

Blair’s Week-At-A-Glance (WAAG) for Families:

October 28-November 1, 2024

Dear Blair Families,

Thank you for your participation in our Learning Updates/Parent Teacher Conferences, most of which took place this past week! Those are such meaningful conversations that connect home and school in a partnership of learning, and we thank you for your support. Tomorrow our staff will be engaging in professional learning during the Pro-D Day. There will be no school for students on Friday October 25th. We look forward to seeing you back at school on Monday. Please note that your child is invited to wear a Halloween an appropriate and safe costume to school on October 31st!

Have a wonderful weekend.

-Mr. Livingston

Highlights For Next Week Include:

Monday Oct 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAC Pizza lunch day • Hold and Secure/Lockdown Drill • Away Volleyball Game at McKay
Tuesday Oct 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volleyball Game at Grauer
Wednesday Oct 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fruit and Veggie program classroom delivery • 8:00 PAC Meeting (virtual)
Thursday Oct 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Halloween gathering in the gym with costumes!
Friday Nov 1	

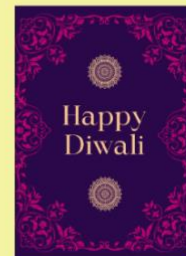
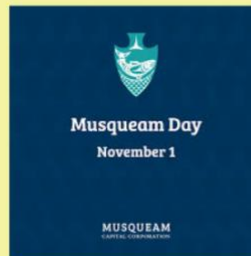
Upcoming Important Dates and Special Events:

Oct 28 - Nov 4 Candy Collection in Foyer

Significant Dates in our Community



Halloween: Oct. 31
Musqueam Day: Nov. 1
Diwali: Oct. 31 - Nov. 1



Halloween originated from ancient Celtic festivals, particularly Samhain, which marked the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter. People believed that on this night, the boundary between the living and the dead was blurred, allowing spirits to roam the earth. Over time, it evolved into a more community-centered celebration with costumes, trick-or-treating, and festive gatherings, blending various cultural traditions. Today, Halloween is a fun holiday focused on spooky themes, costumes, and candy!



Musqueam Day is a celebration of the Musqueam First Nation. It recognizes their culture, history, and contributions to the community. The day often includes events like traditional music, dancing, storytelling, and sharing of traditional foods, fostering pride and awareness of Musqueam heritage among both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. It's a way to honor their rich traditions and promote cultural understanding.



Diwali, also known as the Festival of Lights, is a major Hindu festival celebrated in India and by many around the world. It symbolizes the victory of light over darkness and good over evil. During Diwali, people light oil lamps, decorate their homes, exchange gifts, and enjoy festive meals. The festival usually lasts five days and includes prayers to goddess Lakshmi for prosperity and wealth. It's a time of joy, family gatherings, and celebration!

Halloween

Halloween should and needs to be fun; however, we need to be aware that celebrating Halloween needs to be fun for all. Halloween offers an opportunity to have meaningful conversations about costume choices with colleagues and students and requires consideration. It is important to keep in mind that we need to be sensitive to groups that have been marginalized through mimicry and cultural appropriation during Halloween and other 'dress up' events. A few things to keep in mind:

It's good to keep in mind that the following are NOT costumes:

- RACE (*black face/brown face*)
- CULTURE (*Indigenous regalia/dreadlocks*)
- RELIGIOUS FAITH (*religious figures/gods/saints/gurus/hijab*)
- GENDER (*gender switching for humour or to mock*)
- TRAUMA (*hangman's noose/weapons*)

GLOW STICKS FOR SALE **GLOW STICKS FOR SALE**

WHAT: Halloween Fundraiser

WHEN: October 17 - 27

WHERE: munchalunch.com

Glow sticks will be delivered to classroom by end of day on Oct 30

**Price: \$1 for 1
\$5 for 6**

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

McMath Leadership Candy Collection Drive

The Leadership students at McMath Secondary School, along with the *The Good Shepherd Ministry*, are looking for the help and support of the Richmond community. Together our goal is to help provide some assistance to those living on the downtown east side. We are asking for donations of **pre-packaged candy** that will be gifted to those in need.

The Leadership students at McMath secondary have provided collection bins to your school and ask that you bring in your donations between **October 28th to November 4th**

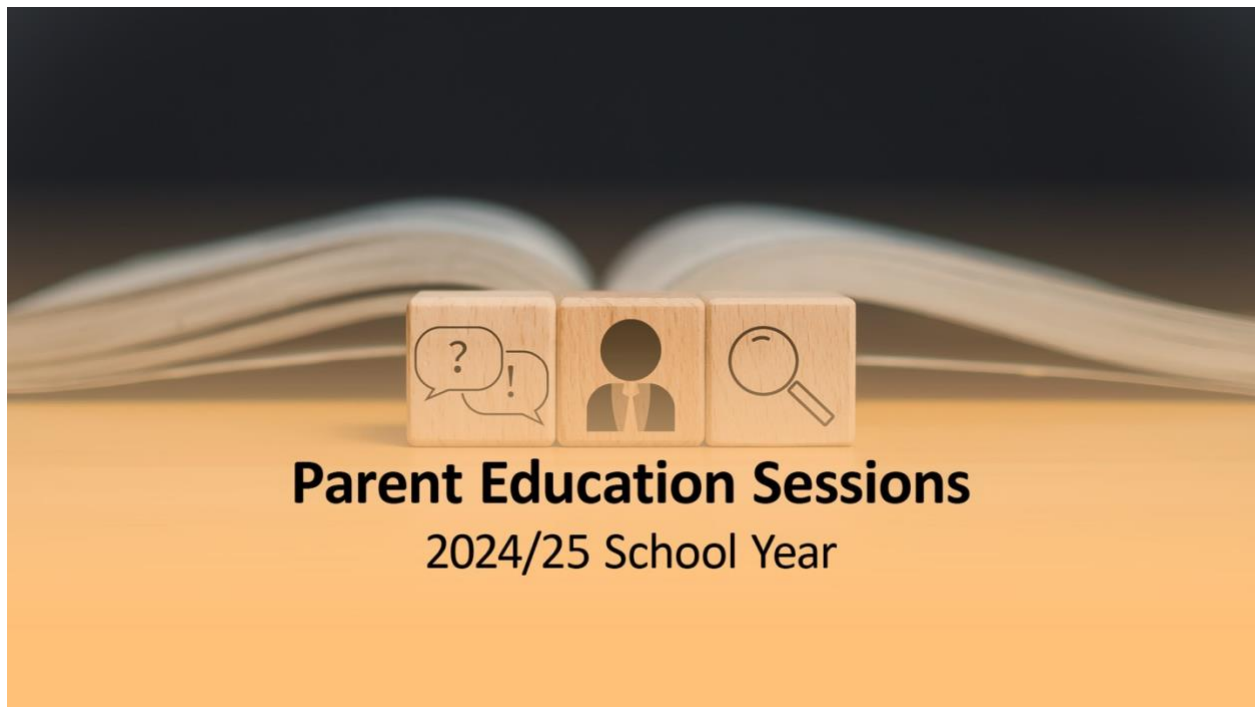
In the days following, the McMath Leadership students will be sorting and packaging the donations for *The Good Shepherd Ministry* to distribute.

Thank you for all your support and generosity.

Sincerely,

McMath Leadership Students





The Richmond School District is excited to offer the following parent education sessions during the 2024/25 school year:

- Social Media Awareness, Digital Citizenship, and Cyberbullying
- Cellphones: What's Healthy, What's Not, and What We Can Do to Support Our Kids
- Reclaiming Play: Revitalizing Childhood to Combat Anxiety and Aggression
- Cybersafe from Exploitation

These virtual sessions are open to all parents in the Richmond School District and will provide practical strategies, expert insights, and tools to support your child's well-being in the digital age. Please see below for detailed descriptions of each session and registration information. We look forward to your participation!

Social Media Awareness, Digital Citizenship, and Cyberbullying

Presented by Steven MacDonald
November 13, 2024 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

As a parent/guardian, you lead the charge as a digital role model. Help your child develop a strong digital citizenship foundation while reminding them that their digital tattoo reflects their real and online selves. Parents/guardians have an important role to play in providing support and guidance during critical periods. A snapshot of current trends and concerning apps will be provided to equip you in your digital parenting strategy.

[Click here to register](#)