

Montecito News

April 2024

Happy April, Montecito Families!

We hope you all had a wonderful Spring Break with your children. We are well into our final term of the 2023-2024 school year, and it is sure to be a busy and exciting final term together!

Student Led Conferences:

Mark your calendars! Student Led Conferences will take place April 24. All students will be dismissed at 2:00, and letters will go out next week.

What is the Purpose of Student-Led Conferences?

This is a time for your child to share their work with you, and for you to see and hear about their successes, challenges and growth. It encourages them to develop responsibility and take pride in their learning. Children will learn accountability for their effort and progress, to organize information, and develop leadership skills through effectively communicating this information.

Tips to Parents for Student-Led Conferences:

In order to enjoy a successful student-led conference with your child, please consider the following guidelines:

- Allow your child to be in charge of the conference and direct questions to your child rather than the teacher
- Follow your child's agenda and encourage them to proceed through it systematically
- Focus on the work that your child has selected to show you. We would appreciate it if you would ask why a particular piece of work has been chosen.
- Please make positive statements about your child's work. If you see areas for improvement (e.g. untidy work, incomplete assignments or errors) plan a follow-up, private conversation to discuss the issue with your child and teacher if necessary.
- Understand that there may be many conferences going on simultaneously. Teachers will be in the room making themselves available for clarification where necessary.
- This conference is not a time to hold a private interview with the teacher. Should you feel one is necessary, please do not hesitate to ask for another appointment.

Upcoming Dates

April 17 - Intermediate Choir sings
at Swedish Assisted Living

April 18 - Grades 4-7 Track Meet
3:30-5:30 at Burnaby Central
Secondary

April 22 - Earth Day

April 22 and 23 - HUB cycling Bike
program Divisions 4 and 5

April 24 - Student Led
Conferences - Early Dismissal at
2:00

April 25 - Grades 4-7 Track Meet
3:30-5:30 at Burnaby Central
Secondary

April 29 - Professional Day -
students do not attend



With Gratitude

Thank you to our PAC for
our first successful
Popcorn Day! It was a hit!
The money we made will go
towards new books!

Thank you for sharing your children with us!

Mrs. Anderson
Principal



Follow us on Instagram @montecitoelementary

Reminders

Please ensure that your child
arrives at school on time each
day, ready to engage and
learn.

Stay updated on school
events and activities by
following us on Instagram!

@montecitoelementary



Earth Day Celebration: Nurturing Our Planet

As stewards of our environment,
Montecito Elementary is committed
to promoting eco-consciousness and
sustainability. We will celebrate Earth
Day on April 22 with special activities
focused on environmental awareness
and the importance of preserving our
planet for future generations.

A message from the PAC:



Hello!

Did you know that all parents of the school are members of the Parent Advisory Council? And while all parents are members, there are a number of roles as part of PAC Council that help manage and lead all of the great things we do at the school.

These Council roles are voted on every year at the May PAC meeting in preparation for the following school year. The meeting will be held on May 21st at 7pm in the school library. We encourage everyone to come out and vote for your future PAC Council!

The PAC Council is a small but mighty team of parents doing their best with their busy lives and we would love some extra hands of support. The great thing about PAC is there is a role for you regardless of the time you have to give and what your super power is – whether you're a whiz at spreadsheets, a super organized human, a pro on the bbq grill, or just enjoy being part of the community – we could use your help! Join us as one of the roles below or just come to PAC meetings and lend a hand when you can.

Roles that will be voted on May 21st:

President/Chair

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) Representative

More information about the responsibilities and accountabilities of these roles can be found [here](#).



We look forward to seeing you!

Downtown Eastside Women's Centre Donation

I would like to thank all the families who donated items for my project to help women in need. I was able to collect \$200, a huge box full of shampoos, lotions, and toothbrushes as well as many other items. Toothbrushes were especially appreciated because they were needed the most.

Emma Gergely



Summer Learning 2024



Interested in summer learning? [Click here.](#)

Solar Eclipse April 8, 2024



There will be a solar eclipse on Monday April 8. From Burnaby, the sun will only be about 17% covered at maximum. The eclipse will happen from about 10:40 to 12:20, with the maximum around 11:20. For more information, including an animation of what to expect, you can check out the eclipse 2024 website:

<https://eclipse2024.org/eclipse-cities/city/189.html>

What's a total solar eclipse?

The moon will line up perfectly between the Earth and the sun at midday, blotting out the sunlight. The full eclipse will last longer than usual because the moon will be just 360,000 kilometers from Earth, one of the year's closest approaches. The closer the moon is to Earth, the bigger it is in the sky from our perspective, resulting in an especially long and intense period of sun-blocked darkness. Totality will last the longest over Mexico at 4 minutes, 28 seconds.

- City News Vancouver

Teachers will be talking with students about eye safety, and not looking directly at the sun, and will be talking about eclipses in classrooms.

For more information, visit:

<https://spaceplace.nasa.gov/eclipse-snap/en/>

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/how-to-explain-aprils-total-solar-eclipse-to-kids/>
