Dear Parents/Guardians:

Frances write up

**No school tomorrow November 11th for Remembrance Day**

**Reminder about providing masks**

Our office is giving out many disposable student masks daily.  If possible, please send your child(ren) to school with additional masks from home.  Thanks in advance.

**Parent-teacher Conferences – November 18**

Teachers will be holding on-line parent-teacher conferences on the afternoon and early evening of November 18th.  This is an important opportunity for you to connect with your child’s teacher to learn more about how they are progressing.  The electronic sign up for these conferences will close on November 16th at 11:00 pm.

**Arrival / Dismissal Time**

Thank you to parents for observing the arrival and dismissal procedures.  Your patience and understanding are important to us as we try to ensure the safety of our school community.

**Scholastic Book Fair**

The Scholastic Book Fair arrives in our Millstream School Library November 16-18 from 8:30 am to 3 pm for students and staff only at this time.

Each class will visit the library to make purchases and browse what is available.

Flyers are available [here](https://www.scholastic.ca/bookfairs/resources/img/Fall%2021%20K-8%20Highlights%20Flyer.pdf)!

Shop virtually @ <https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5153751> (Selection of books different from at our In-Person Book Fair)

**PAC News**

Hi Millstream Families,

Art Card update: **Please Keep an eye out for a sample card of the Art your child has created! *Artcards* by kids is a great PAC fundraiser to show off your child’s creativity! Along with the sample of art there will be instructions on how to order online. Deadline to order is November 19 to ensure delivery in time for Christmas.**

**Ongoing Fundraisers:**

You can Donate to the PAC directly:  Click [DONATE](https://urldefense.com/v3/__http:/track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/mLI5UZGVVezFiC7lRP982A**A/AAAAAQA*). Specify "Millstream PAC" in the Message Box. **Print Tax Receipt.**

PENINSULA CO-OP: Use Member #**13999**. The rebate goes to Millstream PAC. (~$4,000 last year!!)

COBS BREAD: Mention' Millstream Elementary' when purchasing from Cobs Millstream. 5% commission on all sales.

Do you have a fundraising idea or want to help in a future campaign? Please contact: Angela [angelamorehouse21@gmail.com](mailto:angelamorehouse21@gmail.com)

Join the Facebook Group: [Millstream PAC Facebook Group](https://urldefense.com/v3/__http:/track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/oSVZ-lwx0_eIE6gx80JGRA**A/AAAAAQA*/RgRjUbf_)

**ORDERING IS OPEN FOR THE Fall SESSIONS OF HOT LUNCH!!**

* **Nov. 26th, Cobbs Bakery & Edo Japan** (orders close 10pm Nov. 19th)

Purdys Fundraiser 2021 Season

<https://fundraising.purdys.com/join.aspx/384795-88294>

\*order until November 29th

\* pick up December 13th outside of gym doors between 230-330.

**Reminder Letter to all families - Transportation Update**

Dear families,

With a record enrolment year comes a record year of school bus registrations. Thank you so much for your patience and understanding as we have navigated through countless route changes, technology issues and driver shortages.

As most routes are at capacity and as we have finalized routes, we are unable to accept any further registrations for the remainder of this school year for any students currently enrolled in SD62. Students who move into our district will have the opportunity to register for transportation onto an existing route if space is available. Here is some important information regarding bus transportation for this school year:

* **Registered but haven’t heard from us?**
  + Please send us an email ([bussing@sd62.bc.ca](mailto:bussing@sd62.bc.ca)) – we continue to work on late registrations.
* **Want to unregister and get a refund?**
  + Not a problem, please send us an email to [bussing@sd62.bc.ca](mailto:bussing@sd62.bc.ca)
* **Refund deadline – November 30**
  + While you can unregister at any time, the last day to request a refund of your $25 is November 30, 2021.

**Ride 360 App**

Unfortunately, the Ride 360 App has not met the expectations of staff or SD62 families due to the inability of the app’s functionality to work in Canada. This barrier was not identified at the time of purchase and we apologize for any inconvenience it has caused. Tyler Technologies is working on a fix, but it is unknown when and if the issue will be resolved. In the meantime, the District will use the app for its limited functionality of general alerts and schedules until another solution is identified.

**Where your $25 safety enhancement fee goes**

The fee you paid at the time of registration goes towards multiple safety features, including but not limited to:

* Cameras inside and outside of buses (so we can check on any incidents that may have happened or drivers who run our stop signs).
* Added crossing guards near our schools.
* Technology like the Ride 360 app.
* Added bus supervision time so that students are looked after while they wait for their bus at the end of the school day.
* Future safety features, such as tap cards, to track student riders.

**Route Cancellations**

We are hoping route cancellations will be few and far between. We currently have 37 bus routes with 38 drivers. If a driver is not able to drive, for whatever reason, we do our best to juggle routes so that students are not affected. In certain cases, we will cancel an urban route before a route that is more rural where students live further from their school and have limited access to public transportation.

We will do our best to contact you with as much notice as we can. This will likely come in the form of an alert posted to Ride 360, the district’s website [here](https://www.sd62.bc.ca), an email and possibly an automated phone message.

**Construction, inclement weather = possible delays**

As you know, there seems to be construction everywhere. Road work and traffic combined with stormy winter weather may cause delays for our busses. For larger delays, we will do our best to post alerts to Ride 360 and the school district’s website, with direct emails sent to families where needed.

**We are hiring drivers!**

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a school bus driver, we’d love to hear from you! Don’t have your airbrakes or class 2 licence? Send me an email, we may be able to help you out with that. To apply now, please visit the Employment page on [our website](https://www.sd62.bc.ca/careers).

Thank you again for your tolerance, respect and understanding - our staff very much appreciate it.

Sincerely,

Harold Cull  
Secretary Treasurer   
Sooke School District

**Thank you,**

**The Millstream Team**