



Pitt Meadows Secondary School Ecole Secondaire Pitt Meadows

19438 116B Avenue
Pitt Meadows, BC V3Y 1G1
T: 604-465-7141
www.pmss.sd42.ca

A News Update for Spring 2019

FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff and students for their efforts. There were many exciting events that happened since our winter break in our school community.

Last week, we had the opening of The Meraki Gallery. It was a wonderful evening that showcased the beautiful artwork of our students. Some of our talented PMSS musicians provided beautiful music for us to enjoy as well. The Maple Ridge Art Gallery has 19 pieces of our students' artistic creations on display in the gallery for the month of March. I encourage you to go enjoy the creative works of many of our students in School District 42. Our Senior Girls Basketball team visited Orlando to play basketball and had a super time making memories. Our school community came together to celebrate our students' artistic and athletic talents in a pep rally. Our mathematics department created many activities for students to enjoy for PI day (March 14) during flex time. Our LINK leaders have created opportunities for our grade 8 students. Congratulations to our Senior Boys Basketball team for advancing to the Provincials. Additionally, there is a Chess tournament happening during Flex. Students are part of a tile painting project. Also, we have a group of students on a Humanitarian trip to the Dominican Republic over spring break to build a home for a family. We are also so grateful for the Metis dancer that provided an amazing cultural experience for our PE classes. There are so many opportunities for our students to enjoy in our school community. Special thanks to the staff of PMSS for creating these many opportunities for our students.

I wish you all a restful break. When we return, I encourage you to continue to embrace the many learning opportunities that our school has to offer and remember to use your flex time wisely. As always, please do not hesitate to call, email or pop by if you have any questions.

Warm regards,

Cheryl Schwarz

Happy Spring Break

The Meraki Gallery

brought to you by New & Emerging Artists from PMSS

This Gallery was formed by various students in grades 10-12 who share the belief that each individual has a unique talent. They each possess an ability to present their own perspectives on the trials, values and beliefs seen around the world.

Meraki, from Greek origin, means: To do something with Soul, Creativity, or Love; to put something of yourself into your work.

Thursday, March 7th was the grand opening of The Meraki Gallery. Thank you to the artists and musicians for sharing their talent. Specials thanks to Ms. Dearman, Ms. Mol and Mr. Bain.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(dates subject to revision)

March 18 - 29

- Spring Break

April 1

- School Reopens

April 8

- PAC Meeting 7pm

April 12

- Late Start 9:50am

April 15 - 18

- Literary Week

April 19 & 22

- Easter Holidays

April 23

- GT Presentations

April 29

- Non-Instructional Day

May 6

- PAC Meeting 7pm

May 10

- Late Start 9:50am

May 20 & 21

- Victoria Day Holiday
- Non-Instructional Day

May 23

- Aboriginal Ed Awards

May 24

- Prom & Dry Grad

May 29

- Grade 7 Day @ PMSS

June 20

- Term 3 Ends

June 21 - 27

- Numeracy Assessment

June 24

- EN12 Provincials

June 25

- FRAL Provincial
- Grad Ceremony 5pm

June 26

- COM12 Provincial
- Last Day for Students
- e-Report Cards 3pm

Good Readers
 Determine Important Ideas Make Mental Pictures Summarize
 Access Background Knowledge Make Inferences
 Identify Interpret Literary Elements Make Predictions
 • Make Connections
Literacy Week
 Reflect Respond Reading Strategies
 Figure Out Unknown Words Extract Information
 Self-Monitor Self-Correct
 Draw Conclusions

In an effort to spread awareness about the role of literacy across disciplines, a number of teachers from the district high schools have been collaboratively planning a literacy week (April 15-18th) celebration for staff and students. There will be a variety of activities and games, contests and draws, and visual displays, all promoting literacy in a range of subjects and curriculum. This event is inclusive of all learners as the diversity of activities allows for learners to participate at any level. Beginning next year, grade 10 students will be introduced to a Ministry of Education literacy assessment. In the 2020/21 school year, there will be a second literacy assessment written at the grade 12 level. Literacy week is one way to help teachers and students recognize literacy around us before the assessments start.

2020 Spring Break Tour

Visit the Alps, Provence and the Mediterranean Coast during Spring Break Tour, March 2020. Start in Zurich got to Lucerne, Lake Como, Cinque Terre, Monaco, Nice, Provence and Barcelona. If you would like more information, please email hburrows@sd42.ca.



Attention Grads and Grad parents

Please ensure your grad write-up for the yearbook is submitted online.

Grad parents, please ensure you have paid the \$25 fee (online or cash/cheque payable to PMSS) and that your parent dedication and baby picture are submitted online

2019 Graduating Class



Grad Corner

A big thank you to those Gr. 12 parents who came out to our meeting on March 6th. We have received 55% of the 145 expected Grad Deposits. The deposit covers the cost of Prom at Swaneset. Please get your \$100 in ASAP. Payment can be made through the SD42 Parent Portal, or cash/cheque to the office.

Fundraising has been great to date! As a result, Dry Grad ticket prices will be reduced to \$120 for those who have paid their Deposit by April 15, or \$150 for those who haven't. Dry Grad tickets will be available April 1 – May 17 through the Parent Portal or cash/cheque to the office. Graduates wishing to bring a guest to Prom dinner/dance and Dry Grad must complete and return a Guest Application form and payment to Ms. Schwarz for approval no later than May 1. The form is available at <https://pmss.sd42.ca/grad-prom-dry-grad/>

We have a few remaining fundraisers – students are organizing the Spring Fling Dance on Tuesday, April 16, and selling Candy Bags on select days the rest of the year. The Italian Dinner and silent auction has been moved to Monday, April 29. Details and tickets will be available soon! If you have any donations for the silent auction or prizes for students at Dry Grad, please contact pmssgrad2019@gmail.com.

We still have our account at Pitt Meadows Bottle Depot – please drop off your empties and ask that the money be applied to Account #93 before they start ringing through your empties. Black & Lee will be at PMSS on April 18 from 2pm to 4:30pm. They will have mannequins on display, and coats, pants, shirts, shoes and coloured vests to try on for sizes. Staff will be able to help the Grad find the style he is looking for.

The Grads have also expressed interest in getting the mechanical bull for Dry Grad. We didn't order this originally because we heard of the difficulty in getting parents to sign the consent forms in previous years. We have decided that if we get 85% of the forms into the office by April 2 we will order it. Please see following link for the form: <https://pmss.sd42.ca/grad-prom-dry-grad/>

To keep current with "all things" Grad – please visit the Grad page at <https://pmss.sd42.ca/grad/>

This page includes details on Prom, Dry Grad and the Commencement Ceremony, and links to the Guest forms and Mechanical Bull waiver.

Thank you!

Grad 2019 Parent Committee



**2018/19
Graduation Assessment Schedule
British Columbia, Yukon and Offshore
Schools**

APRIL 2019

DATE	COURSE CODE AND SUBJECT	FORMAT	TIME*
Thursday April 25	EN 12 English 12	E	9:00 am - 11:00 am
Friday April 26	EFP 12 English First Peoples 12	E	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Friday April 26	COM 12 Communications 12	E	9:00 am - 11:00 am

JUNE 2019

DATE	COURSE CODE AND SUBJECT	FORMAT	TIME*
Friday – Thurs June 21 – 27	NME Numeracy Assessment	E&P	9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Monday June 24	NMF Évaluation de numératie	E&P	9:00 am - 3:00 pm
	EN 12 English 12	E or P	9:00 am - 11:00 am
	EFP 12 English 12 First Peoples	E	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Tuesday June 25	FRALP 12 Français langue première 12	E	9:00 am - 11:00 am
	FRAL 12 Français langue seconde immersion 12	E	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Wednesday June 26	COM 12 Communications 12	E or P	9:00 am - 11:00 am

The Oral Component of French Language exams – the administration window for both Français langue première 12 and Français langue-seconde immersion 12 is **May 6 – 31, 2019**

June Return Dates

Monday, JUNE 24, 2019
EN 12 and the NMF Student Choice Component

Thursday, JUNE 27, 2019
COM 12 and the NME Student Choice Component

Term 2 e-Report Cards

will be available for parents and students, via your MyClass account, the afternoon of Friday, March 15.



Most of you have already created a MyClass account. MyClass is a separate system from the School District Parent Portal. If you require additional assistance in setting up an account, email MyClass@sd42.ca or go to the following School District 42 link <https://myedbc.sd42.ca/MyClass>.

The school no longer hands out printed copies of report cards. The e-Report will only be available for 30 calendar days; therefore, it is important to save and print a copy for your records.



Do you want to be the next PMSS Iron Chef Champion? The Foods Department will be hosting the Iron Chef Competition on Thursday, May 2 from 3:00pm-6:00pm.

Students who are interested in this competition will need to see Ms. Thorarinson, Ms. Shields or Mr. Bain in April for a registration form.

Stay tuned to the announcements for more information.

Grade 7 Day - May 29

Grade 7 Day is on **Wednesday May 29**, for the full day, 8:45am to 2:00pm. This is the day where incoming grade 7 students for September 2019 attend to get a feel of what high school will be like, meet the teachers and get familiar with PMSS.

These students will fill in for our current grade 8 students, so there will be no classes for our grade 8 students this day.

Flex Time

Please note that students have flex time each day from 9:35-10:35. As flex is considered instructional time, it is mandatory for all students to attend the flex block. Students may use flex time to work on projects, receive help from a teacher, work collaboratively on projects or explore passion projects. At various times throughout the year, there may be special flex activities, such as gingerbread house design, that require advanced sign up. Special assemblies and presentations are also scheduled during flex time. For the week following spring break, students are required to attend the assigned flex block. For example, if they have Ms. Jones for Block B and it is Flex B, they will be required to go to Flex B with Ms. Jones. As always, teachers will take attendance. During the week of April 8-12, flex will resume as usual and students will once again choose one of their teachers to go to during the Flex block. It is important to understand that, as flex is instructional time, a teacher can require a student to attend their assigned flex block at their discretion.

Student Council

Student Council President, Makena McLean and her amazing team of Student Council members have had a busy year so far. Their mandate is to improve the physical space of the school as well as boosting school spirit and creating opportunities for the student population to follow their passions. This group is responsible for lobbying for school improvements such as repairs to the washrooms, bringing in a filtration system for the water fountain, funding clubs and organizing spirit weeks as well as raising awareness for mental health and anti-bullying initiatives. This team of individuals from grade 8 to 11 have been meeting with Ms. Wallisch every Monday to implement a plan to improve their school and help make a difference in our school community. New members are always welcome to join. Meetings are after school in the library.

Link Crew

This year's Link Crew program is winding down and invitations will soon be going out to grade 10 and 11 students who may be good candidates to join the program for next year. Link Crew is a program where senior leaders mentor grade 8s in an effort to make the transition from elementary to secondary school as seamless as possible. Current grade 10 and 11 students who are interested may apply for the program by submitting an online application which can be found in the course selection book on the PMSS website. There will be an information meeting during FLEX on Tuesday, April 16th in the library.

Our final Link Crew event will be the "Grade 8 Lock-In" which is a fun filled evening and overnight sleepover at the school! The event will take place on Friday, April 12th. Grade 8s, see your link leader for more information.

The Library Commons

Poetry Slam Competition

The Library will be hosting a Poetry Slam competition on Wednesday, April 31st to determine who will compete at the District Poetry Slam event at MRSS on May 8th. All grades and students are welcome to showcase their talent, but the eligible contestants will be drawn from the Poetry Slam Club. To showcase and perform please sign up in the library.

Chess Club

The PMSS Library has once again brought back The Chess Club. Practice rounds, with mini tutorials led by Mr. Lemmen, are happening in the library on Flex Fridays. The official competition will begin on Friday, April 26th. Who will be the King or Queen of the board?

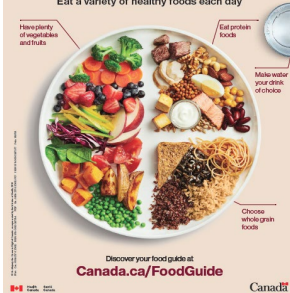
Battle of The Books

A group of avid readers have been preparing for the district Battle of the Books competition on April 17th at Westview Secondary School. The Pitt Meadows Secondary School team has brought home the trophy the last two years and have won four of the eight competitions. They are looking forward to some friendly competition and sharing their love of books with other like-minded students from across the district. They will have an opportunity to participate in a Skype call with Kerry Kletter, author of the novel The First Time She Drowned.

The New Canada's Food Guide – What do the changes mean to your family?

The new [Canada's Food Guide](#) helps support healthy eating for you and your family. With the new changes, it's the perfect time to create new habits one small step at a time. Here are some of the more significant changes:

Healthy Food Choices

- **The four food groups have been replaced with a picture of a healthy plate.** Aim to fill half of your plate with a variety of vegetables and fruits, and the other half with equal amounts of protein and whole grain foods.
- 
- **Milk products are now listed as a source of protein** along with beans, nuts, seeds, lean meats, fish, and eggs.
 - Continue to enjoy lower fat dairy products (i.e. milk, yogurt and cheese). Dairy products provide important nutrients like calcium and vitamin D for your family.
 - Choose protein food that comes from plants more often. These delicious [recipes](#) include options for plant-based meals.
 - **Fruit juice is now recognized as a sugary drink** along with iced tea, chocolate milk and soft drinks. Sugary drinks are not recommended; make water the drink of choice.

Healthy Eating Habits

The new Food Guide explains “how” to eat healthy in addition to “what” to eat. Here are a couple of examples:

- **Cook more often.** Children like to be included in the [planning and preparation of meals](#). It helps build their confidence and cooking skills, and is a great way to connect with your child. The new Food Guide includes [tips on preparing meals](#) with kids.
- **[Eat meals with your family](#)** and be free from distractions such as electronic devices or television.

Accessing the Food Guide

The new food guide is mobile friendly. You can also [print](#) copies or [order](#) copies from Health Canada.

Written by Fraser Health Public Health Dietitians Mar 2019

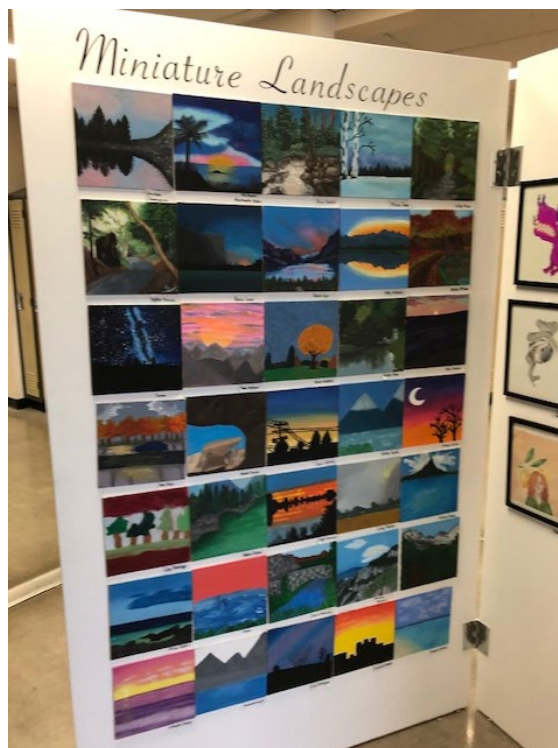
The Redesigned Curriculum at Pitt Meadows Secondary

ABORIGINAL WORLDVIEWS & PERSPECTIVES IN THE CLASSROOM

First Peoples principles of learning

From kindergarten to graduation, students will experience Aboriginal perspectives and understandings as an integrated part of their learning journey. The inclusion of Indigenous ways of knowing and being is based on the understanding that Aboriginal perspectives and knowledge are a part of the historical and contemporary foundation of BC and Canada.

An important goal in integrating Aboriginal perspectives into curricula is to ensure that all learners have opportunities to understand and respect their own cultural heritage as well as that of others. There are two important aspects to embedding these principles of learning into classroom experiences. First, all students will be celebrated as individuals in a strength-based, learner-centred environment and second, all students will be nurtured in their understanding of the healing around Truth and Reconciliation.



Students share the story of their art work at the opening of The Meraki Gallery at PMSS. One of the First Peoples Principles of Learning outlines that learning takes patience and time. This was evident through their beautiful creations and the story they shared about the development of the art gallery.



Redesigned Curriculum: Know-Do-Understand

All areas of learning are based on a “**Know-Do-Understand**” model to support a concept-based, competency-driven approach to learning. In this model, three elements work together to support deeper learning: **Content (Know)**, **Curricular Competencies (Do)**, and **Big Ideas (Understand)**. BC’s new curriculum design enables a personalized, flexible and innovative approach at all levels of the education system. All areas of learning have been redesigned using this model.