



Hello Thompson families,

What a thrill it was to watch our Thompson Tigers participate in the cross country fun run this week. Almost 90 grade one to grade seven students participated! It was so fabulous to see the sea of orange running in the rain! A huge thank you to Mr. Rollins and Mr. Twyford for their help organizing and supporting our students. .

Please see below for some further learning opportunities and school events:

## **Halloween:**

### **Fun PAC Sponsored Halloween Event!:**

Please join us on Friday, Oct. 27th from 3:00-4:30 p.m. in the Gym and Multi purpose Room for a fun-filled Halloween themed event with games, treats and a mini Haunted House! All proceeds will go to the PAC playground fund. Please see the attached poster for ticket information.

### **School Wide Pumpkin Carving:**



On Tuesday **October 31<sup>st</sup>** all Thompson students will be participating in a **school-wide pumpkin carving activity**. This activity will take place in the morning from 10:30-11:30. Pumpkins will be on display in the gym from 1- 2:15 and parents are welcome to come and see them. **Students are asked to bring the following to school:**

- 1) One small **CLEANED OUT** pumpkin on **Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>**. Please clean the pumpkin out from the **BOTTOM**, so that it is easy to place lights inside. Students must be able to carry their pumpkin to and from school by themselves. Please **label your child's pumpkin** with their name and division on a piece of masking tape.
- 2) A proper pumpkin-carving tool. These can be bought at most dollar stores. See below for a photo of an example. **NO KNIVES ARE TO BE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL** Below is an example of what the carving tools look like.



## **Halloween Costumes**

“Trick or Treat” Others with Respect

Halloween can be fun. However, we need to be aware that celebrating Halloween needs to be fun for ALL and not at the expense of equity seeking groups. Halloween offers an opportunity to have meaningful conversations about costume choices with students and requires consideration. In doing so, it is important to keep in mind that we need to be sensitive to groups that have been marginalized through mimicry and cultural appropriation during Halloween and other ‘dress up’ events. A few things to keep in mind:

It’s good to keep in mind that the following are NOT appropriate Costumes:

RACE

(black face/brown face)

CULTURE

(Indigenous regalia/dreadlocks)

RELIGIOUS FAITH

(religious figures/gods/saints/gurus/hijab)

GENDER

(gender switching for humour or to mock)

TRAUMA

(Violent characters such as ones from “Squid Games” and weapons) No replicas of weapons will be allowed- please keep these at home if they are a part of the costume.

## **Grade 5 Fitness Pass:**

### **Game of Apps:**

The Richmond School District is again offering ‘The Game of Apps’ program, an extra-curricular program where students learn how to design and develop a mobile app. There are two programs - one geared towards middle years students in grades 6-9 and another for senior students in grades 10-12. The [Game of Apps website](https://gameofapps.org) (<https://gameofapps.org>) has more detailed information about the curriculum, schedule, and registration, and has a ‘Contact Us’ form to answer questions you may have about the program. Please consult this site for more information.

October 19th, 2023

## Ongoing events:

**Choir:** Choir is open to all students. Practices are on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at lunch. Students are invited to try it out, and then make a commitment for this first term, by Oct. 20th. Students will be invited to participate each term. Please contact Mrs. Hoffinger for more information.

**Volleyball:** We have enough interested grade 6 and 7 students this year for a team! Practices are Tuesday and Thursday mornings, and games begin on Monday Oct. 23rd, after school. Please contact Mr. Badyal for more information

**Student Council:** Grade 6 and 7 students interested in planning school wide events and initiatives are encouraged to come to student council meetings, on Thursdays at lunch. Please contact Ms. Bone for more information.

## Important Dates:

**Oct. 20th - Professional Day (no school for students)**

**Oct. 27th- Halloween Fun Event 3:00-4:30 p.m. in the Gym/MPR**

**Oct. 27th - Hot Lunch (pre-order on-line)**

**Oct. 31st- Halloween Pumpkin carving**

**Nov. 2nd- Grade 6/7 immunizations**

**Nov. 3rd- Hot lunch- pre ordered on-line**

**Nov. 7th- Photo Retakes**

**Nov. 9th- Gr. 6 Immunizations**

**Nov. 10 -Remembrance Day Assembly at 10:45 a.m.**

***\*New Date\* Our Winter Solstice Celebration will be Wed. Dec. 20th-details to come***

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call the school at 604-668-6420 or email me at [shoffinger@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:shoffinger@sd38.bc.ca)

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sharon Hoffinger

Principal, James Thompson Elementary School

***Visit our webpage at <http://thompson.sd38.bc.ca>***