



# THE RAFT RIVER REMINDER

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## Administrators' Message

September was such a busy month; it sure flew by! There are lots of exciting learning opportunities happening at our school this month. Fire Safety Awareness Week is October 7 to 11. I encourage all who are able to attend the Fire Department's open house during the evening of October 10. Early dismissal is October 10 with teachers hosting individual meetings and open houses that afternoon and evening. Volleyball has started and our Cross Country Run Team is wrapping up a great season with the Dan Coleman Run October 3 and District Finals next week. Students have been working hard adjusting to their new teachers and grade level and will have a well deserved break when we all enjoy the extra day off during Thanksgiving weekend. All students will be part of harvesting and creating Harvest Soup October 16 as we celebrate the bounty our school gardens have provided. Staff at Raft River have been working hard getting to know your children, coaching and organizing events and opportunities around the school. Students have been showing their RAFT behaviour in our hallways, playground, classroom and gym. I am new team member at Raft River Elementary and have noticed how exceptionally kind, welcoming and encouraging parents, students, staff and the community have been. I am so thankful for the opportunity to get to know and work with you in the beautiful North Thompson Valley.

## Parking / Picking up/ Dropping Off

Thank you to all those families who have been following the arrows out front of the school to help ensure students can move safely from their vehicles to the school. Parents are reminded to not park opposite the school; instead,

please angle park next to the playground. Please keep in mind that vehicles need to be parked far enough away from the hydrant to ensure access should the fire department require it. Additionally, we remind parents that dropping off and picking up in the bus lanes is not permitted as it creates a safety hazard. Thank you for working together to help keep our students safe!

## Red and Black Spirit Days

Each Friday (or the last day of the school week) we are encouraging students to show their school spirit by wearing red and black clothing. Those classes with the highest percentage of red and black win a week with Razor, the Raft River Raptor.

## Harvest Soup Celebration

Our school garden has provided an amazing bounty! Students will work together to harvest this food and then create a healthy and delicious soup. We will sit down together in the gym, at 11:30 on Wednesday, October 16 to celebrate. Students should still bring a complete lunch that they will eat at snack as well as the usual eating time of 12:45.

## Student Surveys

Students in grades 4-7 will be participating in an online school survey called the District Engagement, Well-Being and Resiliency Survey (DEWRS). This survey will provide the school important information to allow us to help students reach higher levels of achievement and enjoy school more.

### **About the DEWRS Student Survey:**

- Allows students to share their feedback **anonymously** on their experiences at school, school environment and school improvement programs.
- Participation in the survey is **voluntary**, however all students are encouraged to participate.

- The time required to complete the survey may vary, but it is designed to be completed in class and requires approximately 30 minutes.

Survey measures include such topics as behaviours and attitudes linked to student success, emotional and social well-being. For more information about the DEWRS Student Survey, please visit The Learning Bar Inc.'s website: [www.thelearningbar.com](http://www.thelearningbar.com).

If you have questions or would like to request more information about the DEWRS Student Survey, please contact Loree Holmes, Vice-Principal, at 250-674-2218.

## PAC News

Thank you to the Raft River Elementary staff and PAC members who volunteered and everybody that came to enjoy our annual Ice Cream Social. We learned that bubblegum ice cream is a very popular flavor!

The PAC is always looking for volunteers to serve breakfast for the breakfast program. If you can spare an hour and a half **once a month** on any Tuesday and/or Thursday morning to be at Raft River Elementary at 7:45am to help serve the breakfast, please contact Simone Volk, our Breakfast Program Co-ordinator at [info@volktrans-canada.com](mailto:info@volktrans-canada.com) with your name, phone number and e-mail address.

Our next hot food day on Tuesday, October 8, we will be serving pizza. If you can volunteer to help deliver pizza to the classrooms, please contact Kirstin MacDonald by e-mail at [kmacd09@gmail.com](mailto:kmacd09@gmail.com).

Our next PAC meeting will be in the evening on Tuesday, October 8 at 6:30pm at the Raft River Elementary School library. If you would like to receive reminder e-mails from the PAC indicating when the next meetings are, please e-mail [raftriverpac@gmail.com](mailto:raftriverpac@gmail.com) with your request.

## Reminders

- Please send payment or contact the office if you have not yet paid your school fees.
- Please regularly check the lost and found if your child is missing items: it is overflowing with everything from hoodies to bike helmets to water bottles!
- If you have new contact information or have not yet submitted your child's verification form please ensure the office receives this information.

## Head Lice Information

Head lice can affect anyone. Head lice are annoying and may cause itching, but they do not transmit or cause disease. Children and adults' reactions to head lice can subject children to teasing, bullying and isolation. Reactions to head lice can significantly interfere with a child's emotional well-being, social status in the classroom and ability to learn. For these reasons, head lice infestations should be treated at home to eliminate the lice.

The best way to control head lice is through the cooperation of parents, children, daycares, schools and health care providers. Checking the hair of all family members regularly using the wet combing method is the best way to prevent the spread.

Encourage children not to share hats, combs, hair accessories or hairbrushes. If your child has long hair, tie it up or put it in a braid. If one person in the household has head lice, there is a good chance other household members do as well. All members of the household should be checked on the same day and those with lice should be treated. If you find lice on your child please notify the school so that information can be provided to parents regarding finding and treating lice.

For more information please

visit: <https://www.interiorhealth.ca/YourHealth/SchoolHealth/HeadLice/Pages/default.aspx>

## Important Dates

Dan Coleman Run	Oct. 3 3:00 pm
PAC Pizza Day	Oct. 8
PAC Meeting (library)	Oct. 8 6:30 pm
Early Dismissal	Oct. 10 12:30
Thanksgiving Holiday	Oct. 14
Harvest Soup	Oct. 16
Non-instructional Day	Oct. 25 (all day)
Remembrance Day Assembly	Nov. 8
Remembrance Day Holiday	Nov. 11