

# Majagaleehl Gali Aks Elementary

## Principal's Message

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I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and are rested and ready for another exciting school year!

We have some new students and staff at MGA this year. Please join me in welcoming all of our new MGA community members! Let's show them how welcoming and kind we are here at MGA.

Our breakfast program is up and running again this year, largely thanks to Angeliqe Lalond, who has worked tirelessly to find funding sources for our school through grant research and applications. Hamiyaa!

We have had some changes to our busing schedules and runs this year to accommodate an increase in riders in our schools. Coast Mountains School District 82 and Diversified (bus company) have been working with school ad-

ministrators to resolve issues that have arisen due to some of these changes and expect these issues will be resolved very soon. Thank you so much to all of our families and staff for your patience and your feedback.

Parents, please be aware that we are adjusting where buses are picking up students. Please do not park in our drop off loop. Buses will now be utilizing that loop for the safety of our children. Please do not back up out of that loop and remember that all vehicles must wait for buses to leave. Please do not attempt to drive around the buses when they are parked, picking up and dropping off students.

In an attempt to reduce student wait times after school, and to allow for students arriving on buses in the morning, MGA has

adjusted our bell schedule by 5 minutes.

**Starting tomorrow, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>, our schedule/bells will be:**

**8:30 – Breakfast Room is open – FNSW's supervise**

**8:40 – Supervision on playground begins – Teachers supervise**

**8:55 – 1<sup>st</sup> Bell**

**9:00 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Bell – Students and teachers are in classes - instruction begins**

**12:15 – Lunch**

**12:30 – Lunch Recess**

**1:00 – 1<sup>st</sup> Bell**

**1:05 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Bell – Students and teachers are in classes - instruction begins**

**2:58 – Dismissal Bell**

I look forward to another great year with you all!

Ms. Sousa

**September 22, 2017**

**Pro-D NO SCHOOL**

## Bonjour de Monsieur Paquette et de la Division 6,

Welcome back from your summer holidays! We have started the school year, hair straight back, with fundraising efforts from all students in the Division 6 French Immersion classroom. Students were out diligently knocking on doors to help raise funds for the Terry Fox Foundation and have collected 1410.80\$! I am extremely proud of all students that have thus far collected the most amount of money ever counted in our classroom. Thank you to all community members who donated towards the Terry Fox Foundation. Also, a big thank you to Dr. Smith for organizing our school's Terry Fox run held this past Thursday.

We have also celebrated the success of Mr. Nyce's nephew: Holden Jones. Holden is a world-class cross-country mountain biker from

Squamish, BC who recently won a bronze medal at the 2017 MTB World Junior (U-19) Men's Cross Country race held recently in Australia. Students have written letters of congratulations to Holden. All student letters will be mailed to Holden this next week. Congratulations Holden! Mr. Nyce must be so proud!



This year we will once again be involved in the Stream to Sea project. We will have an aquarium in the classroom allowing coho eggs to hatch into

fry. In the spring, we will be releasing the fry into one of our local coho streams. Students will have many responsibilities pertaining to the growth of our fish as well as tank maintenance. We look forward to the challenge.

Please encourage your child/children to read French reading materials at home, as well as, their multiplication facts to 12. Students receive their weekly French spelling vocabulary list every Monday and their spelling test on Thursday. Also, I need your support in encouraging your child/children to speak French at all times in the classroom.

Merci,  
Monsieur

## Div. 2—Mme. Wernli—K/1

Dear Parent/Guardian,  
Bienvenue/Welcome to a new school year, a new Grade level, a new language!  
"Bonjour :) Comment ca va? Je m'appelle Madame Wernli." This is what your child has heard me say every morning since the beginning of the school year.  
Repetition is very important when it comes to learning a new language. I repeat words and sentences, and I encourage the children to repeat after me. As long as they cannot say by themselves the words or sentences needed to communicate in French, I will help them by showing them pictures, pointing the way, or making noises and gestures so they get what I say. All of us started learning our mother tongue this way. It comes naturally. Once we can understand and say things, we are ready to learn to read and write.  
To understand someone, number one is we must learn to listen! This is why rules are so important in school, especially when learning a new language.  
I insist on the children putting their hands to-

gether and eyes on me because, when they do this, I know they are ready to pay attention to me and what I will ask them to do. Obviously, they also learn French faster this way. My aim is to speak only French with the children by the end of September!

What are our rules for everyone to be able to learn in our large group? Each student should be able to say:

- #1: I follow instructions quickly (This implies that I have been paying attention.),
- #2: I raise my hand to speak (I do not talk with another student, make noises, or blurt words out when I am to listen.)
- #3: I raise my hand to ask permission to go somewhere. (I am to stay in one spot when listening or doing school work.)
- #4: I make good choices. (I think first: "Would my teachers/parents say yes to this?" If I'm not sure, I ask or I say or do something more appropriate.)
- #5: I make my teacher proud! (I try to speak French and I show my teacher that I

have been listening!)  
To help your child learn the rules, ask him/her to show you the gestures that go with each one of these 5 rules. Ask every day, as long as need bc. Also, make sure your child does NOT bring toys to school. Check his/her backpack before leaving home. We will have a special celebration once the children have proven they understand and make an effort to obey the rules. So far, my stars listeners are URSA (Grade One) and AMBER (Maternelle)  
MERC! BEAUCOUP! Thank you very much!  
Oh, and if you need to talk to me, know that you can always do it in English, after school hours, by phone or in person :)  
Let us have a great school year 2017-18!

Madame Wernli

## Div. 4 Mme. Lazzarotto—2/3/4

Newsletter - Bulletin de classe

PLEASE SEE ME PRIVATELY OR TELEPHONE ME @ MGA EXT #3224 IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS REGARDING YOUR CHILD

Bonjour les parents!

Welcome to another exciting school year in Grade 2/3/4 French Immersion! Thanks for sending in all the supplies and runners to get our routines off to an



Photo Day— Oct. 10, 2017

excellent start. Agendas are sent home each day for you to read and sign once everything is checked off. Please read and sign the agenda every day. Use it to communicate short messages. It

is your child's responsibility to return it each day.

We have been running a lot to prac-

tice for the Terry Fox Run. Our class raised \$573.70 for the Terry Fox Foundation...merci! Some of our students arrived in the Top Ten of the MGA runners....Bravo, Leo! Book bags will be sent home every day this week. Please ask your child to talk about the book in general, not to translate the story. Return book bags each day! I will send more info on the variety of ways we read in class.

Cheers,

Mme Lazzarotto

## Div. 3—Dr. Smith 2/3

- Thumbs up for the Annual Terry Fox Run.
- Thumbs up to Mr. Paquette and class for bringing in the huge donation.
- Thumbs up to the Evic Maitland Memorial Terry Fox donation.
- Thumbs up to Shanna Smoke for her great effort in fundrais-

ing for her donation.

- Thumbs up to the guards along the running path, Marian Penner, Julie Maitland,
- Rosanne Cockriell, Dorothy Lattie, RCMP Officer, Lucille Stoney, and Tina Giguere.
- Thumbs up to Avery Johnston, K'aaxim sese'e, the first runner back.

- Thumbs up to Finoa Sullivan, first girl runner back.
- Thumbs up to Braiden Woodworth, first runner back for Division 3.
- Thumbs up to Dr. Smith for organizing the Terry Fox



## Div. 1—Mrs. Wagner K/1

Our kindergarten/grade one class are getting in the routine of school and classroom rules. Daily we gather together and recite our alphabet letters, practice counting our numbers to thirty and review the days of the week as well as the months of the year. We model the rules of how we respect each other's personal space, along with staying in order as we walk from classroom to

classroom. This is encouraging them to learn their prepositions, in front of, beside, behind and so forth. For the next few weeks students will review the colors and shapes, as well as printing and identifying their own names. Please continue to read to your child each day and encourage your child to sing their alphabet letters and print their names for you.

Please contact me directly at the school or via email if you have any questions or concerns or would like to discuss your child's progress. I can speak with you outside of class time. Hamiyaa!

Mrs. Wagner  
250-842-5313  
sharon.wagner@cmsd.bc.ca

## Counsellor Majagaleeh Gali Aks and Kitwanga

I'm very excited to be here in beautiful Hazelton as a Counsellor at Majagaleeh Gali Aks & Kitwanga Elementary Schools! I take a holistic & person-centred approach to counseling with the goal to help students recognize their true-nature, individual strengths & connection to each other, the community & the environment.

I look forward to providing a safe & caring counselling space that allows students to be happy & mindfulness of body-mind-spirit as they grow on a social-emotional-behavioural level. This well-being in turn, will contribute to their overall academic success! I am also happy to introduce my

dog Chance who will be attending school with me at times as a Therapy Dog. Not only is he a great listener, he has unconditional love for everyone! ☺

Therapy dogs provide refreshing comfort, affection & joy to people as well as help reduce anxiety, stress, and lower blood pressure. They help students regulate their emotions & help improve social-behaviour skills dur-



ing one-on-one guided sessions or in groups.

I look forward to getting to know you all this year!

*Kind Regards,*

*Carolann Hodgson Counsellor  
BA, BEd, MACP Majagaleeh  
Gali Aks & Kitwanga Elementary  
Schools 250-842-5313 Ext.  
3210 Car-  
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*"If we are peaceful, if we are happy,  
we can smile, and everyone in  
our family, our entire society, will  
benefit from our peace."*

## Mrs. Dodd—Literacy

I am very happy that I will be teaching Literacy lessons on Wednesday mornings again this year. J The new schedule hasn't been finalized, but the start-up date should be soon.

- I am so grateful to have the opportunity to share my passion with students and my colleagues

- I will be teaching classes on Wednesday mornings to Ms. Bagg's, Mr. Paquette's and Dr. Smith's classes

- Once again I will be modelling strat-

egies from Adrienne Gear's *Writing Power* and *Reading Power* books that classroom teachers will continue to practice and use when they are teaching. We know that when students are exposed to the same language and strategies they will learn to use the strategies more automatically. J

- Teachers will watch and take part in the lessons and when students are doing the work, all adults in the room will be there to assist creating more

one-on-one assistance throughout the lesson.

- This year I would like to add some recess story time sessions for primary students. J

Here's to a super year of writing and reading!!

***"Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing."*** **Franklin**

## Breakfast Program for ALL

### Open at 8:30

### Lunch started on September 18, 2017

## Div. 5—Mrs. Dodd's Grade 4/5 class

Welcome back! We all agree it seems like summer flew by fast, but we are ready for a wonderful year of learning! So far we have had a great start to the year and students are settling in well to their new class.

### Students have...

...reviewed the importance of the word 'Respect' and discussed important points such as always telling the truth, choosing your words wisely, not gossiping, being kind to others, using manners, listening and speaking politely, honoring requests and rules etc.

...created Respect posters to put on our "We are Mindful" bulletin board  
...listened to a story about the 'Golden Rule' and are making eye catching Golden Rule Posters to remind every-

one to always "Treat other people how you would like to be treated"

...completed interest surveys so I can learn more about them and made colorful posters about "Awesome Me"  
...written descriptive paragraphs about themselves

...completed KWL charts on Terry Fox, listened to a story about Terry Fox and shared what they learned by making a poster and completing statements about what makes a hero and why Terry Fox is a Canadian Hero  
...reviewed basic facts in math and have started 'Daily Math' review lessons

...learning and reviewing the rules and routines of the school and classroom

**\*Students are reminded to...**

...read every night for 15 minutes  
...practice basic adding and subtracting facts or continue to work at memorizing multiplication facts  
...return the permission slips ASAP ]  
**\* We will be having a Bake Sale on Thursday, September 21st. Please bring some baking or jello to fund-raise for our class ]**

We are off to a great start in grade 4/5 and I would like to remind parents if you have any questions or concerns, would like to drop in for a visit or help out in our classroom please contact me. You can call me at the school or send an email to [kathleendodd@cmsd.bc.ca](mailto:kathleendodd@cmsd.bc.ca).

## WELCOME 6/7 2017 – 2018!!!

"Times...they are a changin'". Bob Dylan  
What an amazingly wonderful and fast first week and two days of school!!! So many fresh and happy faces! What happened to my lovely Grade 6 students?!? They all grew and became Grade 7s! Wow!

A couple of new things I am trying this year: First, is getting the kids used to pod sitting. I am creating pods through desks and tables this year. I already have a group of boys at a table and the rest are in pods. Grade 7 students are keeping all of their supplies in their locker; this means nothing on their desk at the end of the day and their backpacks and shoes are stored in their lockers. Anyone sitting at a table has a white bin for pencils and erasers and if the student is at a desk, their desk is turned around so that they do not have access to the storage part. Grade 6's have the full use of their desk and are keeping their stuff in their backpacks with the backpacks remaining in their locker. It is a work in progress, but seems to be improving as we bop along.

Next, the kids are learning about the importance of agendas and homework. As the grade 7's move to the high school, they will learn that the only way to success is to use their agenda and to do their homework. Students will write in their agendas daily all

homework or tests they may have. Please make sure to read over their agenda, check their homework and initial that they have completed their assignments. The students will have their agendas checked weekly for a mark of five (5).

Speaking of homework, all students should be working on mental math nightly. Mental math includes basic adding and subtracting as well as basic multiplication facts (1-12). Students should also be practicing their reading skills through nightly reading of books, magazines, and newspapers. Students should be reading 20-30 mins or more every night.

Finally, please review school and class rules (see below) with your students. It is important that they know that you know the rules for both the school and the class.

### Ms. Bagg's Class Rules:

1. *Be on time, on task and prepared every day.*
2. *Be courteous to the teacher, the class, other students, and most importantly yourself.*
3. *Be responsible for your own learning.*
4. *Clean up after yourself. Garbage*

*goes in the garbage, not on the floor.*

5. *Bathrooms are encouraged to be used before/after school, at recess/lunch and not during class time. That does not mean I won't let them go, it means that they will repeat the bathroom rule before being allowed to go.*

### ELECTRONICS, FIDGET SPINNERS, TOYS, SLIME, ETC

Please do not allow these to come to school without my permission. More often than not students are preoccupied with the other stuff and not paying attention in class. I will take them away once, the next time they will stay on my desk until the end of the week and finally, I will call home for a meeting before I let the student have it back.

I will send a detailed parent letter home at the end of September, but just a quick reminder to contact me here at the school if you have any questions, comments, concerns, would like to volunteer, etc. I can be reached in my classroom at 250-842-5313 or by email [joslyn.bagg@cmsd.bc.ca](mailto:joslyn.bagg@cmsd.bc.ca). I check my mail regularly so email me any time.

Thanks and happy September!  
Hamiyaa 'niily,

**QUESTIONS? CONCERNS? WANT TO TALK ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S PROGRESS?**

**We're here to help and we want to support you and your child. Please feel free to contact us anytime, but remember: *There is an important process you need to follow when communicating with the school and your child's teacher(s).***

**Step 1: Speak directly with your child's teacher or the staff member involved**

**Step 2: Speak with the principal, if you are not satisfied with the result from Step 1**

**Step 3: Contact Director of Instruction for Coast Mountains School District 82, if not satisfied with result from Step 2**

**Please remember to follow this protocol and do not use social media to air concerns. We need to work together to problem solve and are most quickly able to do that at Step 1.**

**Please refer to CMSD82-Policy-1070-Concerns-by-Parents-Guardians:**

***<http://cmsd.bc.ca/1000-students-and-program/>***



# Majagaleehl Gali Aks Elementary

"Flowers of the river"

Principal: Cindy Sousa  
cindy.sousa@cmsd.bc.ca

September 19, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Thanks so much to everyone for your patience, feedback and problem solving regarding our current busing issues. I need you to know that the district has prioritized resolving these immediately.

In an effort to minimize wait times for students after school, both NHE and MGA have agreed, with the Superintendent's permission, to adjust our bell schedules. Please note, that this is a decision that was made only after all other possible solutions were considered and deemed to be ineffective.

The changes to MGA's bells are as follows (effective tomorrow, Sept. 20th):

**8:55 - First Bell**

**9:00 - 2nd Bell (Classes Begin)**

**2:58 - Dismissal Bell**

**3:13 - Supervision Ends (Bus Duty)**

Thanks again for your patience and support.

Ms. Sousa  
Principal, Majagaleehl Gali Aks Elementary

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