

Hello Families,

Welcome back to Centre Mountain Lellum. We hope you all had a great Spring Break.

Building Updates

Living Stones has been working hard over the break trying to complete the landscaping of our property and installing all the sprinklers. They have planted a lot of trees and bushes and they planted grass seed in some areas and will complete all areas this week. They fenced off the area between the two schools, but they will not be fencing off all the smaller areas around the property. They will be placing some signs around the property, but please remind your children to stay off the black soil. Once the grass is planted, our grounds will look amazing. It will be so nice to have the students spread out more and taking advantage of the amazing spaces we have on our sight.

Farmer has been cleaning all the outside windows over the break and will continue to do so over the next week.

They have installed more railings around the property and will continue to do so over the next few months. It will be so nice to have the sheets of plywood removed and replaced with the black railings. Unfortunately, the railing for the main staircase outside has not been installed, so we will have to wait a little longer to use this space.

Daily Expectations

Before the break, we were starting to see a shift in student expected behaviours at school. February/March is always a more challenging time in a middle school, and we know this occurs every year. So, on Monday April 3, teachers will be reviewing the classroom social contracts and remind students of our rules and expectations while at school. We have worked really hard to establish a calm, safe, welcoming learning environment at Centre Mountain Lellum and we will continue to do so.

People who come into Centre Mountain Lellum comment on the positive tone and climate of the school. This has everything to do with the hard work and effort of our staff and students. We very much appreciate the dedication and willingness to work together to create this positive learning environment for all.

Student-Led Conferences

Student-led Conferences will be held on Thursday, April 20. It is a lot of work to prepare for student-led conferences, but watching the students take ownership of their learning during the conference time, makes it all worthwhile.

Some teachers use the open house plan and have people drop in whenever they can make it, while other teachers schedule times for families to arrive. There are pros and cons to both methods, but teachers will be communicating with families soon.

Core teachers will be organizing this event for their students in their classrooms. ADST teachers and non-enrolling teachers will make themselves available during the conference times as students are welcome to show their families around the school and visit any other classroom and teacher they currently work with or worked with last term.

Students will be in attendance on Thursday morning, April 20 and we will be following the regular Thursday morning schedule. Students will be dismissed at 11:30am and buses will arrive shortly after dismissal.

The schedule will be as follows:

Thursday, April 20

8:40am-11:30am	School in session following the regular morning schedule.
11:30am	Students dismissed at 11:30am
Noon	Lunch will be provided for all staff at noon
1:30pm-4:00pm	Afternoon student-led conference session
4:00pm-5:30pm	Dinner break for all staff
5:30pm-7:00pm	Evening student-led conference session

There will be some parking available in the lower lot and along the parent drop off loop, but please be prepared to park in the gravel lot at the bottom of Constellation Ave. or walk to the event if you live in the neighbourhood.

Purdy's Chocolate

Purdy orders from PAC have been given to the homeroom teachers today so please expect your child to bring the order home today or tomorrow if you had placed an order with them. Thank you again for supporting our PAC fundraising efforts.

Transition

We have completed most of the transition process to Belmont with our grade 8 students, so now we will begin the transition for our new grade 5 students coming to Centre Mountain Lellum next year. On Wednesday, April 5, we will be hosting a parent information session for our new grade 5 families at Centre Mountain Lellum starting at 6:30pm.

Later in the month, the admin team, counsellor and inclusive education team will be visiting our elementary schools and near the end of the year, we will be bringing our grade 5 students to the school during the day, so they get to experience a regular day at Centre Mountain Lellum.

Parking Reminder

If you are coming into the school at any time, please park in the lower parking lot. The upper parking lot is for staff and buses only.

Reminders:

Middle School Trades Exploration Summer Camps

Please see the attached poster for an awesome opportunity for our middle learners in a hands-on trades experience at Camosun this summer.

These spots fill up very quickly and registration opens **Wednesday April 5 at 10am.**

Important Dates

Friday, April 7	No school – Good Friday
Monday, April 10	No School – Easter Monday
Thursday, April 20 ahead of schedule	Students attend the morning session only. Buses will run approx. 3 hours
Thursday, April 20	Student-led conferences scheduled for the afternoon. Times to be determined.
Friday, April 21	No School – Non-Instructional day for students.

Have a wonderful week.

Darren Russell, Kelly Dvorak and Glenn Bedard