

Summit Family Bulletin
Thursday, Sept. 10, 2009

Welcome back! We hope that all of our families enjoyed a wonderful summer and are ready to get going for a great school year! We are looking forward to a wonderful year of learning with you. We'd like to invite all Summit families to join us at our annual "Welcome Back Barbeque" to be held on Wed. Sept. 23 from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. Once again Chef Joyce will be organizing the yummy food, with assistance from Summit staff. This will be a great opportunity to meet our newest staff member, Gwen Hamm. Gwen is the teacher responsible for all primary students, and some Gr. 4 siblings as well. Gwen has previously worked part-time for Summit as a secondary science teacher, and also brings lots of elementary experience as well. As a former homeschool parent herself, Gwen is looking forward to working closely with parents to support the learning plans of her primary students. (Please note: if it is raining on Wed. Sept. 23rd, our 'back-up date' will be Friday Sept. 25th)

Parent Advisory Council Elections – Will be held the same day as the Welcome Barbecue at 1:30 p.m. We are hoping to fill the following four executive positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. The primary purpose of the Summit PAC will be to provide formal parent input regarding the school and its programs. Four meetings will be scheduled throughout the year. Participation in meetings is available online through E-Live! for those who are unable to come to Summit in person. We are looking forward to working with the PAC executive to enhance communication between parents and the school.

Today's Parent Magazine feature – We are very pleased to note that thanks to input from Summit parents, our school has been featured in the September issue of Today's Parent Magazine. Our category is "One of a Kind", and apparently we are the only B.C. school featured. You can view the entire article online at http://www.todayparent.com/schoolage/article.jsp?content=20090724_103808_1336&page=1
Here's our excerpt:

One of a kind
Summit Learning Centre
Mission, BC, 500 students, K-12
Customized programs, individual attention and more family time are some of the reasons parents and students seek out Summit's home learning options. Kids communicate with teachers through email, telephone and drop-in visits, while ArtSmarts classes at Summit's four locations expose them to everything from gymnastics to medieval science.

Thanks so much to the parents who took the time to write to the magazine – we are most grateful for your enthusiasm and support!
ArtSmarts – The Fall ArtSmarts schedule has now been completed, many thanks to Joyce for all of her planning and organizing. A copy of the schedule is attached, and is the file names Fall 2009 Calendar. The schedule will also be posted on our website by the end of the day,

and registration will begin at that time. Note that the first day of ArtSmarts will be Monday, September 28th, so do put your selections in as soon as you can.

H1N1 Flu information – School District #75 has prepared a series of information articles regarding a possible flu outbreak. Please see the attached document for details. As I'm sure you've read elsewhere, the most important preventative measure you can take is frequent and thorough hand-washing.

Gr. 6 immunizations The Mission Public Health Unit will be at Silverdale to carry out Hepatitis B vaccinations later this fall, and they are willing to include Summit's grade 6's students at the same time. They will be here on Wednesday, October 14th after recess - 10:15 a.m. Permission forms are available at the Summit main office and should be completed in advance so that the health nurses can be prepared for the correct number of students.

Farewell Lani We are sorry to say farewell to Lani, who has been our second languages teacher for several years. Lani has left Summit to pursue full-time work elsewhere and we wish her all the best. We are currently in the process of hiring a new languages teacher. Students who are already in progress in their languages courses should be able to continue working during this time. Please contact Cathy with any languages questions or concerns; the staff from SMARTS and Auralog are providing us with good support during this time of transition.

Calendar Dates Attached please find the file named 2009-2010 v.B Summit School calendar. This document lists all of the important dates for the coming school year, such as term end, holidays and professional development days. This is a great list to print out and post on the fridge for on-going reference.

Go Cards Attached are two documents containing information about how to apply for Go Cards for reduced transit fares for students. One lists locations where student ID photos can be taken if you are not able to come to Summit for photo day, and the other provides all of the steps you need to follow. Please call Carol Wolfe with any questions about the Go Card program.

Photo Day Mountain West Photography will be at Summit on Monday, October 19 in the morning. You will be provided with a selection of proofs following photo day and can then place orders for prints as needed. Please call Mary Schurko to confirm if you child(ren) will be participating in Photo Day, as we need to know how many students will be participating in order to finalize the photo schedule.

NetTrekker News ...BrainPOP, BrainPOP Jr., and BrainPOP Español is turned on for FREE within netTrekker for all current netTrekker subscribers from September 1st to 14th, 2009. BrainPOP provides engaging digital resources featuring animated, educational content uniquely suited for the 21st century classroom. Resources include animated movies, quizzes, vocabulary

pages and activities. BrainPOP resources will appear throughout the netTrekker search results and in the Collections refinement menu. Check it out at www.nettrekker.ca. Username: Summit, Password: student

SMARTS – Our friends at SMARTS have prepared a September SMARTScoop Newsletter which you will want to check out at their website at www.shopatsmarts.com It's chock full of interesting news, with highlights including:

** Rosetta Stone on sale for \$120 off the regular price

** SMARTS new Refer a Friend a Program where you earn \$\$\$

Reminder! All students should have submitted their first assignments to their teachers by September 25th at the very latest. We need this evidence of student participation in their courses by this date for funding purposes, and of course, so that teachers can provide feedback to students to support their learning. Thanks!

Speaking of work... We still have a large amount of unclaimed student work from last year in the Elementary OutBox. We need to clear it out to make space for this year's work. Items not claimed by the end of September will be discarded.

Writing Opportunity Students are invited to go to www.ltgov.bc.ca to participate in the Lieutenant Governor's story contest. Some stories will be selected for publication on the website – its your chance to reach a very wide audience with your writing. Students will receive a memento from the Lt. Governor to thank them for participating.

That's it for now! Thanks for reading, and I do hope you found this information useful. As always, suggestions for items to include in the Summit Family Bulletin are more than welcome. Please e-mail Cathy with any items you'd like to share with other Summit families. Enjoy this beautiful fall weekend! We will look forward to seeing all of you at the Welcome BBQ on Sept. 23rd, if not before. Sincerely, Cathy

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