



Promontory Heights Elementary Community School

Newsletter



Chilliwack
School District

December 2018

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Promontory- Strong Learners, Kind Hearts

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

November was a month of remembering and quite a bit of rain too. We held our Remembrance Day Assembly and our students did such a good job of honouring our Veterans and determining ways each could help make the world a better place.

Volleyball season started in November and our primary students began rehearsals for our Christmas Concert- "*A Place in the Christmas Choir*". The students have been working really hard, the singing is beautiful and it promises to be an amazing show. Our grade 4 students finished up their FSA testing and our primary and intermediate teachers completed their fall assessments. We use all the information we gather to help us know the strengths and work areas of our students. This helps our staff know what areas require more focus and teaching. Many of our grade 1 students are just learning to read and it is heartwarming to hear them. I love it when they come to read to me. Please continue to read to and with your children. Even the older students enjoy being read to and there are many great books to read!

Our virtue for December is Responsibility. Our school, classrooms and students will be spending some time discussing the meaning of responsibility, why it is important and the various ways it can be demonstrated. At home parents can help too. There are some things that even the little ones can be responsible for- setting the table, taking the clothes out of the drier, putting their socks away and so on. It will be fun to see all the different ways we can show just how responsible we can be.

As holidays approach our staff would like to wish you a wonderful holiday full of special times, laughter and a lot of fun. Merry Christmas, Seasons Greetings and all the best for 2019. Enjoy December.

Taryn

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 4th – Boys Volleyball Game at Watson
December 4th – DARE Grad- 10:30
December 5th – Girls Volleyball Game at Promontory
December 6th – PAC Meeting at 7pm- All welcome
December 7th – Hot Lunch
December 7th – Festive Christmas Sweater Day
December 10th-14th – Term 1 Report cards sent home
December 12th – Primary Christmas Concert Rehearsal
December 13th – Afternoon Primary Christmas Concert at 1pm
December 13th – Evening Primary Christmas Concert at 6:30pm
December 14th – Santa visit at 1pm
December 18th – Kindergarten Christmas Concert- 6pm
December 20th – Hot Lunch
December 21st – PAC Pancake Breakfast at 7:30am
December 22nd – January 6th – Christmas Holidays begin
January 7th – School Re-opens
January 8th – Boys Volleyball Game at Vedder
January 9th – Girls Volleyball Game at Evans
January 15th – Boys Volleyball Game at Evans
January 16th – Girls Volleyball Game at Promontory
January 17th – Super Reader Assembly 1:00pm
January 18th – Hot Lunch
January 18th – Crazy Hat Day
January 22nd – Gr.1-6 CSOPA Field Trip



SCREEN TIME

Did you know that more and more research is indicating that too much screen time is creating problems for children? At school we do find that many children struggle to focus and to remain calm for more than a few minutes. Here is an article that you may find interesting.

https://www.nzherald.co.nz/lifestyle/news/article.cfm?c_id=6&objectid=12154228&fbclid=IwAR3W_74gml-Z9DsyQxV02ACvQDx1O92qsVG-xJve1Ma4Kxal4tZ84MMFX9A

GROWTH MINDSET

We are continuing to help children learn to persevere through the struggles that can come with learning. Sometimes it can be hard but the struggle helps build their confidence and character. We use a Growth Mind Set language which sounds like this when they want to give up. “Keep trying, you can’t do it yet... but you are learning and will soon be able to do it.” This type of language helps children to realize they are learning and aren’t expected to know how to do everything, the first try. When it’s a challenge and they persevere, they are sure proud of themselves when they learn how to do something.

REPORT CARDS

Our teachers are currently working on the final touches of Term 1 Report Cards. We have a flexible reporting period which means they will go home Dec. 10-14. The Report Card will give you a clear picture of your child’s strengths and work areas. Please go over your child’s Report Card with him/her. Talk about what they are doing well and what they need some extra support on. Together set a goal for Term 2.

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

TEACHING VOCABULARY

Christmas is a rich time of year to teach new words. Don’t forget about the action words and describing words too! Vocabulary is best taught when your child is interested and engaged. Spend time not only reading a book’s story, but also talking about the pictures. Label new items and actions as your child is participating in an activity (i.e. when you are decorating a tree, baking, window shopping etc.). If your child doesn’t know a word... just tell them!

Nouns: ornament, wreath, footprint, sprinkles, icicle

Describing words: slippery, shiny, cozy, sweet, frozen

Verbs (action words): decorate, wrap, stir, shovel, invite



LIBRARY

BOOKS OVER WINTER BREAK

Intermediate students will be permitted to have two fiction books checked out over winter break. These books must be chapter books or just right books. All nonfiction books must be returned to the library by Dec 14. All primary student library books are due during the week of Dec 17th to 21st. Community accounts will be permitted to keep their books out over the winter break.

CAMP READ S'MORE READATHON

Our Annual Readathon was very successful. Our school raised \$1455 to buy Lego and build a Lego wall. Thank you to everyone in our school community that made this possible. We have already purchased over 10,000 pieces of brand-new Lego for our students to start using in the Makerspace. We will start construction of the Lego Wall in the new year. More details to come!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

We had a great turn out at our first book fair of the year. All book fair purchases benefit our school and students. Rewards earned from the book fair are invested into prizes for our Super Reader program or books for the library. Check out our January newsletter for more information about the results of the book fair.

SUPER READER PROGRAM

We are approaching 100 nights of home reading fast! The earliest date for 100 nights is December 12. Please return your child's Super Reader Booklet to their classroom teacher. There will be a Super Reader Celebration Assembly in the new year. It is not too late to start Super Reader! There are extra booklets available in the library. Students are required to read or be read to for 15 minutes a night. Students receive different prizes at the 50,100,150,200,250-night levels.

100 Nights of Reading Prizes from Kiwanis

Kindergarten: T-shirt & McDonalds Goodie Bag

Grade 1: Picture Book & McDonalds Goodie Bag

Grade 2: Chapter Book & McDonalds Goodie Bag

Grade 3/4: Binder & McDonalds Coupon

Grade 5: Stylus Pen & McDonalds Coupon



MAKERSPACE INSTAGRAM

Want to see what our students are making in the makerspace? You can now check out our Makerspace online. We have an Instagram account. Follow us at [promontorymakerspace](#)

MAKERSPACE MATERIALS NEEDED!

We are always looking for materials to use in our Makerspace. We will take anything that a student can use to repurpose or create something new. Please bring materials to Mr. Mueller in the library. We are looking for the following items:

Fabric, felt, pipe cleaners, pom-poms, straws, dowelling, wire, string, popsicle sticks, playdough, elastic bands, styrofoam, broken toys and electronics, Lego, and K'nex. We are also looking for any kind of storage container with a lid.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS from Mr. Mueller

DECEMBER EVENTS

Christmas Concert- Thurs. Dec. 13, 1:00 and 6:30

We are looking forward to presenting our Primary Christmas Production. Please join us on Thurs. Dec. 13th 1:00pm and 6:30pm! The actors/actresses need to be at school for 5:30. All others students can arrive at 6:00 and will meet their teachers in their classes. The classroom teachers will not be here before 6:00 so please do not drop your children off early. The students will be making and wearing headbands. Please dress your child in the colours below. If the shirt has a logo, it can be worn inside out.

Mrs. Bannerman: sheep - white shirts
Mrs. MacIsaac: pigs - pink or red shirts
Mrs. Wouda: cats - orange, brown, or tan shirts
Mrs. Griffen: dogs - brown or black shirts
Mrs. Brown: chickens - yellow shirts
Mrs. Frose: mice - grey shirts
Mr. Ingham: owls - blue shirts
Mrs. Fraser: cows - black or white shirts
Mrs. Henrotte: ducks - turquoise or green shirts
Mrs. Davidson/Mrs. Balsillie: donkeys - brown/tan/beige shirts
Mr. Armstrong: horses - brown or beige shirts
Mr. Alfred: rabbits - cream or white shirts

Many thanks to Mrs. Solomon and Mrs. Henrotte who have spent many hours helping our students learn their lines and the songs.

Kindergarten Christmas Concert

Our youngest learners have their own special event this year. Kindergarten parents and guests are invited to our K Performance on Tuesday December 18th. 6:00pm

Pancake Breakfast- Fri. Dec. 21, 7:30am

Please join us for our annual Pancake Breakfast. It is a great way to start the day and get to know some Promontory families. Once you and your children have finished breakfast they can stay with you in the gym until the bell rings or can play outside if the weather permits. Watch for more information about the Pancake Breakfast in the next few days.

OUT DAYS

WE WILL ENCOURAGE OUT DAYS. With the winter weather, we can expect more frequent wet, windy weather and maybe even some snow. Even on days with drizzle or light rain children may be sent out for a period of time to get fresh air. The day is long and children do crave exercise and fresh air.



PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILDREN TO MAKE RESPONSIBLE CHOICES AND

ENSURE THEY ARE DRESSED PROPERLY FOR THE WEATHER. It is cold this week and our students will need to wear a warm coat.

At this time of year boots are a great option. Our fields are muddy. Please make sure your child has a clean pair of inside shoes to change into. It makes a huge difference to the cleanliness of our school and makes the learning environment inside the classrooms much more pleasant. It would be helpful for students to put a change of clothes in their backpacks. (socks, pants) Thank you.

CHILDREN THAT ARE ILL



Everyone is mindful of how quickly illness can spread through a class or the school. It is important to note that if your child is ill, keep them home. Please do not send a sick child to school hoping that they may get better. Err on the side of caution, and keep your child home to help prevent others from becoming sick.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration for Kindergarten 2019 is now open. If your child will be 5 on or before December 31st, 2019 then it is time to register. You will need Proof of Address and a Birth Certificate. Please encourage any of your neighbours to register too. All registrations are completed online. <https://sd33.bc.ca/registration>

PROMONTORY PAC

Please join us for our December PAC Meeting- Thurs. Dec. 6th @ 7:00pm.

The next Hot lunch will be on December 7th and the annual Pancake Breakfast is on December 21st at 7:30am. All orders for the pancake breakfast will be placed online through the Munch-a-Lunch system. Watch for our next fundraiser that will raffle off tickets for FRONT ROW SEATS. Deadline for ticket purchase is December 7th. Winning Tickets will be announced Tuesday, December 11th. Remember, all money raised goes



directly towards your PAC fund, which is used in many ways to help enhance your child's experience at Promontory Elementary

HOT LUNCH

Our ordering system is going **GREEN!** Instead of filling out a paper order form, parents will place their hot lunch orders **online only** using **MunchaLunch.com!**

Orders can be paid for online with Visa or Mastercard, pre-paid credit card or visa debit. Cash or cheque may be dropped off at the school.

HOW TO REGISTER:

- 1) Go to: <https://munchalunch.com/schools/PromontoryHeights/>
- 2) Click the **"Register Here"** button (as shown below). The system will guide you through
- 3) After adding your children, click the green **"Order Lunch!"** button to order
- 4) Next time, just click the **"Login Here"** button to access your account.



ORDERING DETAILS:

- Online ordering will be open at least by the 1st of each month until 1 week before date of hot lunch
- Orders are paid for using credit card online through munch a lunch secure system. Or brought to school by ordering date deadline. If payment is not received by deadline you will be notified of your order cancellation.

Please note if your child is ill on a lunch date, you are welcome to come and pick up their lunch at 12 pm from the downstairs kitchen; otherwise please consider it a donation for a child who does not have a lunch. Consistent with previous years, there are NO REFUNDS as this is a PAC fundraiser. We appreciate your support for our hot lunch program as the funds go towards needs of the school and general fundraising within the school. We are always in need of **Volunteers!** There is a volunteer page in the online system where you can checkmark which dates you are available. The lunch coordinator will then contact you with a proposed schedule.

Please click on the link for further information <http://sd33.bc.ca/>



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October 2017

INCLEMENT WEATHER SCHOOL CLOSURE GUIDELINES

Information for Parents and Students



Inclement weather conditions such as freezing rain, significant snowfall or high wind can occur during the fall and winter months. In such conditions, decisions on the opening or closure of school district facilities are made by the Superintendent of Schools in consultation with management and supervisory staff who have checked first-hand on the driving conditions and general condition of buildings.

While service to students and parents is a priority and schools will be kept open as much as is reasonably possible, student and staff safety is the primary consideration.

In the event of extreme weather conditions, parents are urged to check the **School District website** www.sd33.bc.ca or tune into radio stations **STAR FM (98.3 FM)** or **THE DRIVE (89.5 FM)**, to receive up-to-date information on school closures and information on the buses. Reports will start after 6:00 a.m. and will be repeated often. The information broadcast is directly from the School District. The reports are confirmed and there is no need to call your school, the School District Office or the radio station. Students will be marked absent for the day, but such an absence will not affect a perfect attendance record.

In the event that there is inclement weather but the school remains open, it is the parent's decision, based on their assessment of the relative safety of travel conditions, as to whether or not their children attend school.

A **Transportation Snow Plan** is in place for students who rely on travel by school bus and live in higher elevations such as Chilliwack Mountain, Majuba Hill, Ryder Lake and some areas of Columbia Valley and the Eastern Hillside. An announcement will be made should travel in these areas become challenging due to slippery road conditions. *(Please note: the greater Promontory area does not have a snow plan).*

All inclement weather information may be found on the School District website www.sd33.bc.ca