

# Summit Elementary School

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Newsletter 1, 2020  
September 16, 2020

## Hello families of a Summit Scorcher!

Welcome back to a new school year after a long break for your kids. The school has been a calm and happy place to learn so far this September. The alternating break schedule, along with the high levels of organization by staff, have created a respectful and relaxed learning space for our school. As I walk around the school popping in to classrooms, I see a lot of respect for the rules and understanding from students as they are asked to wash their hands, line up respectfully, remain in their areas, and exist together in harmony.

Students, for the most part, are grateful to be at school. Being able to learn as a group is so much more enriching and meaningful, not to mention fulfilling for our staff. Thank you for your role in keeping your students well fed, well prepared (including with clean masks), and safe.

Here are the topics of this newsletter:

<b>Lunch program</b>	<b>Parent Physical Distance</b>	<b>Terry Fox Run</b>
<b>PAC</b>	<b>Backpacks, Shoes, Masks, etc</b>	<b>Accident Insurance</b>
<b>New Health Screening</b>	<b>Student Lates</b>	<b>Raise a Reader</b>

### Lunch Program

The start of the lunch program was delayed due to staffing issues with the caterer. Our first month of meals will run from September 29<sup>th</sup> to October 30<sup>th</sup>. The sign-up process is a bit different as we are trying to organize your order online. Payment, however, still needs to be either cash or cheque at this point. We hope to have our online payment program up and running by Christmas. For now, please order using [THIS LINK](#) (also permanently on our website) and payment is due by September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### PAC

There is a meet and greet meeting of the PAC September 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM using this zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/97429604393?pwd=VXdJWtNleWhJeHJWMOFibVg3d3hMUT09>  
The first official meeting of PAC will take place on September 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

### New Health Screening

Due to shifts in the Provincial Health Organization's direction, our health screening questionnaire has changed slightly. A new form DOES NOT need to be signed and returned, but they will be coming home to stay for your reference moving forward. The sheet answers many questions about "should I send my kid to school?"

[Click here to access the new form.](#)

### **Parent Physical Distance**

There have several times over the first week of school where we have witnessed some issues with physical distance as parents either pick up or drop off kids. Please do your best to wear a mask, do not crowd the door, and keep distance from staff and other students. We understand the need for proper goodbyes and greetings with your kids, but we ask that our community respects the health of the school community as a whole, which means working together to keep us all safe.

### **Backpacks, Shoes, Masks, etc**

Every classroom environment is a little different. Some have space and some don't depending on the size of the children in the class and the layout, etc. I have asked that teachers create their own plan for what should come to school and what shouldn't, so please respect the wishes of the teacher's communication. We understand that sometimes it may create some challenges when adhering to these guidelines, so we thank you for your patience. As for MASKS, we have already had many students arrive at school without them. We will distribute the second masks to students in the next few days, but please understand that it is a family responsibility to have students arrive with clean, fresh masks daily. The school cannot take on the laundering of student masks.

### **Student Lates**

On the school announcements I've been letting students know how complicated late arrival is in our current school model. We are required to keep all external doors locked, so arriving late may prove to be extra challenging, especially those students who need access to a classroom with no external door. Students may sometimes be asked to wait at these doors for a short time. I have been waiting outside for a few stragglers to let them in, but I just wanted to communicate that there is no easy solution to students arriving late. For the most part this has been excellent this year, so I thank you for your efforts.

### **Terry Fox Run**

The run will look a little differently this year as we adhere to the cohort (aka Tribe) rules and other health and safety protocols. For instance, we cannot be out in the community where our students may be in close contact with other community members (dog walkers, etc). Therefore, the run will take place on school grounds, and by Tribe. The run is scheduled for September 28<sup>th</sup> this year.

### **Accident Insurance**

By law we are required to let you know that optional accident insurance is available to you. Normally a pamphlet would come home, but this year information is available through this link:

<https://www.sd73.bc.ca/en/community-parents-and-students/optional-accident-insurance.aspx>

### **Raise a Reader**

This fundraising program normally sells newspapers to raise money for literacy programs in our district. However this year the format has been changed to have safer COVID protocols. We therefore will run a "Loonies for Literacy" program where next week we ask all students to bring a loonie for the collection, and Mr. Lam will come class to class to collect for this cause. Thanks for your participation!

I hope to have a great autumn and look forward to getting to know your kids as the time flies by us.  
All the best.

Justin deVries