

Pitt Meadows Secondary School

Ecole Secondaire Pitt Meadows

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March 2026 Newsletter

March 4, 2026

Dear PMSS Families:

As we head into the final week before Spring Break, I would like to take a moment to share some important updates and celebrate the many accomplishments of our students during Term 2.

Term 2 Student Learning Updates:

Term 2 has been a busy and productive season of learning. Across all departments, students have been engaged in meaningful academic work, collaborative projects, and skill development. Teachers are currently finalizing assessments and preparing feedback that reflects both achievement and growth. We encourage families to take time to review the Learning Updates together and celebrate the progress students have made so far this year or make plans for intervention moving into the final term. If you have any questions about particular courses, please be sure to reach out to the classroom teacher (all staff emails are listed on the PMSS Website under the STAFF top tab).

Term 2 Report Cards will be published on Thursday, March 12th by 3:00 p.m. They will be viewable on your Parent MyClass account. *If you are having any issues accessing the system, please email myclass@sd42.ca.* Any specific questions should be directed to subject teachers.

Student-Led Conferences:

We are looking forward to our upcoming Student-Led Conferences on Thursday, April 16th. These conferences are an important opportunity for students to take ownership of their learning by sharing their progress, reflecting on strengths, and identifying next steps. More information regarding scheduling and preparation will be sent home after Spring Break. We value your partnership and look forward to these conversations.

2026-2027 Course Selection:

With student course selection now complete, the Counsellors and the Administration team will now start building the timetable for the 2026/2027 academic year. This is no small feat; with over 80,000 course requests, the timetabling team will start to build course numbers and section counts and determine teaching & room assignments for the next year. This process starts in January and continues into June. When counsellors and administrators return in August, we finalize student schedules prior to publishing in early September. Without a doubt this process is one of the most complicated aspects of the job (think of a 80,000 piece jigsaw puzzle) and we work to satisfy student choice, often getting into a 98% satisfaction rate. Once schedules are published, if students have any questions, they can reach out to Counsellors in the opening weeks of the school year.

France Trip – Spring Break:

Over Spring Break, a group of students and staff from MRSS and PMSS will be travelling to France on a linguistic trip. This exciting opportunity will allow students to experience French culture, history and language firsthand. We wish our travelers a safe journey and look forward to hearing about their experiences when they return. Bon Voyage!

Athletics:

Congratulations to all our basketball and lacrosse teams on a *fantastic* season. Our athletes demonstrated commitment, sportsmanship, and school pride throughout league and tournament play. A HUGE thank you to all our coaches, sponsors, and families for their time and support, and to our students who came out to cheer on our teams. We are proud of the effort and growth shown both on and off the court. A special shout out to our Senior Girls Basketball team on making Provincials and also to our graduating student athletes. Your involvement and play made the entire school community proud of you. Well done!

Flex Time Update:

As a school, we continue to refine and strengthen our Flex Time model. With the new Flex Sign-In procedure, staff have been reviewing and monitoring student engagement to ensure this time is being used purposefully for academic support, enrichment, and connection. We are seeing positive results in targeted support for students and active engagement and we will continue to make adjustments in order to maximize its impact.

Grad 2026:

Our Parent Grad Committee is continuing to work very hard to fundraise and collect door prizes for our Prom (Dinner/Dance) and Dry Grad in May. A HUGE thank you for all their efforts. There are still several fundraisers ongoing so be sure to check out the PMSS website and the parent portal for updates!

The form to preorder and pay for your **Cap & Gown Package** is out and due back by next Friday, March 13th. Ticket information regarding Prom (Dinner/Dance) and Dry Grad will be coming out after Spring Break.

Grade 12 students should also note that the **FIRM deadline to submit your SD42 Scholarship Applications is NEXT Thursday, March 12th**. More information related to scholarship opportunities can be found at <https://pmssgrads.wordpress.com/scholarships/> Any students with questions can also pop by the Career Centre on a Tuesday or Thursday, to see Ms. McArdle.

I want to extend my sincere thanks to each of you for your ongoing support and commitment to making Pitt a great community school. Your dedication to our students' success makes this such a great school.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's individual teachers, one of our Counsellors or your child's Grade Administrator. Staff contact information can be found on the school website at <https://secondary.sd42.ca/pmss/> under the STAFF top tab.

I wish all of our families and staff members a safe, restful, and enjoyable Spring Break. We look forward to welcoming students back refreshed and ready for a strong finish to the school year.

Until next time - be well & take care,

Colin Sharpe

Principal – Pitt Meadows Secondary School

Do you follow PMSS on Instagram? Our Vice Principal Ms. Girbav posts *all* kinds of great pictures of everyday 'Pitt-life' and reminders of school events.
@pittsecondary

Some Important Dates/Upcoming Events:

- March 8thClocks 'spring ahead'... (for the last time apparently)
- March 9thBingo at Flex; Grad Parent Committee Meeting at 7:00 pm (all Grad parents welcome)
- March 10th Jeopardy at Flex
- March 11th Jersey Day; Food Truck Day at PMSS
- March 12th PJ Day and Storytime at Flex; Scholarship Application Deadline; Report Cards on MyClass by 3pm; No Cafeteria Service (there will be an alternate lunch fundraiser in lieu)
- March 13thGrade Colour Day/Battle of the Grades in the afternoon; No Cafeteria Service (there will be an alternate lunch fundraiser in lieu)
- March 16-27thSpring Break
- March 30th No Cafeteria Service (there will be an alternate lunch fundraiser in lieu)
- April 2ndGrade 9 Immunization Catch-up Day (alternate day if needed is April 9th); PMSS Spring Craft Fair in the late afternoon/evening
- April 3rd Good Friday – STAT Holiday
- April 6thEaster Monday – STAT Holiday
- April 7thEaster Egg Hunt (details TBA); Fire Drill #4
- April 16thStudent-led Conference Day (no regular school for students, they only attend for their conference times)
- April 17th Late Start at PMSS
- April 28thGrade 8 Rotation #4 Ends
- April 29thGrade 8 Rotation #5 Starts
- April 30th Leadership Move Night (details TBA)

SD42 homestay program info night: Becoming a host family for an International Student

Are you interested in welcoming an international student into your home? Call 604.466.6555, ext. 3, or email inted@sd42.ca for more information or to register.

Hosting an international student allows you and your family to experience new cultures and connections while making a significant difference in a student's life. Host families are a valuable part of the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows International Education program and provide our students with support to help them adjust to living away from home. This support helps students have a positive experience both academically and out of school.

Whether you have hosted in the past or are new to the experience, we have varying program lengths, allowing you to choose which works best for your family.

Learn more at <https://inted.sd42.ca/host-a-student/hosting-information/>.

Pitt Meadows Spring Programs Registration Opens March 3, 2026

The Pitt Meadows Spring Program Guide is now available online. The City of Pitt Meadows Parks, Recreation & Culture Guide is packed with a variety of activities, kids basketball, youth disc golf, sewing, sound bathing, core stretch and strength, weight training, there's programs for all age groups!

Registration opens Tuesday, March 3 at 8 a.m. Visit pittmeadows.ca/programguide for details.

Low-Cost and Free Activities at Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre:

Parent & Tot Mini Gym 0-5Y

Looking for an indoor activity? PMFRC offers low-cost [Parent & Tot Mini Gym](#) in the gymnasium on Mondays and Wednesdays (10:05-11:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (9-11 a.m.) for only \$1 per child.

Value Times at the Fitness Centre

Work out at the fitness centre during our value times. It's only \$1 for youth (13-18Y) and seniors (60Y+) and \$2 for adults (19-59Y). Value times are: Tuesday 10-11:30 a.m., Wednesday 8-9 p.m., Thursday 6-7 a.m. and Saturday from 3-6 p.m.

Community Services - Let's Play (FREE Registered Program)

Let's Play is a vibrant and inclusive community program for all ages led by Community Services. Families will engage in a variety of play opportunities with their child, such as loose parts, sensory explorations, the wonder of art, music and movement, science discoveries and more. **Registration is required.** See location, dates and [full details](#), or register at pittfitandfun.ca.

Youth Week in Pitt Meadows – May 1 to 7

Join us for Youth Week! Drop by the Constable Rick O'Brien Youth Lounge from May 1 to 7 for FREE drop-in youth (11-17Y) activities. The Youth Lounge is located in the Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre. Learn more: bcyouthweek.com or pittmeadows.ca/youth

FREE Family Lounge Drop-In Program – Sundays from 3-7 p.m.

Drop by the Constable Rick O'Brien Youth Lounge with your family! The Youth Lounge will open Sundays, from 3-7 p.m. for a time of unstructured activities for you and your children. Enjoy a variety of activities including billiards, ping pong, video games, retro arcade and board games. There is also a concession with food and drinks. Our Recreation team will be on hand to supervise, but please remember that this is a parent-led program. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times. Older siblings (11Y+) are also welcome, but must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. For questions or details about this program contact the Youth Lounge Supervisor at abuckle@pittmeadows.ca or 604.465.2456.

FREE Gardening Workshops (16Y+)

Enjoy one or all of these beginner-friendly garden workshops: Herb Harvest & Garden Tea Gathering, Pollinators & Edible Flowers, Small Space Gardening & Companion Planting, Soil to Seedling. **Registration is required.** See dates and full details in the [spring guide](#) or register at pittfitandfun.ca.

And There's More:

Youth Ambassadors Wanted!

Do you want to represent and celebrate amazing youth in our community? The City is looking for Youth Ambassadors from Grades 1 to 6. Learn more about this opportunity at pittmeadowsday.ca.

FREE Family Events in Pitt Meadows

The City of Pitt Meadows proudly hosts a number of community events throughout the year. Some upcoming events from April to June 2026 include the [Pitt Meadows Day](#) and [Pride](#). For full details about community events and activities, visit pittmeadows.ca/specialevents.

Personal Training at the Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre

From Teen Weight Training to Personal Training, there are a variety of individual and group programs available. See full details in the [Spring Guide](#).

Park Amenity and Grabenhorst Garden Donation Programs

The City of Pitt Meadows offers residents, community groups, businesses and visitors the opportunity to honour a loved one, commemorate a special occasion or give back to the community. From memorial plaques to benches, these programs are designed to create lasting tributes while supporting local spaces and initiatives. Learn more about the Grabenhorst Garden Donation Program and Parks Amenity Program in the [Spring Guide](#).

Experience Art & Culture at the Pitt Meadows Art Gallery

The Pitt Meadows Art Gallery (PMAG) is located on the main floor of the South Bonson Community Centre in Pitt Meadows. PMAG is committed to supporting local and regional artists and artisans and will showcase six exhibitions per year at the main gallery and four exhibitions per year at the pop-up gallery. Admission to the gallery is free and all work is available for sale.

The Pop-Up PMAG can be found in the lobby at City Hall. This satellite gallery showcases smaller collections of work from Lower Mainland artists. For more information about the gallery and the exhibits visit pittmeadows.ca/pmag.

Discover Trails in Pitt Meadows

Discover the beauty of the outdoors by venturing through the scenic trails and dikes of Pitt Meadows. View the Pitt Meadows [Trail Guide online](#) or pick up a printed copy at the Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre, the South Bonson Community Centre, City Hall or the Pitt Meadows Library.

Disc Golf Anyone?

Bonson Park is a vibrant, multi-use community space designed for year-round fun and connection, offering amenities for everyone to enjoy. The Bonson Disc Golf Course is open for play and located at 11546 Bonson Road, Pitt Meadows. Keep score when you play and [download a printable score card](#). Drop by today! Learn more at pittmeadows.ca/bonsonpark

Explore and Discover Grabenhorst Garden

Established in 2025, Grabenhorst Garden is a stunning five-acre sanctuary nestled within the Agricultural Land Reserve of Pitt Meadows. This land has a rich story—once a horse pasture in the 1970s, then a Christmas tree farm, and now a flourishing public garden shaped by decades of love and care. As you explore, you'll discover ornamental gardens, a tranquil pond, accessible pathways, a historic barn, a place of remembrance, a community orchard and edible garden and spaces for environmental education. We hope you enjoy your visit! Open year-round 9 a.m. to dusk, Friday to Monday. Admission is Free.

Plan your visit and learn more today: pittmeadows.ca/grabenhorst

Do you know a climate champion?

NOMINATE THEM FOR THE 2026 MAPLE RIDGE

CLIMATE CHAMPION AWARDS



Climate Champions come in many forms:



HOUSING AND BUILDINGS CHAMPIONS

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE CHAMPIONS



NET ZERO EMISSIONS CHAMPIONS

GREEN TRANSPORTATION CHAMPIONS



COMPACT COMMUNITIES CHAMPIONS

CIRCULAR ECONOMY CHAMPIONS



Climate Champions are people or organizations in Maple Ridge who are making a difference in the fight against Climate Change.

If you see one, nominate for the Fifth Annual Climate Champion Awards, presented at Earth Day on April 18, 2026!

submit at mapleridgeclimatehub.ca by March 31, 2026



Earth Day '26 Contests



PHOTO contest

All entries will be posted on the Celebrate Earth Day Facebook Page and will be open for public voting from April 5 – 11.

Be creative!

KIDS

10 and under

YOUTH

11-16

ADULTS

17+

Show us your stuff!

Winners may be asked to present their work at the Earth Day Welcoming Ceremonies on Saturday, April 18, 2026

Poems must be 350-words or less.



POETRY contest



reConnect

TO ENTER:

Submit ALL entries to

EDcontests@rmrecycling.org by MIDNIGHT on **March 31.**

Include your name, age (if under 17), BC mailing address, phone number, & email address. Winners will be announced and awarded at the Earth Day Welcoming Ceremonies on April 18th. More information at **www.mrearthday.ca**





MAKE AN IMPACT WITH THE LOWER MAINLAND GREEN TEAM & ALOUETTE RIVER MANAGEMENT SOCIETY!



Meet new people, spend time outside, try new things, gain volunteer hours & restore salmon habitat, all while having fun!

Sat. Mar. 7th, 2026

9:45am - 1pm

Trethewey Salmon Spawning Channel, Maple Ridge

Remove invasive blackberry to help protect salmon near 216 St & 132 Ave

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! All ages & abilities welcome.
Gloves, tools, snacks & educational instruction provided!

MORE INFO, SIGN UP, & OTHER ACTIVITIES!

Scan the QR code, visit bit.ly/greenteam-mar7-2026
OR email Max Muehlen, at Max@greenteamsCanada.ca



Made possible through partnership between Green Teams of Canada & the Alouette River Management Society (ARMS).

We're Looking for **Volunteers**



Soccer Day Camps *...more than just a soccer/camp!*

**Apply
Online Today**

- Sign up for any of 3 sessions:**
- ✓ Full Days (9am - 4pm, 35hrs/wk)
 - ✓ Mornings (9am - 12pm, 15hrs/wk)
 - ✓ Afternoons (1 - 4pm, 15hrs/wk)
- Weeks in July or August**

For more information:

 royalsoccerclub.com

 **800-427-0536**

For location & application details visit our website.



Saturday, April 18, 2026
Memorial Peace Park,
Maple Ridge
Festival: 10am - 2pm

Call for Volunteers

- Share Your Talents • Learn New Skills
- Earn Volunteer Hours • Make New Friends
- Have Fun Giving Back to the Community



Volunteer Opportunities Include:

- Festival Site Crews • Traffic & Barricades
- Festival Activities • Zero Waste/Food Court • Office/Admin
- Community Lead-up Events, and more!

For more information email
EDVolunteers@rmrecycling.org

or sign up online at
www.mrearthday.ca



It takes many hands - Celebrate Earth Day is happy to have yours!