

Good afternoon Osler community

Professional Development Day tomorrow- No school for students

- Halloween 🎃
- Camp Read 📖
- Cross Country
- Mountainwest Photography

Halloween

Halloween is next Thursday October 31st! At Osler we encourage staff and students to dress up in a Halloween costume if comfortable. Students wearing masks covering their entire face, or bringing weapons such as swords, guns, or anything staff consider violent, will be asked to put them in their backpacks to keep safe for after school. We also remind students that culture is not a costume and to be sensitive to this.

Students in Divisions 12-7 will be parading through the hallways with Divisions 6-1 cheering! If parents are interested, they are welcome to connect with their child's teacher.

We look forward to seeing all the colourful and creative costumes!

VSB-INDIGENOUS EDUCATION
SAFE AND CARING SCHOOLS

October 2024

CULTURE IS NOT A COSTUME

HOW NOT TO CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE HALLOWEEN

The autumn season is upon us, and soon it will be Halloween. This time of year brings with it decisions on costume choices. While dressing up is meant to be fun and exciting, it also runs the risk of offending others with costumes that are offensive to other cultures. Halloween offers the opportunity to discuss costume choices with both colleagues and students. It is important not to inadvertently mimic culture by culturally appropriating racial or ethnic groups.

Engage in dialogue
Bring up subjects like cultural appropriation with your colleagues and students. See what their views are and share your own knowledge and experiences. Dialogue is collaborative and about people working together to find a common understanding. It is about exploring, listening, and re-examining your position, values, and assumptions.

Examine your own practices
Are you wearing a costume during Halloween? Ask yourself some critical questions about your costume. Is my costume based on someone's race, ethnicity, or culture? Are my costumes stereotypical with the image I am portraying? Is my costume exploiting another culture?

Be an advocate
If you see a costume that doesn't sit right with you, start a conversation with that person. Begin a respectful dialogue with that person at an appropriate time and place. Ask them about their costume choice. Your conversation should be about having the person think through their choice, not about right and wrong.

LINKS: Click on headlines
CBC - Teacher finds teachable moment about cultural stereotypes
Statement on Halloween by the Legacy of Hope
My Culture is NOT a Costume

CULTURAL APPROPRIATION

1) The taking - from a culture that is not one's own - of intellectual property, cultural expressions or artifacts, history and ways of knowledge, art & design.

2) Any instance which means commonly associated with and/or perceived as belonging to another are used to further one's own ends (Spoon, 1993)

3) To take parts (symbols, artifacts, dress, words, practices, etc.) from a culture that is not your own. This can happen in a variety of forms but often around Halloween it involves wearing costumes that may have some significance to other cultures.

4) A particular power dynamic in which members of a dominant culture take elements from a culture of people who have been systematically oppressed by that dominant group.

THIS ISN'T A COSTUME. THIS IS A CULTURE. PLEASE RESPECT IT.

Camp Read



Following Halloween Osler staff and students will be involved in Camp Read! This is a time where we will come with our pj's, stuffies, pillows, and even blankets along with their favourite book. Camp Read is an opportunity to read either on their own or with a partner from 9:00-10:30. Camp Read will be in the classrooms with the option to read with family members in the Library. We encourage parents, older siblings other relatives to come join us!



District Cross Country Meet

Cross Country District Finals at Trout Lake We're thrilled to report that our XC team had an amazing time at the District Finals at Trout Lake! The rain stopped just in time, allowing our racers to tackle the muddy conditions left by the atmospheric river. We are so proud of our runners for their hard work! 🙌👏 We look forward to continuing to run on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Friday afternoons at Kilometre Club. A special thank you to the teachers, Ms. Jackson, Ms. Shirai and Ms. Tayler for the sponsoring these events, spending early morning and late afternoons coaching and supporting these students!

A gentle reminder to please return washed jerseys to Ms. Shirai as soon as possible. Go Owls! 🦉



A message from Mountainwest Photography:

Hello Families!

Exciting news! Your online gallery from your school photo session is now live!

- Please visit this link to access the gallery: <https://vando.imagequix.com/K9L3W9Z>
- Your webcode to access your images was provided on photo day.
- Any active email address can be used to login.
- **Your order deadline is: November 5 2024**
- All orders will be shipped to the school. ***If you miss the deadline, your order will be shipped with your school's retake orders at no extra cost, however this will take 3-5 weeks.***

Missing your login code? No problem!

1. Visit <https://www.mountainwest.ca/support-for-families>
2. Enter the information required.
3. Your code will be emailed within 1 business day.

About Retakes:

- Did you miss the first photo day or are needing a retake?
- **If you would like retakes they will be held at the school on: November 5 2024**
- [Click Here](#) to sign up. The cutoff to sign up is November 1 2024

[Click Here](#) to find out more about ordering.

Phone: 1.888.644.4494

Email: help@mountainwest.ca



SCHOOL'S OUT
THRIVING MINDS
OSLER ELEMENTARY
MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS
3:00PM - 4:30PM


3 INTAKES
OCT 28 2024 - DEC 12 2024
JAN 13 2025 - MAR 13 2025
APR 7 2025 - JUN 12 2025
IN THE LIBRARY


GRADES 5 - 7
SNACKS PROVIDED

ACADEMIC LITERACY
SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING
LEADERSHIP SKILLS
RELATIONSHIP BUILDING
COMMUNITY AND BELONGING

FREE

QUESTIONS? EMAIL: CYSERVICES@LMNHS.BC.CA

 **LITTLE MOUNTAIN**
NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
NEIGHBOUR HELPING NEIGHBOUR

 **United Way**
British Columbia

Working with communities in BC's
Interior, Lower Mainland, Central
& Northern Vancouver Island

Enjoy the weekend,

Rosemary Thomas
Principal at Oser