



January 2019

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*Promontory- Strong Learners, Kind Hearts*

## **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

Happy New Year everyone and welcome to 2019! I hope you all had a great holiday and had lots of time for your favourite things. It's great to have some down time and time to relax but it is also good to get back into a regular routine. I am looking forward to seeing all the students and hearing about their vacation. January is typically a month of deep learning. The students are familiar with school routines and settle back in quickly. It is helpful to have a routine at home, if possible, where your child can read, play math games or just do some homework.

Our virtue for January is Perseverance- being steady and dependable especially in spite of difficulties, obstacles or discouragement. Sometimes as parents/adults we want to make sure we intervene before children struggle, but the struggle is where they learn, grow and become more confident in their ability to solve problems. Perseverance helps all of us learn not to give up on things easily. When we persevere, people can depend on us to finish something we have started. At home you can help your child set a goal and work to meet that goal.

At this time of year our youngest learners will start to take off with their reading and it is always a delight to hear them read to me and see their joy at knowing they can read. Keep reading at home too, kids are never too old for a story.

I will be away from school Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>- Feb 12<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Kasper is stepping into an Acting Principal role and Mr. Brennan will be our acting Vice Principal. We will have a replacement teaching Mr. Brennan's PE classes. I know they will both do an amazing job and will benefit from the experience.

I hope 2019 is a year full of peace, joy and blessings for you and your family. As always my door is open, please don't hesitate to drop in or send me an email. I enjoy hearing from you.

Taryn Dixon

## **READY, SET, LEARN**

Our annual Ready, Set, Learn event will be held from 12:30-1:15 on Thurs. Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>. This is a time for our upcoming Kindergarten children to come to school with their parents/caregivers. The adults will have an opportunity to hear from our K teachers and will be given a few tips on best ways to prepare children for school. The children will be involved with some interesting and fun activities in our gym. Please mark your calendars and invite your neighbours if they have a child coming into kindergarten.

## **Kindergarten Registration and Registration for 2019-2020**

If you have a child turning 5 before Dec. 31, 2019 and have not yet registered your child please do so as soon as possible. We will soon be starting our September 2019 planning and it is helpful to have as many of our students registered as possible. If you are moving out of the Promontory catchment or have moved out of the Promontory catchment, you will need to register at your neighbourhood school. Promontory is a closed catchment school and we want to make sure we have classroom space for students who live in our area. All registration is completed online. You will need a copy of your child's Birth Certificate and Proof of Address. Thanks so much . For registration information please check out the parent information section on school district website. All registrations are completed online. <https://sd33.bc.ca/registration>

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

January 8<sup>th</sup> – Boys Volleyball Game at Vedder  
January 9<sup>th</sup> – Girls Volleyball Game at Evans  
January 15<sup>th</sup> – Boys Volleyball Game at Evans  
January 16<sup>th</sup> – Girls Volleyball Game at Promontory  
January 17<sup>th</sup> – Super Reader Assembly 12:50pm  
January 17<sup>th</sup> – Boys Volleyball Game at Promontory  
January 18<sup>th</sup> – Hot Lunch  
January 18<sup>th</sup> – Crazy Hat Day  
January 22<sup>nd</sup> – Gr.1-5 CSOPA Field Trip  
January 23<sup>rd</sup> – Girls Volleyball game at Promontory  
January 29<sup>th</sup> – Boys Volleyball vs. Kent (Location TBA)  
January 30<sup>th</sup> – Girls Volleyball game at Promontory  
February 4-6<sup>th</sup> – Boys Volleyball Tournament 3-5pm at Cheam Centre  
February 5-7<sup>th</sup> – Girls Volleyball Tournament 3-5pm at Cheam Centre  
February 7<sup>th</sup> – Early Dismissal at 12:00- Busses are not running in the afternoon  
February 7<sup>th</sup> – Ready Set Learn 12:30-1:15pm  
February 8<sup>th</sup> – Crazy Hair Day  
February 13<sup>th</sup> – PAC Meeting at 7:00pm  
February 15<sup>th</sup> – Hot Lunch



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

### CSOPA- Once Upon a Mattress- Jan. 22nd

Our students in Gr. 1-5 entire are off to see the Chilliwack School of Performing Arts production of Once Upon a Mattress . It is such a good opportunity for our students and really helps build our school community. Many thanks to our amazing PAC for covering part of the cost for this. It is really appreciated and helps out so many families. Thank you. Information and Permission Forms will be coming home this week. Please return the forms and the payment of \$3.50 as soon as possible.

### 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.

### BATTERIES

Our school will be joining Zinc Saves Lives. This is an opportunity for you to donate your old batteries to school. We will have bins set up in January and each week a volunteer will come and collect the old batteries. The batteries are to a science lab in Vancouver where they extract the zinc from the batteries. The zinc is put into pills, and once the pills are done being made I send them to a doctor over in Ethiopia. The doctor gives them to the sick children. These children have a malnutrition disease called Diarrheal Disease. The family’s of the sick children are given these pills to make them feel better.

### EARLY DISMISSAL

Our students will be dismissed at 12:00 on Thurs. February 7<sup>th</sup> so that teachers can hold Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences. This is a great time to come in and find out how your child is progressing. Each teacher sets their own schedule so if you have not heard from the teacher please contact him/her to find out when you are able to come in and see him/her. We hope many of our families will be able to attend. **Busses will not be running in the afternoon for Promontory bus students.** Please make arrangements to pick your child up at 12:00. Thank you.

## **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**

### **SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**

Thanks to everyone that made a purchase and helped make our Book Fair a success! We had a great turn out at our first book fair of the year. This year we made over \$6500. All book fair purchases benefit our school and students. Rewards earned from the book fair are invested into prizes for our Super Reader program, Accelerated Reader Program, and books for the library. The Book Fair will be back in June 2019.

### **READING LINK CHALLENGE 2018/2019**

Get ready to join in the fun and participate in the sport of reading! Promontory will be participating in the FVRL Reading Link Challenge again this year. This competition is open to students in Grade 4 and 5.

**How does the FVRL Reading Link Challenge Work?** - Students will read up to 6 specially selected books. Their job is to pay attention to the details of the story. Students then practice with their teams by taking turns asking and answers questions. All questions will be short answer, multiple choice, and true or false questions. Parents can help too! Read the books. Encourage your child. Help quiz your child about the details of the books. For more information visit: [www.readinglinkchallenge.ca](http://www.readinglinkchallenge.ca)



***The Books:***

A Boy Called BAT by Elana K. Arnold  
Stella by Starlight by Sharon M Draper  
Howard Wallace, P.I. by Casey Lyall  
Ungifted by Gordon Korman  
The World According to Humphrey by Betty G. Birney  
The Land of Forgotten Girls by Erin Entrada Kelly



We currently have six copies of each book at the Promontory Library. Additional copies are also available from the FVRL Chwk and Sardis Branches. Also, there are ebooks, & audio books for some titles, which can be found on FVRL Tumblebooks or from FVRL Overdrive site.

**SUPER READER ASSEMBLY**

The first Kiwanis Super Reader Assembly is scheduled for Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:50pm-1:20 (Primary) 1:30-2:00 (Intermediate) in the main gym. All students who handed in their 100 nights of reading forms to their teachers prior to Winter break will be receive an award on this date. We will have another 100-night celebration Super Reader in the Spring to give away more prizes when more students reach the 100-night achievement level. At the 100-night level students must wait for a formal ceremony to receive their prize from Kiwanis Club.

The earliest date for 150 nights of reading is January 31, 2019. Please note that 150-night prizes will be available in the library.

**FAMILY READING & BOOK EXCHANGE**

Did you know that families on Promontory Hill (includes Busy Bees & preschool) are able to sign up for a library account, whether or not they attend the school? Come and see me to get signed up! Families may have up to 20 books out at one time. Parents can visit the library Fridays between 8:15 and 8:55. Parents are also welcome to sign out books after school.

**WE LOVE DONATED BOOKS**

Please bring them to the library! We will add them to our library, into a classroom, use them in our 'Read and Return' books or add them to our Used Book sale. Please put your child's name on the bag, as I keep track of the students who donate books and give them VIP passes to come choose a used book for FREE before everyone else can come and buy! The date of the used book sale is TBA.

## MAKERSPACE NEWS

### 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](#)

### LEGO WALL

2019 is the year of the Lego Wall at Promontory. We are looking forward to starting the Lego Wall project this new year. Check the newsletter monthly for updates.

### MAKERSPACE MATERIALS NEEDED

Thank you to everyone that has donated items in the past! 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:

*Cereal boxes, 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 reading from Mr. Mueller**

### 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.

### **PROMONTORY PAC**

Please join us for our January PAC Meeting- Thurs. Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm.

We are “kicking” off a fundraiser with Excel Martial Arts that will provide 100% of the funds raised to our school! For the month of January we will be selling cards for \$20 that will give your child a month of training and a free t-shirt at Excel! And yes, all \$20 will go back to the PAC to provide lots of extras for the school!

Hot lunch ordering on Munch a Lunch will resume on January 8<sup>th</sup>, with our first hot lunch being January 18<sup>th</sup> (Jim’s Pizza).

### **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**ABORIGINAL DEPARTMENT NEWS:**

All K classes - Sto:lo Legend "Mischievous Cubs" and Bear Mask with Mrs. Michelanko, Salish Seasons with Mrs. McGhee on January 22nd

Grade 2's - Who are the people in our community, with Mrs. Gauthier

Grade 5's - Tuesdays and Thursdays noon hour friendship building/activity in the Ab Ed room

Grade 5's - Salish weaving will start end of Jan. beginning of Feb.

**CONTEST:** Indigenous Arts & Stories invites self-identified First Nations, Métis and Inuit youth (ages 6 to 29), to submit a piece of writing or artwork exploring Indigenous identity, history or culture. Know someone who would submit? Spread the word!! <http://www.our-story.ca>

**WIN up to \$2,000.00! - Contest deadline is March 21, 2019**

**Promontory T-Shirts & Hoodies:**

We have T-shirts and Hoodies available for purchase at the school office, in sizes small & medium only. Pricing as follows: **T-Shirts - \$13.00 Hoodies - \$29.25**

*Welcome back to*







Promontory Heights Elementary Community School Association

Email: [phecsa@phecsa.ca](mailto:phecsa@phecsa.ca)

Website: [www.phecsa.ca](http://www.phecsa.ca)

**Winter 2019 Programs:** Registration is opening soon for the following programs, register now to avoid great programs being cancelled.

### Preschool Programs

- Baking Buddies

### School Aged Programs

- Delicious Dessert Creations
- Guitar Lessons
- Karate
- Lego Robotics: Physical & Space Sciences
- Robotics; Intro

### Adult Programs:

- Guitar lessons
- Pickle Ball
- Zumba

**Movie Nights PHECSA and PAC are going to be offering monthly Movie nights,**

**More info to come soon.**

Please click on the link for further information on Inclement Weather School Closure Guidelines <http://sd33.bc.ca/>



Chilliwack  
School District

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](http://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](http://www.sd33.bc.ca)