



Elementary School

2176 DUTHIE AVENUE, BURNABY, B.C. V5A 2S2 (604)296-9023 FAX (604)296-9068

School website address: <http://montecito.burnabyschools.ca>

Principal: Fonda Papathanasiou

December NEWSLETTER

Secretary: Susy Scigliano

Head Teacher: Jessica Vaughan

January 29, 2021

Trustee: Jen Mezei jen.mezei@burnabyschools.ca

SCHOOL MOTTO: Kindness to Ourselves, Kindness to Others and Kindness to This Place

Dear Families of the Montecito Community,

Welcome to 2021 and welcome back to school! I hope that you all had a relaxing holiday season.

It is with great excitement that I formally introduce myself as the new Principal at Montecito Elementary School. I am honored to have the opportunity to be at a school with such kind students, an extremely dedicated staff, and a supportive school community. Thank you to all of you for such a warm welcome!

Now that we are back at school, we are continuing to follow our safety protocols and we encourage everyone to do their part at home as well. As we begin this calendar year, please give yourselves permission to find balance, support your goals, and stay close as family units. We, as a school team, look forward to the second half of the school year and are excited to see what 2021 has to offer.

In February, families will receive the first formal progress report for the year—this is a great time to review your child's learning goals and continue monitoring their individual growth. Please do not hesitate to reach out to let us know if there is any way we can further support your child's learning.

I look forward to learning more about the uniqueness of Montecito this year and in the years to come. Please know that my door (virtually this year) is always open to you and I heartily welcome your conversation and positive input. I look forward to meeting you and to celebrating our collective successes during the 2020-2021 school year.

Mr. Fonda Papathanasiou

Principal

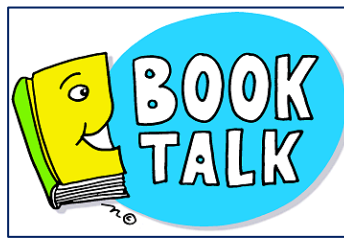
In January each year, we celebrate Family Literacy Week. At Montecito this year, we had many fun activities planned throughout the week. Mystery guest reader, virtual stories, reading in the dark, and Family Tic Tac Toe including various literacy events, were all part of our activities this week.

How can you regularly help to develop literacy skills at home? Reading is one of the most important skills a child can learn. Prioritizing time to read at home every night has huge benefits, and helps your children build confidence and competence as readers. Asking questions helps to develop their thinking skills or comprehension. Please refer to some helpful prompts in the image to the right. Promoting reading at home daily and working in partnership with your child's teacher, we can develop literacy skills and foster a love of reading that will hopefully last a lifetime!

Happy Lunar New Year and celebration of Year of the Ox. May the year bring all of our families much prosperity and happiness.

Respectfully,

Mr. Fonda Papathanasiou – Principal



Here are some questions you can ask your children during their daily home reading to engage in conversation with your child and build their thinking and comprehension skills

Before reading:

- Looking at the title, cover and illustrations/pictures, what do you think will happen in this book? Why do you think this?
- What characters do you think might be in the book?
- Do you think there will be problem in the story? What could the problem be?
- What do you already know about the topic of this book?
- Does the topic or story relate to you or your family? How?
- Do you think it will be like any other book you've read? If so, which one, and how do you think it will be similar?

During reading:

- What has happened so far in the story? Can you tell me using sequence words? (first, then, next, finally, etc.)
- What do you predict will happen next? Why?
- How do you think the story will end? Why?
- Why do you think the character did _____?
- What would you have done if you were the character?
- How would you have felt if you were the character?
- When you read, what pictures did you see in your head?
- What are you wondering about as you read? What questions do you have?
- Think about the predictions you made before reading; do you still think the story will go that way? Why or why not? How do you think it will go now?

After reading:

- Why is the title a good title for the book/story? If you had to give it a different title, what would be another good title for it?
- Were your predictions correct? Where did you have to fix your prediction as you read?
- If there was a problem, did it get solved? How did the character try to solve the problem?
- Did any of the characters change through the story? Who changed, and how did they change?
- Why do you think the author wrote this book?
- What is the most important point that the author is trying to make in his/her writing?
- What was your favourite part? Why?
- If you could change one part, what would you change? Why?
- If you could ask the author a question, what would you ask?
- Can you retell the story in sequence order (use sequence words: first, second, then, next, etc.)?
- Is there a character in the story that reminds you of someone you know? If so, who are they like, and why do you think that?
- Does this book remind you of another book you know? Does it remind you of something you've experienced in real life?

For fun: Have your child act out a scene from the book, draw you a picture of their favourite part, or write a follow-up story or new ending to the story. Your child can pretend they are a book reviewer reviewing the book on TV, or they can write a letter or postcard to the author or a character. There are many creative ways to engage your child in reading and have him/her share their reading with you!

PARENTS/GUARDIANS: Please read the following regarding registration in Burnaby Schools for September 2021. (Info can also be found on the Montecito website and at <http://www.burnabyschools.ca/>)

FEBRUARY IS REGISTRATION MONTH

BURNABY SCHOOL DISTRICT REGISTRATION PROCEDURES:

- February is registration month for children born in 2016 for Kindergarten starting in September 2021.
- Registrations for this year will be done online at the at the Burnaby District Website <https://burnabyschools.ca/registration/>

A list of required documents is included below to assist you.

1. Students must reside with their parents or legal guardian.
2. **Proof of birth date for the student** (birth certificate or passport)
3. **Proof of guardianship** (parents' or guardians' as shown on birth certificate or other appropriate legal documentation such as landed immigrant paper or guardianship order). Note that a notarized custodial guardian appointment is not the same as a guardianship order granted by the courts.
4. **Proof of citizenship for both the parent and the student** (Canadian birth certificate, citizenship card, passport, landed immigrant document, permanent resident card).
5. **Proof of residency of the parent or guardian and student:**
This must include **TWO** items, **AT LEAST ONE** being from Category A below:
 - i. Category A: proof of ownership of dwelling or long-term lease or rental of dwelling; legal documents indicating BC residence; parent or guardian filing income tax returns as a BC resident
 - ii. Category B: BC Hydro bill, BC cable bill, Provincial driver's licence, provincial registration of automobile, Canadian bank accounts or credit cards
6. **Immunization Records**
7. **Care Card/Personal Health Number**
8. A completed **Burnaby School District Student Information Form (registration form)**
9. A completed **Burnaby School District Medical Information Form**. Note: Severe health concerns require additional forms. These can be obtained from the school that you are applying to attend.
10. **Copy of the student's most recent school marks** (including summer school), such as:
 - a. An official copy of marks from the student's Permanent Record Card; or
 - b. The student's most recent report card; or
 - c. A transcript of academic record; or
 - d. A transfer form with marks
11. An **emergency telephone contact number** of a local person who is available during school hours
12. The **name and telephone number of the family doctor or medical clinic**

CROSS DISTRICT, OUT-OF-DISTRICT AND DISTRICT LANGUAGE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS:

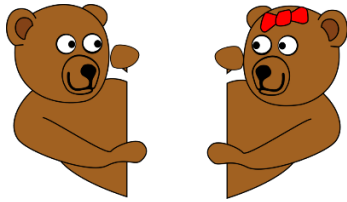
- If you do not live in our catchment area and are applying to attend Montecito School, you **MUST** first register online at your attendance area (catchment) school. A CROSS-DISTRICT application form must accompany the registration form and **MUST** be signed by the school principal at your catchment school. The catchment area school will then forward the applicable form(s) to the other appropriate school(s).
- Students living outside of Burnaby can apply to attend a Burnaby school by submitting an OUT-OF-DISTRICT form.
 - All CROSS-DISTRICT and OUT-OF-DISTRICT applications submitted **ON TIME** will be reviewed by the school district and you will be notified of their decision by March 31. Applications submitted within the established timelines (Feb. 1 – 25) are considered first. <https://burnabyschools.ca/cross-district-transfer/>
 - DISTRICT LANGUAGE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS – please visit <https://burnabyschools.ca/registration/district-language-program-application-form-2018/> for information regarding District Language Program Options – all forms and procedures are available there.

STUDENTS GOING INTO GRADE 8

- Current Grade 7 students residing in Burnaby have automatically been registered for Grade 8 at the secondary school within the designated attendance area where the student resides. **Current Grade 7 students who do not reside in the attendance area for the secondary school they wish to attend must submit a Cross-district or Out-of-district Transfer Application in order to be considered for admission to that secondary school.** All forms and procedures can be downloaded from the Burnaby School District website <https://burnabyschools.ca/cross-district-transfer/>



A Message for our Montecito Parents



We see you back as you....

- send encouraging messages to us as a staff that touches us in ways you may never know – thank you for initiating the “We See You Campaign”
- work tirelessly to fundraise for our Montecito Mustangs
- learn zoom and TEAMS alongside of us
- drop your child at the edge of the field and trusting us to take care of them for you
- keep your child home when they may be unwell and thereby keeping our community safe
- maintain communication with teachers via emails, zoom and phone calls as we no longer manage to have doorway conversations
- send your children to school equipped with a mask and an understanding of the importance of social distancing
- read with your children each evening to ensure they continue to share a love of books
- offer funds for COVID specific items and virtual field trips to keep our students safe
- adapt to new ways of establishing routines for school drop offs and pick ups
- send your children to school fully prepared for all manner of weather as we need to send our students outside each day for fresh air (and it allows us to clean their classrooms mid-day)
- send your children to school with a litterless lunch helping us minimize the waste of food and packaging at school

We are thankful we are all in this together WITH YOU!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR OUR MONTECITO FAMILIES!

Doorbell Expectations:

Kindly review the following information with you child(ren):

The doorbell is only to be used when there is no one outside who is able to let you in the building and it is necessary that you enter.

In the morning- If you arrive late and there are no staff outside to let you in, please ring the doorbell.

If you arrive late and there is still a class outside, you do not need to ring the doorbell. Approach the teacher who is still outside and make sure you answer the health check questions and have your hands sprayed. Please stop by the office once you are inside to sign in and receive a welcome rock.

During recess and lunch- ask a supervisor to let you in to use the washroom. You do not need to ring the doorbell.

End of the day- Do you need to go to the washroom first? Do you have all your belongings? Try to take care of these things **before** exiting the school.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS INFORMATION

PLEASE NOTIFY THE OFFICE & **PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION**

If you have a change of address, please provide the following original documents to the office so that photocopies can be made to update your child's file.

Proof of residence of the parent or guardian and student. This must include two items, at least one being from Category A below:

- **Category A:** proof of ownership of dwelling or long-term lease or rental of dwelling; legal documents indicating BC residence; parent or guardian filing income tax returns as a BC resident
- **Category B:** BC Hydro bill, BC cable bill, Provincial driver's licence, provincial registration of automobile, Canadian bank accounts or credit cards

FOR GRADE 7'S

Burnaby North is planning for the transition of their incoming grade 8 students for next school year, and because of the unusual times we're in, the process will be quite different than it has been in the past.

- Due to the COVID situation, all Grade 7 transition activities, including classroom visits/course selection presentations and articulation meetings, will be done online, through Zoom, this year.
- Burnaby North's virtual visit will be on Thursday, February 11th at 1:15pm

Valentine's Day

If your child is planning on bringing cards/store bought goodies to school -please have them in by Monday, February 8th. The plan is to distribute the goodies for take home on Friday, February 12th.



Congratulations to Mrs. Manners and Division 7!



The School District's "Holiday Shut Down" initiative was designed to educate our students on energy conservation practises. Division 7 not only participated but also won a \$200 prize!

Quest for Rest

Montecito is one of 4 schools in Burnaby to be piloting the Quest for Rest sleep hygiene program. Children learn and understand how healthy sleep gives them an important "power-up" for their emotional, physical, and mental development. It's catered for K-2 age group and the curriculum is built around the book, "The Quest for Rest: Polly & Pickles." Each lesson includes a take-home package that summarizes the school activity and provides a follow-up activity to be completed by the parents and students.

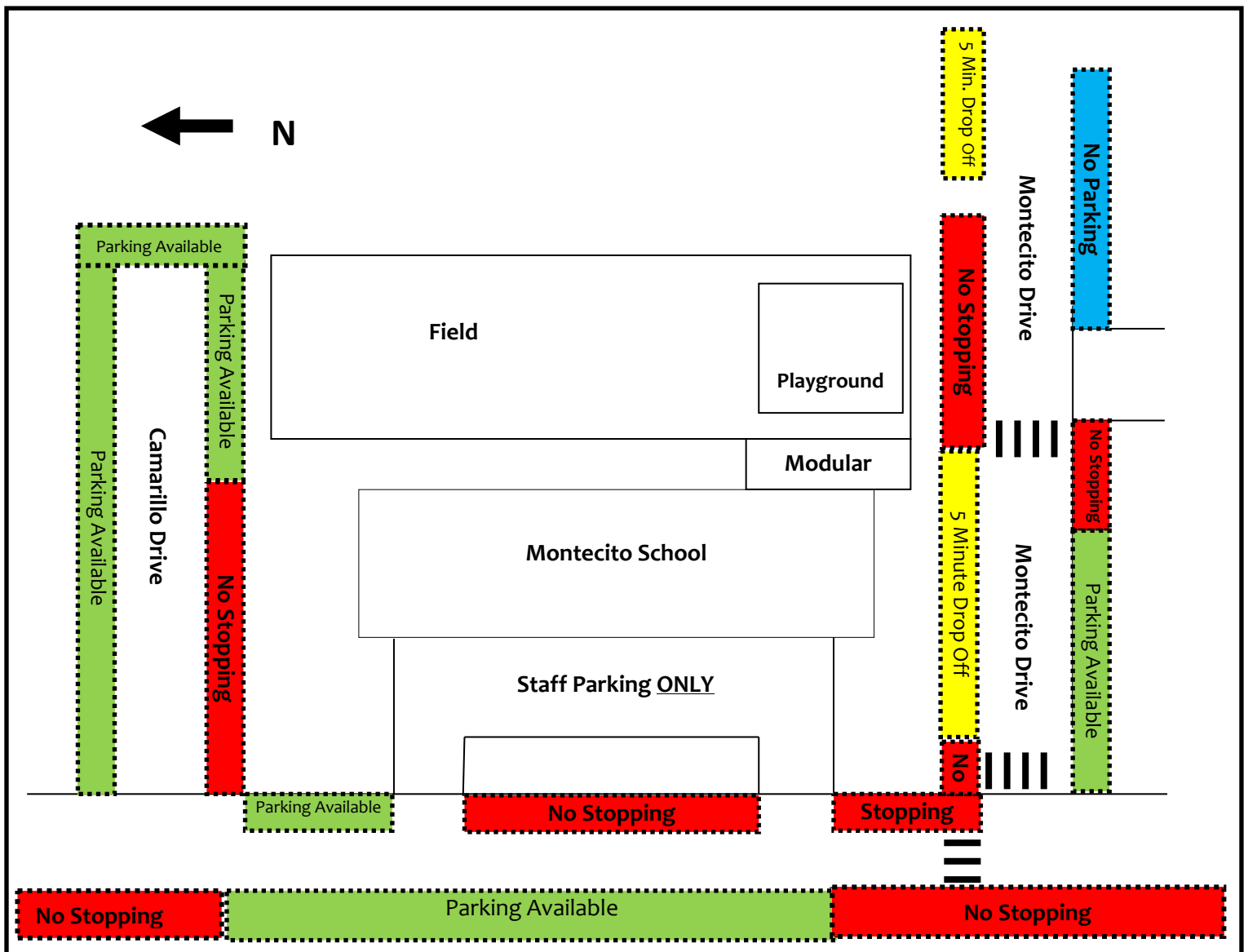
PARKING REMINDER AND SAFETY AT MONTECITO:

For the safety of our children at Montecito, please obey the posted traffic signs indicating where parking is allowed and where it is not. We have provided a map below to provide a visual reminder. You can STOP in a 'No parking' zone...you just can't get out of your car. You CANNOT stop in a 'no stopping' zone. Also, we have had cars parking close to the crosswalks, and this makes visibility extremely hard.

If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me at the school. Let's all work together to ensure safety of Montecito students.

Vehicle Key:

- Red = 'NO STOPPING' Zone – stay away from these areas please
- Blue = 'No Parking' Zone – you can stop but remain in your vehicle
- Yellow = '5 minute drop off' for quick drop - off and pick up
- Green = parking available



REMINDER: There is no bad weather.... only inappropriate clothing!

We are lucky to live in a relatively moderate climate. However, some days will be wet and some days will be cold. What matters is that we all learn to dress appropriately for outdoor activities no matter the weather.

Outdoor play is valuable and fresh air is healthy. Our students have two opportunities daily to be outside (recess and lunch) as well as times planned by teachers throughout the week. We believe in outdoor play and education, and encourage students to enjoy their natural environment.

Encourage your children to play in the rain and snow, as much can be learned. Jump in or toss stones in puddles and observe the splash and ripples. Why do rocks and stones look so much more interesting when they are wet? How can water be made to flow from one puddle to another? What kind of mud makes the best mud pancakes? Notice the ice patterns that form on puddles when the temperature drops. Build forts with snow. What kind of snow is the best for tobogganing?

As we are in the rainy, cold season please be sure your child has:

On a Rainy Day:

- Waterproof hat
- Warm socks
- Change of clothes
- Waterproof jacket
- Waterproof boots
- Waterproof pants
- Umbrella



On a Snowy Day:

- Toque that covers ears
- Snow boots
- Insulated gloves or mittens suitable for handling snow
- Heavy jacket for warmth
- Warm socks
- Snow Pants
- Change of clothes



***It would be helpful for **all** students to have a change of clothes at school, should they slip or get soaking wet. This will help them so that they are not uncomfortable in wet clothes during class time.



Montecito

Montecito Elementary School
Parent Advisory Council

2176 Duthie Avenue
Burnaby, BC V5A 2S2

pacmontecito@gmail.com

*****NEXT PAC MEETING IS 7pm, TUESDAY FEBRUARY 16TH*****

Every parent and guardian is a member of the Montecito PAC and is welcome at all of our meetings.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/3849097255>

Meeting ID: 384 909 7255

Visit Montecito PAC's volunteer sign up page at <http://signup.com/go/pJ3njP> and sign up online for a volunteer spot. Questions? Email pacmontecito@gmail.com

SPIRIT WEAR SALE: An expanded Spirit Wear Sale is launching in late February! Look for your chance to buy Montecito Mustang T-Shirts, Hoodies and Hats. All spirit-wear available in all House Colours (red, gold, green, blue) and neutrals. Adult sizes available too!

SPRING FUNDRAISER: Montecito PAC Spring Neufeld Farms and Purdys Chocolates fundraisers are coming up. Mark these dates on your calendar so you don't miss out. Order deadlines are in early to mid March with pick up date set for March 31st. Further details to come!

HOT LUNCH: *Hot lunch is suspended indefinitely due to COVID-19.*

COMMUNITY EDUCATION:

Interested in learning more? Visit the Burnaby District Parent Advisory Committee website at <https://www.burnabydpac.com/> for more information on upcoming events, learning opportunities and important policy discussions and information that affect all of us!

Mustangs

2021 January 08

Re: Children Winter Programs Starting Soon

Be active or learn something new with our winter programs. We have programs for all ages and a wide variety of interests. Here's just a few of the programs available.

For full listing of programs, visit us at burnaby.ca/active.

Arts

- [Drawing, Painting & Collage](#) 6-12 years starting Jan 16
- [Word Play: Creative Writing](#) 7-11 years starting Jan 21
- [Like the Master's: Drawing & Painting](#) 7-12 years starting Jan 23
- [Making Stories Creative Writing](#) 7-10 years starting Jan 23

Outdoor Programs

- [Outdoor Adventure Club](#) 6-12 years starting Jan 15
- [Heighten Your Hiking Skills](#) 10-14 years starting Jan 29
- [Trail Blazers](#) 7-12 years starting Jan 29

Play

- [Yoga for Families](#) 4+ years starting Jan 17
- [Children's Soccer](#) 7-9 years starting Jan 22
- [Junior Tennis Lessons](#) 9-13 years starting Jan 23

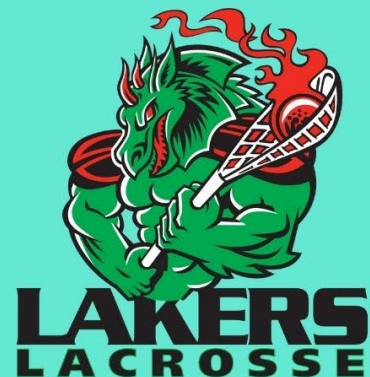
Camps

- [Burnaby Pro D Day Camp](#) 6-12 years Feb 26
- [Burnaby Spring Break Camp](#) 6-11 years Mar 22-26
- [Arts & Yoga Camp](#) 8-12 years Mar 22-26
- [CAMP-LARPing: Deer Lake Chronicles](#) 10-13 years Mar 22-26



Our Vision: A world-class city committed to creating and sustaining the best quality of life for our entire community.

**BURNABY MINOR
LACROSSE CLUB
INVITES YOU TO JOIN
US FOR THE 2021
MINOR BOX LACROSSE
SEASON**



**REGGIE
OPENS
FEB 10**

**AGES:BOYS 5-16/GIRLS 5-21
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR
INFO/UPDATES
WWW.BURNABYLACROSSE.COM**

DO YOU LOVE TO WRITE?

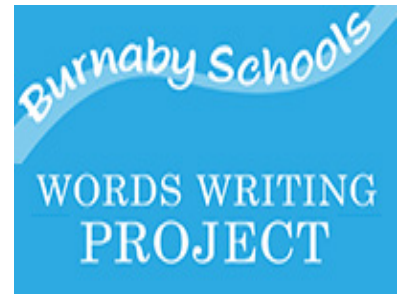
Talk to your teacher about writing a story or poem for this year's Words Writing Project.

It might be chosen to be printed Burnaby School District's 2020-21 Words Anthology!

Open to all grades K-12 students. Submissions can be written in French or English.

Submit your written work to your teacher by the beginning of March.

LEARN MORE: <https://burnabyschools.ca/words-writing-project-2020-21/>





February 2021

There is a calendar on our webpage now!

Please visit:

<http://montecito.burnabyschools.ca/>

(Scroll down to *Upcoming Events*) for the most up-to-date information.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Wear Red or Pink for Valentine's Day	13
14 Valentine's Day 	15 Family Day No School 	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Pink Shirt Day 	25	26 District Pro-D STUDENTS DO NOT ATTEND	27
28						