# Words from the Wolfpack

Tsuma-as Elementary Newsletter — October 20, 2026

Ms. Girard, Principal — Mrs. Kynoch, Vice-Principal

**Message from the Principal…**



Another busy month has come and gone, and summer seems like a distant memory now. This month will close with a busy week of Learning Conferences, our annual Scholastic Bookfair and Halloween! This will be my last newsletter as the Principal of Tsuma-as; Mr. Poole takes over on Monday October 26th. Once again, I would like to thank each and every one of our students, staff and families for making our school such a special place. I will miss our connections greatly!

Sincerely, Ms. Girard




**Learning Conferences**

Quick reminder that our Parent/Teacher/Student learning conferences are taking place next week ~ Wednesday October 28th & Thursday October 29th. Appointment sign-up is done online. Please refer to Mrs. Brooks' previous emails for instructions and links. If you are requiring support to book a conference, please contact the office by phone Monday morning 250-723-8151.

**All students will be dismissed Wednesday & Thursday @ 11:50 am.** Regular busses will run.



**Fall Into a Good Boooo-k!** 

Our Scholastic Book Fair is coming October 27–29! From laugh-out-loud stories and fascinating facts, there's something for every curious reader! Come explore the displays, discover a new favourite, and celebrate the joy of reading with the Tsuma-as Wolf Pack.

**Book Fair Hours:**

- **Tuesday, October 27: 2:30–4:30 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, October 28: 12:30–4:30 p.m.**
- **Thursday, October 29: 12:30–4:30 p.m.**

Want to make a difference? We'd love your help! Parent volunteers make our Book Fair possible, and every purchase helps us earn rewards to grow and refresh our school library collection. Volunteer a little time and help us put more great books into the hands of our readers! Contact Mrs. Nguyen (pronounced "win") for details: jnguyen@sd70.bc.ca



**Halloween at School**

On Friday, October 30th, many classes will be participating in classroom-based Halloween activities. We will also be hosting a school assembly & costume parade. Students and staff are invited to wear a Halloween costume but must remember we have guidelines to ensure everyone feels safe at school. When you are helping your child decide on a Halloween costume to wear to school, please keep in mind we have Pre-school and Primary students in attendance.

**We ask that costumes:**

- Are family-friendly, fun, and elementary school appropriate.
- Are not scary, intimidating, threatening or violent.
- Allow for proper hand washing. No gloves, sleeves or inflatable costumes that will prevent or interfere with hand washing or daily school routines.
- Which have accessories, such as: jewelry, hats, headbands, wings, etc. remain in the classroom during outside play times. Please do not send any form of weapon (even if fake). All regular school rules apply.
- Masks are not worn outside. It is important that we can easily identify each student/person when supervising.
- Face paint be kept to a minimum and must not be "scary".

**Please note**: Costumes that could be offensive of someone's culture, gender, heritage, religion, promote violence, or are inappropriate in nature are not permitted.




**Halloween Treats & Candy**

Students should not bring home-made treats to school to share with others. All class treats or snacks must be purchased from a store, bakery, or food-safe facility. Treats or snacks that do not fit this description, will be sent home with the student.

As expected, many students will find Halloween season packed with treats and candy. Individual classrooms and teachers may have specific guidelines as to treats and candy in class and lunches; however, as a school, we ask that parents and students consider the number of sugary treats and junk food items being sent to school. It is important that students continue to have healthy lunches and snacks that will carry them through the day. If you have any questions or concerns, please see your child's classroom teacher.

**Dressing for the Weather**



As we see seasonal weather shifts, please remember students go outside in ALL weather. It is VERY important that students have proper outside gear (warm & waterproof jacket, boots, rain pants, hats, gloves etc.) and a FULL change of clothes (including under garments) kept at school. We want to avoid having to call parents for changes of clothes. Please encourage students to wear proper winter jackets (not just hoodies) and to bring an umbrella too!



**Tsuma-as Learning Wolf**

We encourage all students to engage in daily reading, writing and numeracy practice at home. This can look like many different things (please see the attachments at the end of this newsletter).

For each day your child reads, writes or practices math they can colour in one section of the wolf. At the end of every month, students are asked to hand in their completed Learning Wolf for entry into our learning prize draws. We encourage all students to participate. There is a digital copy of our Tsuma-as Learning Wolf attached, and extra paper copies are available at the office.

**Feeling Sick? Staying home?**



If your child is ill and/or is staying home from school, please call in their excused absence directly to our absence line and leave a message. **That phone # is 250-723-6080**




**Photo Day**

Individual Student photos took place earlier this month. Photo proofs are on route and should be delivered soon. Order information is included in your photo proof package. Photo retake day will be Friday November 13th.



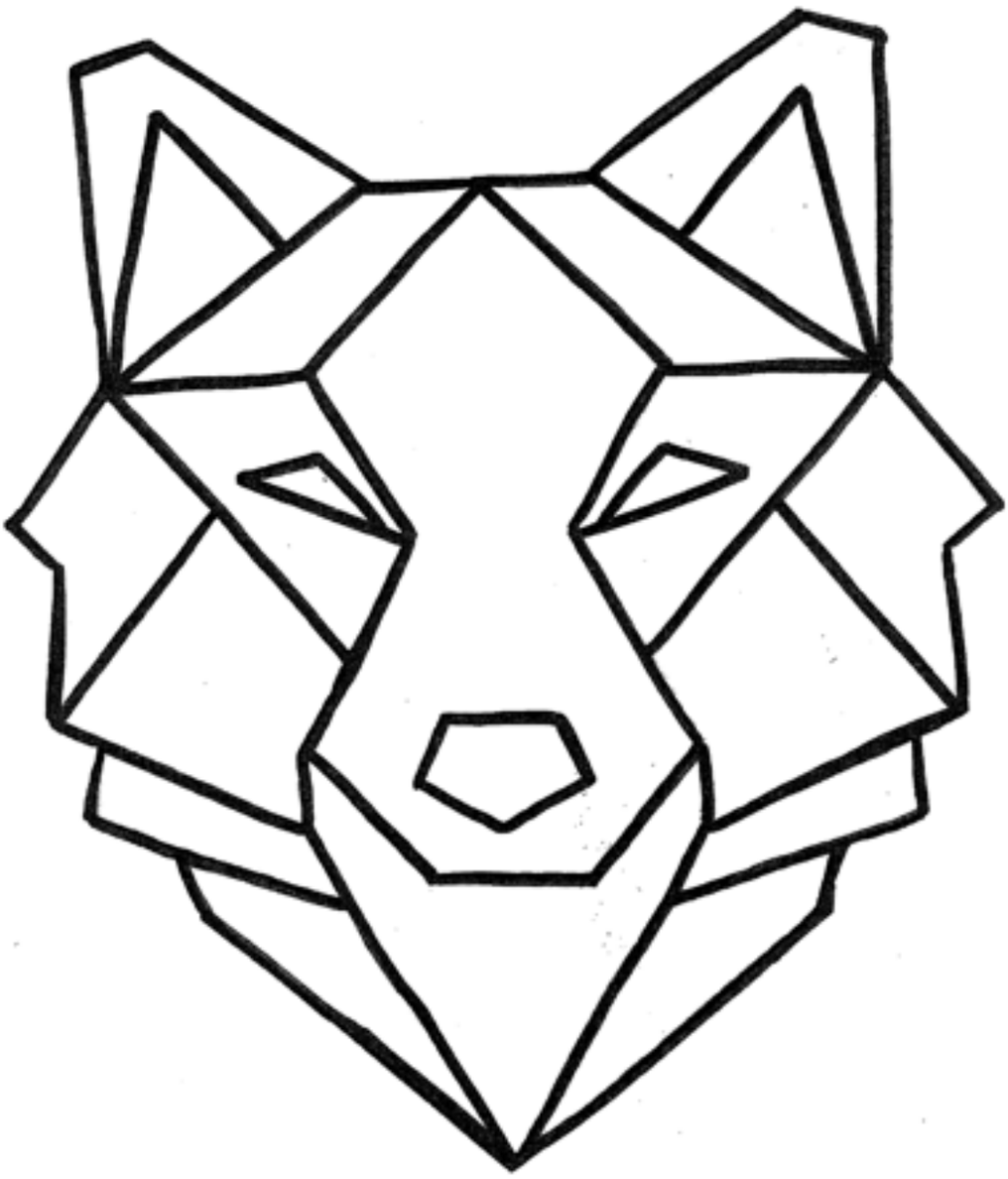

**<u>Upcoming Dates:</u>**

Oct. 21st & 22nd – Vision Screening (grades 2-7)
Oct. 23rd – No School for students – Pro D. Day
Oct. 28th & 29th – Learning Conferences ~ Students Dismissed at 11:50 am
Nov 10th – Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10:45 am
Nov. 11th – No School – Remembrance Day
Nov. 13th – Photo Retake Day
Nov. 16th – No school for students – Pro D. Day
Nov. 18th – Hot Dog Lunch Day
Nov. 20th – Grade 6 Immunizations (morning)
Nov 24th – PAC Meeting @ 6:00 pm in the Library

# Tsuma-as Learning Wolf

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Name: _____ Teacher:_____

# SIMPLE WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD AT HOME

Many of the skills children need to be successful in school - and in life - can be strengthened through everyday routines.

## READ, READ, READ!

Encourage your child to read each day independently, and keep reading aloud to them, too!

Reading together builds vocabulary, comprehension, fluency, background knowledge and a love of books.

**TRY:**

- Pick a time each day dedicated to reading
- Take turns reading a book
- Visit the library together to pick books



## PLAY TOGETHER!

Board games and card games are packed with learning!

Many games allow kids to practice reading, math, strategy, problem solving, and following directions.

**GAMES HELP BUILD THESE SKILLS:**

- Taking turns and waiting patiently
- Sustaining attention
- Thinking strategically
- Following rules
- Handling disappointment
- Being a good winner and loser



*When possible, make game time screen-free for everyone. Putting phones and devices aside helps everyone stay present, focused, and connected.*

## LET SOME EVERYDAY MOMENTS BE SCREEN-FREE

Not every quiet moment needs to be filled with a device.

Consider keeping some everyday moments - car rides, errands, waiting rooms, restaurant tables, or time spent watching a sibling's practice or game - screen-free.

**THESE LITTLE POCKETS OF TIME GIVE CHILDREN OPPORTUNITIES TO:**

- Talk and connect
- Notice what's happening around them
- Learn to be comfortable without constant entertainment



*And yes, sometimes they might be bored! Learning how to handle boredom can lead to creativity, independence, and help them find their own ways to stay engaged!*

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