

**October 2023**

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## Message from the Principal

Thank you everyone who made it out to our Unsworth "Meet the Teacher!" night...It was great to see & meet so many of our families. So good to be able to see everyone enjoying this amazing fall sunshine. September was a very busy and productive month for our school community! We are now settling into the routines for the school year and are now launching our intervention programs and initiatives.

**Our school's mission is to create a *positive, safe, caring place where we work together, responsibly, and respectfully to fully develop each child's individual skills and abilities.*** At Unsworth Elementary School, we are working collaboratively to create an inclusive learning community where students practice leadership and service at school, in the local community as well as the global community. Over the past month, our students showed this community mindedness through participating in bus evacuation training & our annual Terry Fox Run, and our enduring commitment to our **Orange Shirt Day** activities to encourage students and families to learn more about Truth and Reconciliation in

Canada. Thank you to everyone for your continued support & being a part of these very important initiatives here at Unsworth.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning, **please contact their classroom teacher first.** Remember to check our school website ([unsworth.sd33.bc.ca](http://unsworth.sd33.bc.ca)) for school news. In addition, we have a PAC Facebook page, so please "like" us and keep up-to-date with on-going and upcoming events. We also have an Instagram account.

To follow this account please:

1. Go to unsworthelementary on Instagram and request to follow.
2. Email [shawn\\_mcleod@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:shawn_mcleod@sd33.bc.ca) to notify me of your request to follow and indicate your Instagram user name, your actual name and your children's names (to verify you are a parent at our school). **If you do not email us this information, we will not be able to add you to our group.** This account is only for Unsworth parents.

## Munch a Lunch

A reminder that ordering for the Hot Lunch for Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> closes Wednesday, Oct 11<sup>th</sup>. Please go to our Unsworth website and click on the [Munch-A-Lunch](#) link and place your order. Additionally, the feed an eagle option is up again if parents are able to donate, our PAC will use those funds to purchase lunch for kids who would normally not be able to take part.

## Upcoming Pro D Days

There are Pro D Days on Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, October 20<sup>th</sup>, November 10<sup>th</sup> and November 24<sup>th</sup>.



## Thanksgiving – October 9<sup>th</sup>

Thanksgiving Day is October 9<sup>th</sup> and the schools will be closed. May you enjoy the warmth of family this season and the harvest of the feast!

## The Great BC Shakeout – Oct 19<sup>th</sup>

On Thursday, Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, we will participate in the Great BC Shakeout Drill along with thousands of other British Columbians and hundreds of schools. The Great BC shakeout website has a wealth of information pertaining to earthquake and emergency preparedness for both home and workplaces.

## THANK YOU! SPECTRUM MEDICAL!



Thank you for sponsoring Unsworth Elementary for 10 free tickets to each home game of the Chilliwack Chiefs! We will be using these tickets as incentives for students in grades K – 5 and hope that they enjoy the excitement of Junior Hockey in Chilliwack. Thanks again, Spectrum Medical, for your generous donation!!

## Bowls of Hope

We are very fortunate to have established a partnership with the Bowls for Hope lunch program. Hearty and nutritious soup, buns and milk is delivered to the school each day. The program ensures healthy lunches for students that may not have a lunch or on “those” days when a lunch has been forgotten at home. It is not intended to replace lunches when students “don’t like” their lunch. If students don’t have a lunch, they ask the supervisor for a soup pass, they eat their soup in the pod and return to class just prior to the playtime bell. We have established the program as an open-door program to avoid any stigma. However, attendance is taken so in the event that a student is a frequent attender, parents will be notified to ensure the parent is aware.

## Photo Retake Day – October 27<sup>th</sup>

Individual picture day RETAKES are on **October 27<sup>th</sup>**. Students that were away or require a photo retake will be called to the music room for their picture.

[HOW TO ORDER](#)

## Remembrance Day – Schools closed Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>

We will be having our Remembrance Day Assembly on **Thursday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.** Schools are closed on Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup> to commemorate Remembrance Day.

### Attendance Reminder

Thank you to everyone for using our new Safe Arrival Program. It seems to be working smoothly. Please click on the link for more information. [SAFE ARRIVAL](#)

### Lost and Found

We will have the Lost and Found items displayed in our front entrance area for the students to check through soon. Please encourage your child to look for items they may have lost as we will be donating remaining items to a local charity on **October 27<sup>th</sup>**.

## Nut Aware

Please remember that Unsworth is a “Nut Aware” school. We have many students who have serious, life-threatening nut allergies. Reaction to contact (touch, ingestion, even smell) with nuts or nut products can send these students into anaphylactic shock. Students (with their parents’ support and guidance) have done an awesome job of watching what they bring for lunch and snacks. Please remember that due to the sticky nature of peanut butter, it is especially dangerous for students with nut allergies as it can remain on surfaces (tables, chairs, taps...) long after students have left the eating area. Please help us keep all of our students safe by not sending peanut butter or tree nut products to school. Thank you for your assistance in maintaining a safe school for all of our students.

**NEW**

## FAMILY PORTRAITS – Coming to Unsworth Elementary School on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> Just in time for Christmas!

Sitting fee is \$30.00 with 100% of the fee donated to the school  
10 minute sittings... 12-18 online previews for ordering  
Each family receives a complimentary 8x10 Portrait



**A link to sign up for your portraits will be emailed out this week. Time slots will fill up quickly so keep an eye on your emails!!**

## Dates to Remember

Happy Halloween Everyone!

Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup> ..... Pro D Day  
Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> ..... Hot Lunch – order on [Munch-a-Lunch](#)  
Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> ..... Thanksgiving  
Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> ..... Parent / Teacher Conferences (4-6 pm)  
Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> ..... Math Mania Drop-In @ Unsworth Gym 6 – 7:30 p.m.  
Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> ..... Early Dismissal (11:15)  
Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup> ..... Pro D Day  
Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> ..... Photo Retakes  
Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> ..... Hot Lunch – order on [Munch-a-Lunch](#)  
Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> ..... Happy Halloween – Costume Parade 1:15 @ school



## Math Mania – October 18<sup>th</sup>

Math Mania is an evening of mathematical demonstrations, puzzles, and hands-on activities for elementary or middle school children. It's been designed by members of the University of the Fraser Valley's Department of Mathematics & Statistics to show children – and their parents – how much fun you can have playing with mathematical concepts... So come spend some time with us on **October 18<sup>th</sup>** in the Gym from 6 – 7:30 at Unsworth Elementary and have some fun with us 😊

## More Important PAC Information

### Hot Lunch

Munch-a-lunch is ready. Our hot lunch program will begin Friday Oct 13<sup>th</sup>. We are using Munch-A-Lunch again this year for ordering. Our parent volunteers have worked hard to find a wide variety of local businesses to participate this year, as well, PAC will be doing a few hot dog days (they will be boiled).

New family to Unsworth? - Head to our school's website and find the [Munch-A-Lunch](#) icon and follow the steps to set up your account and add your child or children. You will do this by class/teacher's name. Returning family to Unsworth - Simply log on and edit your child or children's profile to their current class and teacher.

Once you are set up, you can order for all the dates that are available. Ordering closes one week before the lunch date at 11:59 pm.

Payment – Can be made online through Munch-A-Lunch, however, cheque and cash are accepted at the office if they are marked as "Hot Lunch Money" and include your child or children's name.

If there are questions or concerns this year regarding hot lunch, please email our awesome hot lunch coordinator directly at [Ang\\_319@icloud.com](mailto:Ang_319@icloud.com)

### Fundraisers

Little Coupon Book - due back Thursday Oct 5<sup>th</sup>

Opt Out Form - bring back Friday Oct 13<sup>th</sup>

### Volunteers

Are you interested in finding out more information about how you can help?

Email [unsworth-pac@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:unsworth-pac@sd33.bc.ca)

- Executive positions - Vice Chair, Treasurer, BCCPAC representative
- Fundraising
- Hot lunch helpers (no sitter?, that's okay as children are welcome to join)
- Christmas concert - crafts, costumes, raffles
- Teacher appreciation days
- School events



### Stay in the loop

Want to know what PAC is working on around the school?

Have ideas how to make our school better? Come to us with your ideas.

Email [unsworth-pac@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:unsworth-pac@sd33.bc.ca) or scan the QR code to get on the distribution list.

Follow the Unsworth Elementary PAC Facebook page

### Monthly meeting

Next PAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday October 24<sup>th</sup> at 9am in the Nest.

## October – Child health screenings: vision, hearing and dental

### Make dental, hearing and vision checks part of a healthy routine

Health screenings help find issues early which can make treatment easier and more effective. It's important for your child to have regular eye exams and routine dental checkups. It is also important to recognize any hearing loss early as this is essential for speech and language development. Read on to learn when and how to access services for your child.

#### Dental

Tooth decay is the most common, but preventable, childhood chronic disease. It is important to establish good oral hygiene at a young age and have children's teeth checked by a dentist regularly. To find a local dentist near you who is accepting new patients, visit the BC Dental Association's [Find a Dentist database](#). If you are a member of a low-income family and you do not have extended health coverage, there are several programs that can help you access [affordable dentistry for your children](#). You can also contact the dental program at your [local public health unit](#) and ask about resources available in your community.

#### Vision

[BC Doctors of Optometry](#) recommends children receive their first eye exam when they are six to nine months old with a follow up exam at least once between the ages of two and five and then yearly once they enter school. You can find an optometrist accepting new patients near you at the College of Optometrists of British Columbia's [Find an Optometrist database](#). In B.C., basic eye exams, one per year, are free up to the age of 18. Some optometrists may charge a small user fee of about \$35 per visit so be sure to ask about any fees before you make an appointment.

#### Hearing

Good hearing is essential for speech and language development and plays an important part in a child's social and emotional growth. It is important to recognize hearing loss early and seek out testing and treatment if needed. Fraser Health's Public Health community audiologists provide hearing services for children from birth to 19 years of age. If you have a concern about your child's hearing, referrals can be made by a parent or caregiver, a health care provider or education professional to your [local public health audiology \(hearing\) clinic](#).

Find more information on child health screenings and how to access free vision, hearing and dental exams on Fraser Health's website: <https://ow.ly/oK9z50PegZB>





# Parking Lot Reminders

A reminder that the parking lot and student safety is a school community responsibility.

Please be mindful of the following:

- The curb-side lane is the DROP OFF LANE ONLY and is meant to allow for continuous flow and movement. Please pick up and drop off in the drop off zone only, which is the curved part of the lane in front of the flagpoles. Students waiting to be picked up need to wait in front of the flagpoles which allows for the vehicle to pull up, the child to quickly load and the vehicle then pulls forward and merges into the thru lane.
- Please **do not park or wait anywhere along the curb side lane**, particularly at the end of the drop off lane. Curb side parking blocks the flow and purpose of the drop off lane and causes a back-up of vehicles and frustration for drivers, thus causing unsafe conditions for our students.
- Please note that if our Primary parents pick up AT the bell, and parents of our Intermediate students pick up roughly 5 minutes AFTER the bell, it will really help keep the flow of traffic moving on Unsworth Road and in our Parking lot. Thank you everyone for your help with this!

If your child is not waiting and able to immediately get into the vehicle, please loop around the parking lot and re-enter the drop off lane until you are able to pick up or find a parking stall to park or wait.

Please remind children to use the crosswalk both in the school parking lot and to cross Unsworth Road.

TOGETHER  
WE CAN MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE