



Parent Information Update

October 2023

Virtue of the Month: Thankfulness

Each month, the students and staff at King Traditional school explore and learn about a different virtue. These virtues are then celebrated at the end of the month at our student of the month assemblies. By taking the time to explore these different aspects of social responsibility, we hope to build a learning community where students know how to respectfully navigate their peers. This month, the virtue is Thankfulness. Although the students will be learning about what it means to be thankful at school, we encourage you (as our educational partners) to also discuss this virtue at home as well. What does thankfulness mean to you? What are you thankful for at home? Why is being thankful important?

Dressing for the Weather

Now that October has arrived, it seems the rainy weather has finally found us. With the return of the rain, it is important to ensure that students come to school dressed for the weather. The majority of days at school, students will be going outside at recess and after the lunch eating period so they need to be dressed appropriately for the weather. Please remind your child to wear a jacket to school as fall weather arrives. If it looks like rain is in the forecast, students should ensure that coats have either a hood, or that they bring an umbrella as well as appropriate foot gear. Our field and track can sometimes get muddy or develop rain puddles, so any steps you can take at home to ensure your children keep dry would be appreciated.

Safety Drills at King Traditional:

Each year, schools across the district practice emergency drills so that if there ever is a real emergency, everyone will know just what to do! We practice fire drills, shelter in place drills, even earthquake and lockdown drills. Here is a list of all the emergency drills for the year in case you would like to keep them in mind. We will remind you of these drills in future memos as well.

All Drills at King Traditional this year *(subject to rescheduling due to things such as poor weather)*

- September 15 : Shelter in place at 1:30 pm
- September 18: Fire Drill 8:30 am





- September 28: Fire drill at 1:30 pm
- October 5: Lockdown drill at 1:30 pm
- October 13: Great Shake out Earthquake Drill at 10 am
- October 27: Fire Drill at 1:30 pm
- January 9: Lockdown drill at 1:30 pm
- February 9: Shelter in place drill at 1:30 pm
- March 8: Fire Drill at 1:30 pm
- April 5: Earthquake Drill at 10:00 am
- April 30: Fire drill at 1:30 pm
- May 24: Fire drill at 10:00 am

Halloween Costumes

October 31st is Halloween and the students and staff at King Traditional are welcome to dress up in costumes that day. Students will have the option of wearing their school uniform or wearing an elementary appropriate costume to school. On the 31st, we will be having a costume parade around our school as well to help the students show off their outfits. We have been reminding students about the costume expectations below but would appreciate your help in ensuring:

- No blood or scary costumes
- No masks
- No weapons (such as prop guns, knives, swords etc.)

We want to encourage our students to enjoy this festive time of year, but wish them to do so in such a way that ensures that everyone still feels safe and happy at school. Thank you for helping in making sure costumes follow our guidelines above.

Reminder: King Traditional is a Nut-Free School

As we approach Halloween week, we sometimes see an increase of treats at school. It is important to remind families that we are a nut-free school. All Halloween treats that contain (or may contain) nuts are not to be brought on campus in order to keep our students with allergies safe. This should also be kept in mind as some families bring in birthday treats. To keep everyone safe, please only bring in treats that can be guaranteed to contain no nuts.

Terry Fox Fundraiser: Is now complete! Thank you to everyone who donated to support cancer research during our Terry Fox fundraiser. As a learning community, we managed to raise over \$1300. All these funds will go directly to supporting the search for a cure and donated to the Terry Fox Foundation. If you are curious, for each dollar brought in by students, they were given 1 vote for a staff member to get splattered with paint. The staff member with the most votes (and the one getting splattered) is Mrs. Carroll! The painting event will take place this Friday after a Terry Fox school-wide PE activity outside. Thank you in advance to Mrs. Carroll for being such a good sport, and being willing to model commitment to such a great cause.





Abbotsford Traditional School Intermediate Visit: Each year, in an effort to build continuity between our traditional campuses and help prepare the intermediate students for what middle school looks like, the grade 4 and 5 classes from each of the Traditional Elementary schools in the district visit the Traditional middle-high school. These visits are intentionally planned so that students can gain a fair sense of what middle/high school looks like and so that some of the nervousness of transitioning into middle schools is removed through familiarity. This year, our grade 4 and 5 classes will be visiting ATS on October 25th. The students will be taking the bus from campus, and taken for a short tour, see how middle school works, Q and A, and other fun activities including receiving an ATS T-shirt and snacks! Permission forms and further details will be sent out to our intermediate families shortly. *Are you a parent who is interested in volunteering to help out for this fieldtrip? Do you have your Criminal record check completed through the district already? If so, we could really use the help of up to 5 parents for this field trip. Please contact your child's teacher if interested in tagging along.*

Early Dismissal for Parent Teacher Interviews. On October 18th and 19th, schools across the Abbotsford District will be dismissing 2.5 hours early to accommodate Parent Teacher Interviews. For King Traditional Elementary, this means that school will be dismissed at 11:54 both days (prior to lunchtime). Buses will be arriving at this time to pick up students. Recently, you should have received an email regarding instructions on how to book a time spot with your child's teacher for a parent/teacher conference. Please follow the link included to find our online booking program and choose your spot. There will be both afternoon and evening spots available, but will fill up fast. If you need assistance, please contact the office. If you would like to meet or have a phone call outside of the bookable time spots available, please contact your child's teacher to see what can be arranged. It is our hope that 100% of our students' families will be able to book a time and connect with our teachers about the educational journey of their children. Interviews are in person this year, but can also take the form of a phone call or video conference if specifically requested.

Communication at King: At King Traditional school we view our parents as educational partners. We appreciate connection and communication between families and our learning community because the better understanding we collectively have of our students, the better position we find ourselves in to support meaningful educational opportunities. This kind of educational relationship requires communication. The educational staff here at King would like to remind you that they are happy to connect with you via email, phone calls, digital platforms such as Seesaw, or book times to speak with you on campus. They would also like to remind you that the district policy for communication is to consult with teachers first, and if you have further questions or need additional support, to contact the principal second. Teachers are the most informed about what is happening in the classroom, and are in the best position to offer insight into instruction and/or social/emotional areas. Please feel free to reach out to our educational team so that we can further strengthen the connection to our families.





King Traditional Elementary School

Coming up:

October 12th: Soccer game hosted by King after school today (3pm)

October 13th: Terry Fox run outside on track, 'splattering' teacher with paint afterward as part of our fundraiser conclusion.

October 13th: Earthquake Drill at 10 am

October 18th and 19th: Early Dismissal for Parent Teacher Interviews. School dismissed at 11:54 each day (prior to lunchtime). Book an appointment online with your child's teacher.

October 20th: Professional Development day across the district (no school)

October 23rd: PAC meeting at King, 6pm in our library. See you there!

October 24th: King soccer away game at Rotary Fields, 3pm

October 25th: Intermediate students (grade 4 and 5) visiting ATS during the day

October 27th: Fire Drill at 1:30 pm

October 31st: Halloween. Dress up (optional) day for students.

