * Bentwood Boxed
- * Paper Teepees
- * Metis Mitts
- * Beaded Keychains & Bracelets

As well, the students will hear teachings from Chief Johnny Williams, Sq’ewlets in the virtual opening and closing of the day.



VALENTINE'S DAY

Upcoming Events in February

Classroom teachers will be communicating with families if they plan to have any Valentine's Day activities happening in their classes on February 11, 2021.

Due to the Covid-19 situation, the following guidelines have been established by MPSD Superintendent, Angus Wilson:

Activities that can go ahead:

Student/staff exchange of paper cards (pens, stickers).

Be mindful of how the exchange occurs, to not involve large groups of students/staff gathering in an enclosed area.

Crafts that involve paper - Ensure students are using their own set of supplies (glue, scissors, colouring pens, etc.)

Baking and creating of edible items in a Foods lab or teaching kitchen, if the items will be consumed there by the class creating the item.

Activities that can't occur due to COVID-19:

Sharing of food of any kind (includes, but not limited to, individual exchange or communal sharing of chocolates, cupcakes, candy, treats that come with Valentine's day cards, treats that are prepackaged and are individually wrapped, pancake breakfasts, staff potlucks, etc.).

Student dances.

Crafts that involve baking, or items intended to be consumed, even if prepared by the teacher and students are provided with individual kits.

Exchange of items wrapped in plastic or made of plastic, such as treat wrappers or plastic bags.

*******February 11, 2021 will be a regular uniform day.*******

Upcoming Events in February

Pink Shirt Day - February 24, 2021



All students are encouraged to wear a PINK SHIRT on February 24th.

Let's ***“lift each other up”*** and encourage healthy self esteem and teach empathy, compassion and kindness.



Uniform bottoms
(pants, skirt, shorts)
must be worn.



Let's Get To School On Time!



When we hear the term “parent involvement,” we tend to think about activities such as volunteering in our child’s classroom, helping out with a school fundraiser, or coordinating a PAC committee. All of these roles are important, and certainly much appreciated by the teaching staff, parent group and school administration. After all, our parent volunteers help to make special events such as the Hot Lunch program, successful for our students.

But what is the most basic form of parent involvement you can do to support your children?

Arrange to have your child arrive at school on time.

When your children arrive at school on time they have those precious minutes at the start of the day to sort out their belongings, greet their teacher and classmates, and be confident they have not missed out on anything! Being on time is a life skill, and affects every aspect of living—our jobs, classes and appointments, and even our entertainment such as concerts and sporting events. We all know how important it is to arrive on time for work. Our children’s work is to attend school, and to be on time.

Being on time is respectful to your child’s classroom teacher and the other students. It can be disruptive to the class when your child arrives late as the teacher has already started teaching and the children are involved in their activities. Often the teacher must stop teaching the rest of the class, to get your child settled and brought up to speed. And when your children arrive late, they feel like they are playing catch-up for the rest of the day. Being on time shows you value punctuality and reliability. As parents, our organizational skills are paramount for modeling to our children that not only must they be on time for school, but we must also show them *how* to get ready to be on time for school.

There will always be times when your children may be late due to a dentist appointment, you had car troubles or the family stayed out late for a special event. But because we know these things happen, let’s try to be on time for school on all the other days.

Thank you so much for your support and co-operation!

It is just as important for parents and caregivers to arrive on time for **dismissal**. Your children have worked very hard during the school day and are excited to tell you all about it at 2:23 pm. Sometimes, when parents are not at the door to greet their children, the children can become quite upset and worried.

We understand that there are the occasional circumstances that cause a parent to be late for pick up. If you will be late, please phone the school office so that the office can let the teachers know, and then we can inform your child. If you are going to be very late, we will take your children up to the office and you can pick them up from there.

We know that being on time for school requires good planning at home. But what a wonderful gift to give your child, the gift of being punctual, reliable and ready to learn



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Message From Our PAC

Valentines Cookies for a Cause

Buy you heart shaped cookie now! Cookies will be delivered to students on Thursday, February 11th. Deadline for ordering is this Friday, February 5th! Each cookie is \$3.50 each! Available to purchase on munchalunch.

A portion of the proceeds of every cookie sold will support families at Ronald McDonald houses and Ronald McDonald Family Rooms across the country.

Hot Lunch is BACK! Our first round of hot lunches are up, so place your orders now!

- Feb.18th – Little Caesar’s
- March 11th – Subway
- April 15th – Booster Juice

Go to www.munchalunch.com/schools/hillside to order!

Don’t forget to select your child’s teacher/division under the ‘My Family’ tab. As always, orders and payment are due the week prior to each hot lunch date. Pay online or send a cheque made out to Hillside PAC (include your child’s name in the memo line).

****We can not accept cash****Any questions – please email us at hillsidepac@gmail.com or htahotlunch@gmail.com

Pink Shirt Day is February 24th, pink shirt orders will be arriving in the next 2 weeks.

The next PAC meeting is Tuesday February 16th at 7pm on Zoom. All parents are welcome to attend. If anyone would like a copy of the agenda beforehand please email the PAC.





Traffic Flow

We need all HTA parents/caregivers to help in ensuring students are dropped off and picked up safely each school day.

At this time, the traffic loop at the front of the school continues to be closed for student drop off.

- ◆ *Please do not block the driveways of the neighbourhood homes.*
- ◆ *Please park in the parent designated parking lot on the east side of the building.*
- ◆ *Please do not park in front of the sidewalk areas marked with yellow as this will block the view of people using the sidewalk.*
- ◆ *Please do not park in Transit Bus Stop Area*

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.