



Maple Leaf Foreign National School - Dalian



October 2016 Newsletter

Greetings to parents and students at MLFNS - Dalian

Welcome back following our October Holiday Break. Please contact us at any time should you have any questions or concerns. Our goal is to work closely with parents to ensure success for all of our students. Open, honest and clear communication will help make this happen. At any point in the year if you are concerned about your child's education or wish to gain more information, please contact your teacher or the school to set up an appointment.

“One Team, One Goal”

Welcome Newly Arrived Staff to MLFNS-D

Mr. Erik Leed– Mr. Erik Leed is a BC certified teacher who is teaching in PreK at the Downtown campus.

Mrs. Stephanie Darko– We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Darko back from Maternity Leave to our Downtown campus.

Mr. Greg Wirch – Mr. Wirch and his family arrived from Ecuador. Mr. Wirch is a Canadian ESL teacher with many years of experience. He will be working in our ELL department at the KFQ campus.

Mr. Chris Kanakis – We are happy to welcome Mr. Chris Kanakis as our KFQ Music/Band teacher. He is a BC certified teacher who comes to us from Athens, Greece.

October Coming Events:

Halloween Celebration

Students are encouraged to dress up on this theme day. More details about the day will follow. Please note that the Kai Fa Qu celebration will be on the Friday, October 28th and the Downtown day on the Monday, October 31st.

Awesome Council Announcement at Kai Fa Qu

Awesome council at the KFQ campus will be having a USED SALE during the week of November 7-11th from 1pm-1:30pm. Students, parents, and others in our community are welcome to attend.

We will be collecting any gently used items (toys, books, clothes, shoes, house hold items, uniforms etc.) from Monday Oct. 10th- Friday Oct. 28th. Please send any items you have to donate to the school with your child this month.

The money raised from this sale will go to a family in need in our community.

Thank you for your support!

AWESOME Council ~ Kai Fa Qu Campus

PAC Meetings

MLFNS – Dalian, holds regular Parent Advisory Council meetings on the first Wednesday of most months in Downtown and the second Wednesday of most months for Kai Fa Qu. These meetings provide an opportunity for feedback to the school as well as assist us in the direction of school policy and practice. Please join us if you can.

Parent Teacher Meetings ~ October 19th and 20th

Please note that school will be dismissed at 2:00 on Wednesday and Thursday, October 19th and 20th. Busses will be waiting to take students home at this time so please make the necessary arrangements for your children. Please find additional information on page 3 and expect a letter home from teachers this week.

Important upcoming dates

Dates are the same for both campuses, except as indicated

Oct 10 – 14 ~ School Wide Reading Assessment (moved to the following week)

October 12 ~PAC Meeting @ 1:30 (DT)

October 15 ~ Teacher Professional Development (Saturday)

October 19/20 ~ Parent/Teacher Conferences (2:00 p.m. dismissal both days)

October 19- PAC Meeting @ 1:30 (Abbreviated) (KFQ)

October 21- Student Presenting Assembly @ 10:30 (Please standby for clarification of Downtown and KFQ dates)

October 28- Hallowe'en Theme Day ~ Kai Fa Qu

October 31- Hallowe'en Theme Day ~ Downtown

Things That Are Good To Know

British Columbia Inspection Team

A team of British Columbia inspectors have arrived in China to inspect both FNS campuses. The team consists of three veteran educators who have held teaching, principal and superintendent positions in British Columbia. They will visit the KFQ campus on Thursday, Oct. 13th and Downtown Friday, Oct. 14th. Their task is to see that our school complies with the British Columbia Offshore agreement and that the education offered by MLFNS-D looks like it would in a school in Canada. This is a good opportunity for our school to learn from veteran teachers.

British Columbia's Re-Designed Curriculum

B.C.'s Kindergarten to Grade 12 (K-12) education system is being modernized with a redesigned curriculum. In the fall of 2015, the BC government began the three-year process of transitioning to the new curriculum. During the 2015/16 school year, draft redesigned curriculum in Kindergarten to Grade 9 were introduced. Beginning in September 2016, students in K-9 in British Columbia and the Offshore Program will implement the curriculum redesign. For the 2017/18 school year, the new curriculum will be used in Grades 10-12.

For additional information, please visit the link below. Information is available in multiple languages.

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>

School Wide Assessments ~ Reading and Writing

In September, MLFNS-D all students participated in a school wide write where they produced a piece of writing for their teacher. The requirements for this writing is different at different grades but it is a valuable process which gives teachers information about student's writing levels. Next week, students will be participating in a school wide reading assessment.

School Uniform Information

Fall/Winter Uniform Policy

We are now into the fall season and some cooler weather. Students are now expected to follow school uniform and dress policy at all times. Their formal uniforms must be worn on days when they do not participate in gym activities. All students should have their school schedule and know the days when formal school uniforms or P.E. attire is required.

Uniform Purchase and Pickup

In order to facilitate storage and pickup of uniforms, please make note of the following:

- a) Uniforms will be available for PURCHASE any day of the week at BOTH campuses.
- b) Uniforms will be available for PICKUP only on WEDNESDAY at BOTH campuses.

Student Absence Due to Illness

Parents are cautioned not to send students to school when they are sick, especially when children are suffering from common highly infectious children's illnesses. Please exercise caution.

If your child is away sick for the day, would you please contact the school and let us know. We track every student, every day, and phoning the office will assist our secretaries with this important duty. Thank you!

- ***Allergies ~ If your child has serious allergies or a medical condition that you have not shared with the school, please contact us and make sure we have all the necessary information!***
- ***Contagious Illnesses ~ Please be careful with all infectious illnesses. If your children are sick, especially with a highly contagious illness such as Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD) for example, please make arrangements for your children to stay home.***

Let's Keep a Healthy School Environment

Parents can help:

- Check students health before they leave home
- Keep students home when they have signs / symptoms of illness
- Be sure your student knows where you are
- Give school office current emergency contact information
- Make arrangements with relatives / friends to take care of sick children if unable to do so yourself
- Children who are treated with antibiotics need to be on the medication for a full 24 hours before returning to school.
- Students with fever, or vomiting need to be free of symptoms for a full 24 hours before returning to school.
- Students with diarrhea need to be free of symptoms for a full 48 hours before returning to school.

Please contact the school if your child comes down with a contagious illness such as Strep. throat; Chicken Pox; etc.

Parent/Teacher Interviews on October 19/20 – Early Dismissal

Please note that school will be dismissed at 2:00 on Wednesday and Thursday, October 19th and 20th. Busses will be waiting to take students home at this time so please make the necessary arrangements for your children.

From 2:15 – 5:00p.m. on these days is an opportunity for you to schedule a meeting with your child's teacher(s) to discuss their progress at this point in the year and to set some learning goals if necessary. Please contact the school office if you require assistance in making this appointment. Should you be unable to make or attend an appointment on one of these days, you can contact your classroom teacher or the school office at any point in the year to set up an appointment or discuss your child's progress.

You can expect a note home from your classroom teacher this week outlining the teacher/parent interview schedule for your child and inviting you to make an appointment with them.

Parent-Teacher Conferences: A Tip Sheet for Parents

As a parent, you are your child's first and most important teacher. You and your child's school have something in common: You both want your child to learn and do well. When parents and teachers talk to each other, each person can share important information about your child's talents and needs. Each person can also learn something new about how to help your child. Parent-teacher conferences are a great way to start talking to your child's teachers. This tip sheet suggests ways that you can make the most of parent-teacher conferences so that everyone wins, especially your child.

What should you expect?

- **A two-way conversation.** Like all good conversations, parent-teacher conferences are best when both people talk *and* listen. The conference is a time for you to learn about your child's progress in school: Ask to see data about your child's attendance, grades, and test scores. Find out whether your child is meeting school expectations and academic standards. This is also a time for the teacher to learn about what your child is like at home. When you tell the teacher about your child's skills, interests, needs, and dreams, the teacher can help your child more.
- **Emphasis on learning.** Good parent-teacher conferences focus on how well the child is doing in school. They also talk about how the child can do even better. To get ready for the conversation, look at your child's homework, tests, and notices before the conference. Be sure to bring a list of questions that you would like to ask the teacher.
- **Opportunities and challenges.** Just like you, teachers want your child to succeed. You will probably hear positive feedback about your child's progress *and* areas for improvement. Be prepared by thinking about your child's strengths and challenges beforehand. Be ready to ask questions about ways you and the teacher can help your child with some of his or her challenges.

Checklist: Before the conference

- ✓ Schedule a time to meet. If you can't go at the scheduled time, ask the teacher about other times.
- ✓ Review your child's work, grades, and progress reports.
- ✓ Talk with your child about his or her progress in school.
- ✓ Talk with others—family members, after school staff, mentors, etc.—about your child's strengths and needs.
- ✓ Make a list of questions to ask during the conference.
- ✓ Think about ways you would like to be involved in your child's learning so that you can discuss them with the teacher.



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Class Picture Order Form

Dear parents/guardians,

Class pictures are now available to purchase. They are displayed in the entrance of the school.

- **Class Photos (Grade) 15 X 20 cm ~ 10 RMB**

If you would like to purchase photos, please complete the form below and return it to your **classroom teacher** with the correct amount of **money in a sealed envelope** and with the **student's name and grade** clearly labeled on the envelope.

Student Name (Printed)

Grade

Parent Signature

I have enclosed _____ **RMB** in the envelope for:

_____ (How many?) class photos of Grade? _____

_____ (How many?) class photos of Grade? _____

DEADLINE: All orders and money must be received by Friday, October 14th