

**MT. LEHMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
"Home of the Lions"**

**STUDENT HANDBOOK 2021-2022**



"Home of the Lions"

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**This agenda belongs to:**

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CLASSROOM TEACHER

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# Mt. Lehman Elementary School

## 2021-2022

### Principal's Message:

Welcome to Mt. Lehman Elementary School! Originally opened as a two-room schoolhouse in 1884, we are the oldest school in continuous operation in the Abbotsford School District. We currently enroll approximately 110 students from Kindergarten to Grade 5.

Mt. Lehman Elementary School's theme is about respecting the richness of its history and preparing our students for the future through a focus of Science, Agriculture, and Technology (SAT). You will see evidence of this focus in our greenhouse/ box gardens and culinary arts programs, mobile computer carts & iPads, interactive white boards & document cameras, and school murals.

Mt. Lehman community members collectively share responsibility for the growth and development of our children. Students, parents, grandparents, teachers, support staff, and administration are all important members of this Mt. Lehman school family.

As a rural elementary school, students will have the opportunity to develop their full potential as individuals and as contributing members of society. Students will also be encouraged and expected to achieve their personal best in school, to maintain a positive sense of self-worth, and to become socially responsible individuals. One natural outcome is the opportunity for our grade four and five students to learn to serve as school monitors, setup team members, and take leading roles as school ambassadors and school assembly hosts.

We believe that through education, students will be able to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes which will allow them to develop intellectually, socially, physically, emotionally, and artistically. We believe that the school should foster in students a love of learning and that students should be active participants in the learning process.

We are looking forward to a successful and productive year for all students at Mt. Lehman Elementary.

Ms. Lincoln  
Principal

### School Bell Schedule

9:05 a.m.	Warning bell
9:10 a.m.	Morning classes begin
10:35 a.m.	Recess starts
10:50 a.m.	Recess ends
12:10 p.m.	Lunch starts
12:25 p.m.	End of eating period
12:46 p.m.	Warning bell
12:50 p.m.	Afternoon Instruction begins
2:58 p.m.	Classes dismissed

### School Calendar 2021-2022

School Opening (1/2 day)	September 7
Non-Instructional Day #1	September 24
Thanksgiving Day	October 11
Non-Instructional Day #2 (Parent-Teacher Conferences)	October 21
Non-Instructional Day#3	October 22
Remembrance Day	November 11
Non-Instructional Day #4	November 26
Winter Vacation	December 20 to Jan 3
School re-opens	January 4
Non-Instructional Day#5	January 28
Non-Instructional Day #6	February 18
Family Day	February 21
Early Dismissal (one hour)	March 8
Early Dismissal (one hour)	March 9
Spring Vacation	March 14 to March 25
Good Friday	April 15
Easter Monday	April 18
Non-Instructional Day #7	May 20
Victoria Day	May 23
Last Day for Students	June 29
Year-end Closing	June 30

### Parents as Partners:

Parents are important members of the educational team at Mt. Lehman Elementary. Active parent involvement is crucial to a child's success in school. Parental input to the School Plan for Student Success is encouraged and valued. Parents are encouraged to meet with classroom teachers, to volunteer time helping in the school, or to get involved with our Parent Advisory Council and School Planning Council.

### Parent Advisory Council:

The Parent Advisory Council (P.A.C.) is open to all parents/guardian of students at Mt. Lehman

Elementary School. P.A.C. meetings provide a forum to share knowledge and give input on supporting school goals and activities.

The P.A.C. provides support to the school in a number of ways. Members of the P.A.C. have opportunities to provide input into such matters as school policy, goals, programs and resources. The Parent Advisory Council can also assist the school with fundraising and volunteer programs.

We invite all parents to attend our monthly P.A.C. meetings. Dates and times will be posted in our monthly school newsletter and regular website updates.

### **School Visits:**

**Mt. Lehman Elementary School is a closed campus. Upon arrival, visitors are expected to check in at the office.** Parents dropping off student materials should drop them at the office. Approved visitors will sign in at the office and be issued a visitor tag, which should be worn visibly while at the school. Please return the visitor tag when you are leaving the school. Students have been instructed to inform their teacher or the office if they see a stranger in the school.

### **Communication:**

#### **Newsletter/Website information:**

School newsletters are published in a .pdf format and emailed every third Thursday of each month starting in September. School information updates will be posted on the first Thursday of each month onto our school website (<http://mtlehman@abbyschools.ca>) and emailed to our school families. We welcome comments/suggestions from parents to improve communication between home and school.

#### **If Concerns Do Arise:**

There may be occasions when parents have a problem or concern about their child's progress in school. In cases such as these, it is helpful if parents know how to get the problem resolved, the concern shared, or the question answered. The Mt. Lehman staff wants to respond to parents in ways that are helpful, that show our mutual interest in the child, and that resolve problems. Generally, it is recommended that parents take the problem to the staff member closest to the topic involved.

Consistent communication between home and school leads to a greater understanding and appreciation of

the educational process, as well as each child's participation in this process. We welcome and appreciate your inquiries and visits. We trust you will contact us when, and if, concerns or questions arise.

### **Student Responsibilities:**

Mt. Lehman Elementary has always taken pride in being a safe and caring school. We believe that we must be proactive in maintaining a positive learning environment. Each month our school promotes virtues, behavior and leadership opportunities for our students.

#### **Dress Code:**

The responsibility for personal dress and grooming rests primarily with students and their parents. Clothing, which is comfortable, clean and modest is conducive to a positive educational climate. The following points indicate our expectations for student attire at Mt. Lehman Elementary School.

- Clothing should be appropriate to a learning/working environment and should not be distracting to others, e.g. beachwear and other revealing clothing is not appropriate for school. Shirts should cover the midriff/tummy. Undergarments should not be visible.
- Dress, grooming and accessories should be appropriate and not cause health and safety concerns.
- Hats and sunglasses should be removed inside the school. Jackets should be removed during school hours and stored in cloakrooms.
- Clothing items that promote alcohol, drugs, inappropriate language, racism or are in poor taste are not acceptable for school.
- proper gym strip (shorts, t-shirt, and non-marking gym shoes) are required for all Physical Education classes, i.e. flip flops are not acceptable footwear for gym, inside or out.

#### **Footwear Policy:**

Students are requested to remove their outside shoes after entering the school. They must change to inside shoes once they get to their classroom. No socks or bare feet.

#### **Student Arrival and Departure:**

Parents are reminded that teacher supervision outside is for ten minutes before and after school.

### **Lunch Time:**

At Mt. Lehman Elementary students are encouraged to bring **nutritious snacks and lunches**. Pop, candy bars and other “zero” foods are discouraged.

Students will be going outside to play unless the weather requires us to call for an “inside day”. **Please dress your child appropriately for the weather, as most days will be outside days.**

### **Reporting Absences:**

Every morning and afternoon, attendance is taken by classroom teachers. Please contact the school before 9:20 a.m. to report any student absence; we will phone home for all unaccounted for absences.

### **Lates/Leaving Early:**

Students who consistently arrive late interfere with teacher instruction and the learning of the classmates. Please ensure your child arrives at school on time. Students arriving late in the morning or after lunch must report to the office. Chronic lates affect student achievement and will be followed up by the school administration. Students who leave before the end of the school day must report to the office and be signed out by a parent/guardian before leaving.

### **When children Become Ill at School:**

Good health is necessary for effective learning. Students who are feeling ill will be directed by their teacher to the office. Our school policy/practice is to call parents and ask for your child to be picked up. For this reason, it is important the **parents keep work and emergency phone numbers current. Accidents and emergencies are to be referred to the office immediately.**

### **Homework/Home Study:**

Work done at home is an important part of learning. It is expected that students will have homework assignments completed and handed in on time. If parents have concerns with the amount of homework being sent home, please contact your child’s teacher.

### **Students Technology and Valuables:**

School is a place where students are encouraged to interact positively on a daily basis. Students are strongly discouraged from bringing valuables and recreational technology devices to school including cameras, cellphones/smartphones, tablet devices,

MP3/MP4 players, expensive shoes, jewelry & expensive clothing. However, if parents make arrangements to permit their child to bring one to school, it must be turned off and stored away during the school day. Cellular phones may only be used after school, outside of the building. Due to privacy issues, students are not allowed to take photos while at school. Valuable items brought to school are brought at the owner’s risk; the school is not able to cover losses. All students are advised to be careful with their personal property. Please label your belongings with your child’s name.

### **Skateboards, Roller Blades, Scooters, Runners (with Rollers):**

For safety reasons, these items are not to be used on school property, except during special designated activities.

### **Bicycles:**

Bicycles are to be parked and locked using the bike racks on the north side of the school. Students are expected to wear proper headgear while cycling to/from school and walk their bike while on school property.

### **Textbooks:**

Textbooks and other educational resources are the property of the school. Students are issued textbooks at the beginning of the year. Students are responsible for returning the same textbook they were originally issued when requested by teachers. Students will be charged for lost or damaged books.

### **Staff Room:**

The staff room is designed for the use of staff only. Students are reminded that teachers require a break as much as students. Noon hour supervisors and the principal are available to assist students at break time.

### **Pets at School:**

Animals are not permitted on school grounds, except by special permission.



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