

Marie Sharpe Elementary

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October 30, 2023

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This year we have noticed an upswing in behaviours in the school and on the playground that are becoming increasingly undesirable and violent in nature. Because of this, we as a staff, have committed to working on three areas: **Hands, Hallways and Hurtful Words.**

Although we know not all students are participating in the behaviours, we are actively working as a school community to reduce them. Below is a description of what the expectations are. We are explicitly teaching and addressing these areas everyday.

HANDS:

It is expected that students keep their hands and feet to themselves while at school, playfighting and rough housing included. We have noticed that even well-meaning rough housing is escalating into violent behaviour on a regular basis.

HALLWAYS:

During the school day, it is expected that students remain in their classrooms. Students are not to be wandering the hallways. Of course, using the restroom or getting water is an exception. Classrooms have a one out, one in policy to ensure teachers know where students are at all times. In the event of an emergency, we need to ensure that we can account for all students quickly.

HURTFUL WORDS:

It is expected that students always use school-appropriate language – inside and on the playground. Swearing, aggressive language, hurtful language, and racist comments are not tolerated.

Included in this letter is a copy of our school code of conduct that was emailed home in September, as well as our behaviour intervention chart. Please take the time to review the documents yourself, and with your child. If you have input on how we can improve on these documents, please email me at: kelly.glen@sd27.bc.ca