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Mr. M. Ward
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Newsletter #6: February 1, 2018

As we move into February, teachers are continuing to develop engaging programs for our students. While many of our grade 7 students are returning from Quebec, bringing back “once in a lifetime” memories, other students have experienced more other local activities such as swimming and snowshoeing at Mount Seymour. Many exciting learning experiences are also happening right in the classrooms as teachers continue to learn alongside students by participating in the many professional development activities offered by the Richmond School District.



Go Further

The Vancouver Sun Run is an amazing opportunity for students to learn what it’s like to run in a large scale race and support healthy habits, through regular exercise. Students will begin training for the Vancouver Sun Run on February 5th, but we welcome anyone new who would like to join after that time. Students in Grades 5, 6, and 7 train on Monday and Friday mornings from 8:00 until the start of school, as well as Wednesday after school at 3:10. Students in Grades 2, 3 and 4 may join the Wednesday afterschool practices. A notice will come home describing how to sign up for the race.



Conferences/ Mid-Year Summaries



Parent-Teacher Conferences

Early Dismissal:

Tuesday, February 20th and Wednesday, February 21st at 2:00 PM

Depending on whether or not your child is working with a portfolio/ conference system, or a report card system, the February conferences will be different. If you received a regular report card in term one, these conferences will be an informal opportunity to look at your child’s progress. If you received a learning check-in in term 1, these conferences will be more formal and will take a half an hour; 15 minutes to look at your child’s portfolio with your child and 15 minutes to sit with your child and the teacher to discuss their progress. You will also receive a formal document, outlining your child’s progress in both literacy and numeracy.

PINK SHIRT DAY

Wednesday, February 28th

Pink Shirt Day is a day where we come together to remind one-another of the harmful effects of bullying. We wear pink, as students did in Nova Scotia while supporting a fellow student – the roots of this day. The focus for this year is cyber-bullying – something that we know is a problem for the youth of today. Please have your children come dressed in as much pink as possible to support the cause.

Sign-in

REMINDER



To ensure the safety of our students, we ask anyone who is entering the school after 9:00 am or before 3:00 pm to sign-in at the front door and wear a visitor badge. You may be coming in to speak to a teacher, volunteering, or participating in school functions. If you are coming for a presentation, or an evening meeting, the badges are not required.



Traffic Before and After School

With the rainy weather upon us, it has come to our attention that some parents and family members are not following the appropriate guidelines for drop-off and pick-up, making it inefficient and unsafe. Please respect the following:

1. If your child is old enough and lives close by, consider having him/her *walk* to and from school – with a buddy. Alternately, arrange a drop off/pick up location nearby (if your child is old enough to responsibly walk a small distance).
2. If you do drive your child, please budget enough time. We don't want you to rush. On rainy days, traffic is slower and there are more cars entering our parking lot. Budget extra time. Students are welcomed at school as early as 8:45 am (15 minutes before school starts) so please don't leave your drive to the last moment.
3. We have had great success with the single entrance through our *western* most driveway (nearest South Arm). This really helps with the flow of traffic. Thank you.
4. After school, if you drive to pick up your child, **please pull into a stall**. The drop-off/ pick-up lane is not meant for parking – you are to remain in your car.

PARKING
LOT



BOOK FAIR COMING SOON!

The Book Fair will be open Monday, February 19th to Thursday, February 22nd from 8:30am to 9:00am, during the lunch break, and for at least an hour afterschool. Please ensure that if your children bring money for books, that it is placed where it won't get lost. Thank you for your support.

PAC Corner

THANK
YOU!

A big thank you to our PAC who have been working hard to support our school through various fundraising activities. Since my arrival, they have supported classroom teachers with funds for materials, given \$5 per student for field trips, supported both our outdoor education program and our leadership program, supplied the school with exercise equipment, iPads and self-regulation tools, and helped bring activities such as hip-hop and drumming into the school. I'm sure that I have missed some things, as they do so much for the school, but it is important for the Whiteside community to say "thank you!".



PAC Meeting – Wednesday, February 28^h, at 6:30 PM

dates
to
Remember

Family Day (School Closed) – Monday, February 12th
Early Dismissal 2:00PM – Tuesday, February 20th and Wednesday, February 21st
PRO-D (School Closed) – Friday, February 23rd