

February 2024

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## Message from the Principal

Welcome to February (and a Leap Year) at Unsworth 😊

This month students will be focusing on demonstrating acts of Kindness throughout the month, showing what kindness looks like to them, purchasing Candy Grams to help provide a random act of kindness for others in our school. We are also recognizing and celebrating Black History Month at Unsworth. Every morning, our Morning Announcement crew will be highlighting the achievements & contributions of influential leaders that helped make Canada and the rest of our world a better place.

On February 29<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 - 6:00 pm our classes are hosting parent/teacher/student conferences. Each classroom teacher will send home information specific to their conference format and schedule. This is an opportunity for you to connect with your child's teacher to discuss the progress made this year and goals for the rest of the term or year. All parents can support success in school by reading with your child(ren) every night. While reading, ask your child to make a prediction about what will happen next in the story, or to summarize what has happened in the story. Math concepts can be reinforced through a family game of cards; basic facts review or adding the cost of items during a shopping trip. Regular conversations regarding local or global events help your child to become aware of the world around them and helps them to analyze and interpret information, ideas, and concepts.



## Upcoming HOT LUNCHES

Friday, February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	-	Popcorn Day
Friday, February 9 <sup>th</sup>	-	Frankies
Friday, February 23 <sup>rd</sup>	-	Hot Dogs
Friday, March 8 <sup>th</sup>	-	Bannock Stand
Friday, March 15 <sup>th</sup>	-	Popcorn Day
then....SPRING BREAK!	😊	

Reminder:

Ordering closes one week before the hot lunch date. Please don't wait or it could be too late to order!

[Munch A Lunch](#)

**Students will  
be dismissed  
at 11:15 a.m.  
on March 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Non-Instructional Day – Schools  
are closed on Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>.**

**Parents are encouraged to  
connect with their child's  
teacher on the Feb. 29<sup>th</sup>  
**Parent / Teacher Conference  
Day. Classroom teachers will  
communicate their individual  
open house or classroom  
meeting schedules.****

**Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> Pink Shirt Day, or  
Anti-Bullying Day is  
a day when people  
wear pink  
shirts to symbolize a stand  
against bullying, an idea  
that originated in Canada.**

**Family Day – Schools  
are closed on Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>**

### Cell Phones

Please remember that students at the elementary school level should not be bringing cell phones to school. If you feel your child requires a cell phone for safety reasons (i.e., travelling to and from school), please be aware that the school policy is that cell phones must be turned off and remain in student backpacks during the school day. As with other electronic devices, the school does not take responsibility for lost, damaged or stolen cell phones, or other electronic devices.

### Report Cards

We are more than halfway through our second term and **report cards are just around the corner. Second Term reports will go home the week prior to Spring Break.** As partners in learning, parents are encouraged to touch base with their child's classroom teacher so that together, you can support your child's academic, social and emotional goals.



Please remind your child(ren) to check our Lost & Found for missing items. The remaining clothes will be donated to charity on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

## Kindergarten Registrations

If your child will be age 5 on or before December 31, 2024, it is time to register him/her for kindergarten! Please note that our kindergarten classes are filled on an In-catchment, first come, first served basis so please register early to ensure your child has a space here at Unsworth. We already have two

full classes registered and a third class is filling quickly! To register, please visit the School District #33 website and the link for the registration site will be found there. Should you have neighbours with kindergarten age children, please pass this information along to them.

## Parking Lot Updates

**THANK YOU to all of our drivers...you are making a difference!** Some of our parent community are still using the staggered pick-up times, and it is really are working well! With our Primary parents picking up AT the bell, and parents of our Intermediate students being picked up roughly 5 minutes AFTER the bell, it really seems to help keep the flow of traffic moving on Unsworth Road and in our Parking lot. Thank you everyone for your help with this!

- Please remember that the curb lane in front of the flag poles is for quick pick-up or drop-off only and not used for parking or long-term waiting
- When picking up or dropping off your child(ren), please remember to pull up to the curb near the white pick-up/drop-off signs. We have asked students to wait near those signs rather than walking out to the parking lot or near the crosswalk.
- If you are arriving early to pick up your child(ren)– please park in one of the available stalls if there is one vacant.
- Please **do not** park in the Schol Bus lane.

Thank you for doing your part in creating a safe arrival and departure process for our community and a system that works for everyone!



## Student Morning Arrival Times and Afternoon Dismissal Reminders

As the morning bell rings at 8:14 a.m., students should not arrive at school prior to 8:00. As the days are shorter and the mornings are dark and cold, we ask that the children arrive closer to the bell, rather than earlier. Supervision of students begins at 8:00 a.m. Students are expected to wait outside until the 8:15 entry bell, unless it is deemed an inside day due to weather. Our afternoon dismissal is at 2:15. Students, who are picked up, should be picked up no later than 2:30. Parents are asked to make alternate arrangements if unable to pick up their child by 2:30 p.m. We are seeing an increase in students needing supervision well past the dismissal and supervision times on a daily basis. Thank you for your support in this matter.

## Safe Arrival - Reminder

### 1. Using your mobile device.

- Download and install the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (links below). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.



### 2. Use the SafeArrival website,

- The first time you use the website, select Sign Up (link below) to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.



- Call the toll-free number 1-833-698-6567 to report an absence using the automated phone system.

**Black History Month** is a time to honour the legacy of Black Canadians, past and present, and to recognize and celebrate the significant contributions they continue to make to our country. "This year, the Government of Canada's Black History Month theme is 'February and Forever: Celebrating Black history today and every day'.



## News from the Library

### Read-a-thon \*\*\*\*Save the Date!!\*\*\*\*

On **Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**, from 1:00-2:00 in the afternoon, students at Unsworth will be participating in a Read-a-thon. This is a fundraiser for our library to help fund prize books in the vending machine. As of Jan. 31, 220 students have won a book so far this year!! Students will bring home a pledge form the first week of March. Parents, grandparents, family friends and others can pledge a set amount or an amount per minute read. The students read for the entire period and then bring the pledge money to school after the event. Students may wear pajamas or comfy clothes, and bring pillows/blankets/stuffies to help make the time more enjoyable. Parents, grandparents and guardians are all welcome to join us 😊.



# Dates to Remember

Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>

Popcorn Day

Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>

Hot Lunch (Frankies)

Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>

Non-Instructional Day

Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>

Family Day

Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>

PAC Meeting (9:00 a.m.)

Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> -

Hot Lunch (Hot Dogs)

Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>

Pink Shirt Day

Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup>

Parent Teacher Conferences 4-6

Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>

Early Dismissal 11:15 am







**FEB 15, 2024**  
**6:00 - 7:00PM**  
**Neighbourhood**  
**Learning Centre**

# PARENT NIGHT

presented by  
Learning Services



**Chilliwack  
School District**

**Rising to  
Resilience: The  
Power of  
Connection**



**With Dr. Jean Clinton**

**Presented by Dr. Jean Clinton BMus MD FRCP(C) Clinical Professor  
McMaster University Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural  
Neurosciences**

We will explore what it takes to have our children and youth get through difficult and challenging times by looking at how the brain works and develops at different ages. We will look at what we can do as parents of kids to help them develop these strategies. **Spoiler alert: Their relationship with you and caring adults is key!**

- **Date:** February 15, 2024
- **Time:** Doors open at 5:30pm
- **Location:** Neighbourhood Learning Centre

*First 100 people to register will  
receive Dr. Clinton's book!*

**Register today!**

