What a wonderful start to the school year! The students have enjoyed working in multi-aged groups and visiting all the classrooms. They painted awesome stars to hang in the hallway and talked about their hopes and wishes for the year. I have enjoyed getting know everyone, hearing about summer adventures and realizing our connections through other Mission friends and family members.

**Student Absences**

* If your child will be absent throughout the year, please call the school (604-826-2516) or email

**Leah Falconer** [leah.falconer@mpsd.ca](mailto:leah.falconer@mpsd.ca)) before 8:30am.

* We have an answering machine in the office, so feel free to contact us at any time and leave a message.

**Classroom placements**

* Class placements will take place on Monday in the morning. This change is very stressful and causes anxiety for many students. There is a change of teacher, friends and room and things are uncertain.
* The staff takes a lot of time and effort (many late nights) working on the placement of each child. Our priority is to place students in the best learning environment to promote growth and success. Sometimes this means that students may not be placed with their close friends or classmates.
* Adjusting to the new learning environment and classroom dynamics takes time. If you and your child feel, after the first full week (after September 15,) you wish to speak with me please call the office to book an appointment and fill in a request to meet form.

**Breakfast and Snack program**

* Join us every morning from 8 to 8:20 am for a healthy breakfast served in the Library
* All students are welcome to participate in the breakfast and snack programs which are funded by grants, public donations and government funding
* If you would like to donate to one of our food programs all donations of $25 dollars or more are eligible for a tax donation receipt (money or items donations with receipt)

**Lunch Program**

* We are pleased to have Simply Foods offer a lunch program again this year on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays
* School meals are offered at a low price per meal. Use the form below to create an account or make your order
* <https://simplyfoods.ahotlunch.ca/login>
* If your family requires partial or full subsidized meals, please follow the link to apply for support. Use the form below to register for full subsidy
* <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=zLAcoeUnh0GoyYI4TIcvUqhHTBK1NTdDtF-SeAUHhHtURFBQVzJOUkQ4UzFaQVlZNjc5TEFQNUFZTS4u>
* Lunch orders will start on September 15

**Sharing Shelf – New this year**

* Families in our community have been struggling financially and rising food costs have made things tight for many families
* Our school community would like to support families in our school that may need extra support or a helping hand (short term or longer)
* We have a sharing shelf to allow students, parents or other community members to help themselves to healthy food options such as cereal, soup, pastas and other non-perishable food items when needed throughout the year
* If you can donate, please feel free to add items to the shelf, if you need something please help yourself. We even welcome trades, ex. if your family cannot use the “free item” at superstore then trade it for something else of the shelf
* As a community, we need to support each other and help those who need it
* Students are welcome to take thing off the shelf to take home. If you do not need the support, please just keep the item, and consider this a kind gesture from your child to your family. We are hoping to foster a welcoming attitude towards the shelf so that students who do need to take home items don’t feel embarrassed or singled out.

**School Cash Online**

* All school fees will be collected through School Cash Online
* <https://www.schoolcashonline.com/>

**PAC Updates**

* Hot Lunch program will continue this year through the Munch a Lunch Program
* <https://www.munchalunch.com/>
* Little Coupon Book Fundraiser forms have been sent home (more forms available at the office)
* Please return the forms to the office with cash or cheques (e-transfer is also available)

**New Fence**

* We have a new fence around the school yard to help remind students to stay inside the school yard
* Please help by closing the gates when you leave and come into the school yard
* We do have some students joining our school community this year that require the extra reminder and protection of having the fence and gates in place for safety concerns

**Upcoming Dates**

September 19 – Non-Instructional Day: No School

September 29 - Orange Shirt Day

September 30 – Reconciliation Day: No School