

# SIMONDS & U-CONNECT

October 7th, 2024

## HAPPY FALL Y'ALL!

Happy Fall to all of our families at Simonds & U-Connect. We have been so lucky to have enjoyed some lovely weather throughout most of September and it looks like we still have some more great days in the forecast. We have been very busy settling into routines here at the school, learning new schedules and classroom expectations. October will be an important month for us to really start doing some important learning, so it is important that all of our students are arriving to school on time, ready to learn!



### **A note about school support:**

WE WANT TO WORK WITH ALL OUR FAMILIES TO ENSURE THAT YOU HAVE EVERY OPPORTUNITY AND SUPPORT YOUR STUDENTS NEEDS. IF YOU NEED SUPPORT FOR FEES OR FIELD TRIPS, OR WOULD LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR FOOD PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS, PLEASE CONTACT MS. JASMINE, OUR YOUTH CARE WORKER: [JJoyce@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:JJoyce@sd35.bc.ca) OR CALL THE MAIN OFFICE. THIS INCLUDES SUBSIDIES FOR MUNCHALUNCH AND LUNCH LADY PROGRAMS.



### **ATTENDANCE REMINDERS:**

Please the call the office or email BOTH [sgoss@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:sgoss@sd35.bc.ca) AND [cdobbscox@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:cdobbscox@sd35.bc.ca) if your child is ever away from school so that one will be able to mark the absence as excused. There is an auto-dial system that will call out if your child is absent without being "Excused". Our school answering machine is always on. Please feel free to leave the school your message at any time of day or night – 604-530-2361 if your child will be absent.

ALSO: If your child arrives after the 2nd bell, they NEED to check in at the main office.

## Important Dates

- Oct. 9: Open Tutorial (U-Connect 8-12)
- Oct. 9: Harmony Yoga OWL(U-Connect K-7)
- Oct. 11: Munch a Lunch #1 (Subway)
- Oct. 14: Thanksgiving (Stat Holiday)
- Oct. 21-25: Informal Student Learning Updates
- Oct. 21: PAC meeting 7:00 PM
- Oct. 25: Provincial Pro-D (School not in session)
- Oct. 29: Pumpkin Patch (Simonds-ALL)
- Oct. 30: Photo Retakes (Simonds/U-Connect)\*
- Oct. 31: Halloween
- Oct. 31-Nov. 1: Diwali Celebrations

\*Photo retakes:

Simonds 9:00-10:00, U-Connect 11:00-12:00

# ALL IN THE DETAILS

## **PAC (SIMONDS):**

Next PAC meeting will be Oct. 21st at 7:00 PM in the library.

To learn more about PAC, visit their website:

<https://simonds-uconnect.sd35.bc.ca/simonds/simonds-pac/>

## **COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR SCHOOL**

Schools and families continue to work together to ensure success for students. If you have an issue or concern but don't know who to speak with, the District encourages you to read these helpful "Communicating with your School guidelines" for parents/guardians found on our District website [here](#). As an additional reference, review this one-page resource [here](#).

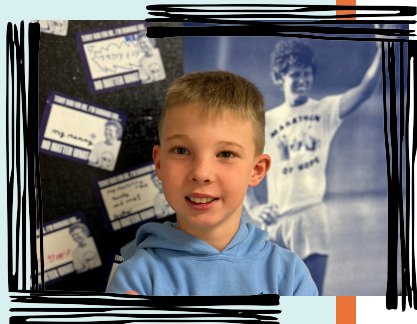
## **COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS IN EMERGENCIES**

Emergencies can happen unexpectedly due to weather events (e.g. earthquake or flooding) or unforeseen situations in the community. The health and safety of students, staff, and families is the District's priority. The District together with schools follow emergency procedures to respond to incidents as well as prevent them from happening. As stated in the provincial Emergency Management Planning Guide for Schools, Districts and Authorities, staff have a legal "duty of care," meaning that they "must ensure that students are cared for until such time as they can be safely reunited with their parents." Depending on the situation, the school may be caring for students for many days.

In these circumstances, schools may rely on members of the community to assist with emergency responses. Administrators may send a request to parents/guardians to help volunteer with first aid, facilities and maintenance, safety and security, and general labour. Adults with special skills in health care, policing, and engineering would be an asset in an emergency. No action is needed from families at this time as the purpose is to keep families informed.

## **Terry Fox Fundraising**

Simonds wants to commend Colton S. (Grade 4) for his amazing fundraising efforts for our Terry Fox Run this year. Colton raised over \$3000! When we asked Colton his "why," he said "So many people helped me, so I wanted to help others." Thank you Colton, and way to go! Fundraising will be closed at the end of the week for any families that wish to contribute: [Donate Here!](#)



## **VOLUNTEER FORMS FOR LONG-TERM VOLUNTEERS**

For parents and caregivers looking to volunteer with us here at the school on an ongoing basis, in the classroom or for an ongoing activity like coaching; please visit the following page:

<https://www.sd35.bc.ca/our-district/volunteer-at-the-langley-school-district/>

**Password: SD35Volunteer**

Volunteers that are spending time with our students in the classroom or for coaching must complete a Police Information Check. This can be done in 2 ways; one of which is visiting the local detachment with a letter that can be obtained at the main office. We ask that any PAC members who spend a considerable amount of time within the building complete this process.

## **VOLUNTEER FORMS FOR FIELD TRIPS (including drivers)**

### **& PAC HOT LUNCH/SALES:**

For parents and caregivers who are looking to volunteer to drive for field trips or support PAC initiatives within the school, please complete the following form:

[VOLUNTEER SAFETY CHECK APPLICATION FORM](#)

VOLUNTEER DRIVER FORMS – submitted to office at least 5 working days prior to the scheduled field trip – please email all documents to Sue Goss Klecker [sgoss@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:sgoss@sd35.bc.ca). A full list of requirements for volunteers and volunteer drivers can be found on our website here: [Volunteers at Simonds/U-Connect](#)

## **NEW SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING RESOURCE**

The Langley School District has provided Simonds and U-Connect with the opportunity to use a new resource for our school-wide goal of social-emotional learning and well-being called Open Parachute. We will be using Open Parachute along with Zones of Regulation to help our students continue to learn about mental health and SEL. Students will participate in school-wide assemblies as well as in-class lessons that support learning about well-being, as aligned in our K-12 curriculum.

Open Parachute also offers parent and caregiver resources, which can be found here:

[Open Parachute Caregiver Introduction](#)

openparachute®