

November 16, 2009

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL



### FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN IS COMING TO MRCS SOON

Ever since the BC provincial government announced it would begin implementation of full day kindergarten (FDK), the discussion regarding FDK has been elevated. The government has committed \$151 million to provide the option of full day and every day kindergarten for 50% of students starting school September 2010. The ultimate plan is to have 100% implementation of the full day kindergarten program by September 2011.

This month, along with all the other schools in the province, Maple Ridge Christian School applied to receive funding for FDK for the Fall of 2010. We are hoping to hear about the notification of funding by as early as the end of January. We will keep you posted.

Here are a couple of interesting facts for our school community to note:

- FDK is defined as all day, everyday and has the same number of instructional hours as Grade One.
- Public and independent schools have been invited by the Ministry of Education to apply for FDK.
- Schools approved for 2010 implementation must offer FDK only.
- The direction of our provincial government is to offer parents a seamless provision of learning and care services at school sites. This will mean more schools will provide preschools and before and/or after school care. Our school is currently looking at these options for parents and their young children.
- The prescribed kindergarten curriculum is not changing. Full day kindergarten students will now have twice the time to achieve the prescribed learning outcomes outlined in the Kindergarten curriculum.

These are big changes to the traditional picture of education. They also create philosophical, practical, ethical and Biblical questions. As a school community, it is important to be aware of the impending changes and to prepare for their impact.

In His service,



Valarie Sawka  
Principal

## IN THE BUZZ

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## CALENDAR

**November 16**  
NO SCHOOL – K-12 Report Card Writing Day

**November 18**  
Fall AGM 7:00pm

**November 19**  
School Dance

**November 20**  
Report Cards, K-12 sent home

**November 20**  
Open House for prospective & interested families, 1-3pm & 6:30-8pm

(Facts provided by the SCSBC website [www.scsbc.ca](http://www.scsbc.ca))

## FROM THE OFFICE

### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 are the dates for the Parent/Teacher Conferences. Thursdays conferences will be in the evening, and Fridays conference will be during the daytime.

**FOR KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 7** - A sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board outside of the main office by Wednesday, November 18. Sign up is on a first-come first-served basis. Not all teachers will be available at all times.

**FOR HIGH SCHOOL** – All times are drop in.

### FALL AGM

Please remember to attend the Annual General Meeting this Wednesday, November 18.

### OPEN HOUSE

There will be another Open House for prospective and interested families on Friday, November 20, from 1:00-3:00 pm and again from 6:30-8:00 pm. If you have any friends or family that may be interested, please let them know.

### PARENT FIELD TRIP DRIVERS

We so appreciate all our parents who are willing to drive for field trips. Thank you for having a Volunteer Driving Form and a Driver's Abstract on file with the office.

### STUDENT VISITORS

Visiting students are allowed to visit at lunch time or chapel only and must also sign in at the office. Former students are not permitted to visit classes or spend the day at MRCS. There are many students wanting to visit during class time and it becomes disruptive to the school.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### MAPLE RIDGE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SOCIETY

**Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 7pm**

This week sees the fall Annual General Meeting of our school society. This is a very important meeting for our community. There is a lot going on at this time in our school, and we urge all our society members to come out on Wednesday evening and participate.

Our society meetings are a great opportunity for us all to get together and work together to ensure the best and brightest future for our children.

We hope to see you there.



**MRCS ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN**

the gift of Christian education today, the foundation for tomorrow.

## 2009/10 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

Hopefully by now you will have received your copy of the 2009/10 Annual Giving Brochure. This year more than ever we are really hoping for full participation in the campaign from our whole community. Every dollar donated by our community will help to meet the financial needs of the school, so we sincerely hope that you will all feel willing to participate. Some of you are able to give more than others, some less, but everyone can give something. No matter how big or small every donation is gratefully received, so we would ask that you look into your heart and pray about this.

Think about it, and give what you can. MRCS is a very special place, with a remarkable history and an equally remarkable future. In the end, when we give, we give not just for our own children, but for all the children who have yet to pass through these doors.

When you have decided what you would like to gift, fill out your pledge form and put it in an envelope marked for the attention of Connie Baxter in the main office. All donations are tax receipt-able and confidential.

You will receive a tax-receipt for this current year for any donations received by December 31, 2009.

## TENT FOR HIRE

The MRCS tent, (seen by many of you sheltering the food at our recent welcome back BBQ), is for rent at a rate of \$25 per day. There is a \$250.00 returnable damage deposit. Please contact Natasha MacDonald in the school office if you need more information or would like to rent the tent.

## SCHOLASTIC ORDERS



**DECEMBER:** December Scholastic orders are due to Mrs. Lozinski by 3 pm on Wednesday, November 18, 2009. The due date is early in hopes that you will receive your order before leaving for Christmas vacation. A reminder to pay by cheque only, made payable to Scholastic Canada Ltd. Thank you and happy Christmas reading.

## DINERS CLUB



Next Diners Club **\*1ST OF THE SEASON\*** Christmas Dinner, Wednesday December 2nd - \$25/pp.  
Babysitting will be offered by donation, all proceeds for Esperanza or Grad.

## POPCORN DAY



**THURSDAY, NOV. 19.**

If you forgot to place your order, there will be extra bags available for \$2.00.

## WANT ADS

Looking for baby food jars (lots of them) for a craft.....all sizes. If anyone has any, please drop them off in the Senior Lounge - for Leah Schofield.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### November 23

NO SCHOOL for Grade 12, Grad transition day.

### November 26

Parent/Teacher Conferences K-12, 7-9pm

### November 27

NO SCHOOL - Parent/Teacher Conferences all day.

### December 9

Grad Christmas dinner at Milestones, 5:30 pm

## COMMUNITY INFO

### 50TH FALL SHOW AND SALE

The Garibaldi Art Club of Maple Ridge presents the 50th Fall Show & Sale at the ACT. It opens Thursday, November 26 and continues through Sunday, November 29. Check the office bulletin board for times.

### HANDEL'S MESSIAH PERFORMANCE

Gloria Dei Chorale together with the Canada West Chamber Orchestra, presents 'Handel's Messiah'. Performances will be Saturday, November 21 at 8:00 pm at New Westminster Christian Reformed Church, and on Sunday November 22 at 2:00 pm at Bakerview Mennonite Brethren Church. Tickets are \$15 and are available from the House of James, King's Music, Bakerview Church, or local Maple Ridge resident Bill Schriek at 604-465-5691. (Detailed poster on office bulletin board).

### ANNUAL BUSINESS FAIR

Mops is hosting a business fair Wed Nov 18th, from 9:30 -11:15. There will be free childcare, food and music. Come do your Christmas shopping early! Tables include; Discovery Toys, Norwex, Mary Kay, Avon, Stampin'Up, Writing on the Wall, Usborn Books, Tupperware, and Stella & Dot Jewelry; just to name a few!!!

Call Carla Banbury for more information.