Dear Parents/Guardians:

It was amazing to meet so many families at last week’s PAC BBQ and Mural Unveil/Meet the Teacher event. Thank you for supporting our PAC and teachers with your presence. We hope that you enjoyed the opportunity to connect with other parents and staff as much as we did!

Yesterday, our students participated in a school-wide write. Students were asked to write about what they like to do outdoors. The expectations for this writing activity varied depending on the grade level. We will use these writing samples to understand what skills our learners have at the start of the year and how we can support them in their growth as writers. There will be another school-wide write at the end of the school year for teachers to assess and celebrate their students’ development.

**Change in Leadership Model at École Millstream**

Yesterday, Associate Superintendent David Strange announced a change in the leadership model at our school. Going forward, Mrs. Krusekopf and Mrs. DeLeenheer will be Co-Principals, allowing Mrs. Krusekopf to pursue a 2-day per week secondment as the District Lead for Early Learning and Child Care. There will be an opportunity at the October PAC meeting to ask questions regarding this new model.

**Great Shake Out Earthquake Drill**

On October 20th at 10:00am Millstream will be practicing an Earthquake drill. We live in an earthquake zone with a one in three chance for a damaging earthquake within the next 50 years. That quake could strike during school hours when you and your child are separated. Our goal is to develop a strong emergency preparedness culture at Millstream Elementary. Preparing our children is one of the most important tasks we can do.

Help ensure your child will be able to cope by creating an earthquake comfort kit for use at Millstream. It will only take a half-hour of your time and mean the world to your son or daughter. Feel free to reuse your completed kits from last year. Please see attached with information and a reminder of what you will need. Please have these kits completed and returned to the classroom teacher by October 14th.

(Insert letter)

**Emergency Release Forms**

Your child(ren) brought home a yellow form titled “Student Emergency Release Form”. It is very important that you complete this form and return it to the school as soon as possible. **Note:** Please do not complete the section titled “Release Information”.

**Parenting Workshops For October**

Hello Community Partners,

In October we have 2 really wonderful and helpful workshops for parents, caregivers and service providers. Both of these workshops give real strategies that come from our team of 20+ parents who have lived experience with their own children.

**(1)** **Building Connection with Our Kids When It Feels Impossible:**Join us as we listen to FamilySmart’s Parent Peer Support Workers Tammy and Diane have an honest conversation about what it is like as a parent or caregiver who is struggling to connect with their kids. They will share strategies to build, and rebuild, connections even when it is complex. Come together with other families to watch this one-hour video presentation followed by a 30 minute facilitated discussion by a FamilySmart Parent Peer Support Worker.

**(2) Help For The Hard Times Workshops:**These run every month for parents and caregivers whose children have been at the ER or have had a hospital stay for mental health or substance use issues.

Please see attached poster for dates and times (Insert poster)

**Drop off/Pick up**

**Some gentle reminders to help keep everyone safe at drop off/pick up…**

* **Stay in your vehicle** if you are in the drop off/pick up lane
* When in the drop off/pick up lane **pull up to the front of the school to let your child(ren) in/out of your car**
* **Use the cross walks** to cross Hoy Lake & Treanor Avenue
* Use the sidewalks around the school. **Do not cut through the parking lot at the front of the school**.

**PAC NEWS**

Save the date for the next PAC meeting (both online and in person) on October 11th @ 7:30pm. Stay tuned to the Facebook group for more details.

Take care and see you all next week,

Ash Senini

PAC President

millstreampac@gmail.com

Thank you,

The Millstream Team