

SPUL'U'KWUKS NEWS

Newsletter #5

November 17th, 2016

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Principal: Mrs. Darlene Shandola

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Vice Principal: Mr. John Kibblewhite

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Trustee: Mr. Jonathan Ho

From the Office

Congratulations, Mr. Kibblewhite!!! With Mrs. Shandola retiring, Mr. Kibblewhite will become Acting Principal for the remainder of the year! This will ensure a smooth transition for our students, staff and parents.

The new vice-principal will be announced in the near future.

Communicating Student Learning (Reporting)

By Wednesday, November 30th, term one reports will come home and you may notice that they look more concise than in previous years. One of the reasons for this is that we are using a new format. Please remember that the report card is meant to be a summary snap-shot of your child's learning. No one piece of paper can ever capture who your child is. But their portfolios, work, projects, and journals speak volumes as to who they are as a student, and it is this work that is the true communication of your child's learning, along with the conversations with their teacher.

With the Ministry making a shift in curriculum, there is also a shift in reporting and Richmond has begun this shift on report cards by making them more succinct. The Ministry of Education makes the following recommendations in order for us to move forward successfully with the new curriculum:

- *Shift from "reporting" to "communicating student learning"*
- *Support meaningful communication between teachers, parents, and learners*
- *Report on core competencies and key areas of learning*
- *Focus on learning standards and big ideas in areas of learning (subjects)*
- *Enable ongoing communication (with provincial guidelines and supports)*
- *Use clear performance standards-based language*

There is a greater move toward meaningful descriptions/collections/demonstrations of student learning.

Some information about report cards to help you talk with your child:

1. Teachers assess a child's progress based on the widely held expectations for children of that age. Letter grades for intermediate students and performance scales for primary students give parents an idea how their children are doing based on these criteria.
2. It is important to remember that children are all learning and progressing at their own rate. Some children may learn more quickly or easily than others. Some children take a longer time to learn. Teachers need to report on a child's current development. Both parents and teachers need to celebrate each child's progress and growth in learning.
3. Not all intermediate children will receive "A"s as letter grades on their report cards and for many children, this is not a realistic goal. For the many children, a C or C+ is a very good grade, especially if the accompanying effort mark is G, since it means they are working hard.

Here is a snapshot of what each letter grade means:



- A consistently excellent performance
- B consistently very good performance
- C+ consistently good performance
- C consistently satisfactory performance
- C- minimally meeting expectations

4. **Effort marks of G for good, S for satisfactory and N for needs improvement are no longer given but each teacher will give a comment about this important topic and this can be a focus for your chat with your child. We hope every child develops a growth mindset towards their learning and puts their best effort into lessons and assignments.**
5. **When you and your child look at the report card, it is important to celebrate growth and improvement and to talk about areas for improvement in Term 2.**



DRESS FOR THE WEATHER: It is important that students are dressed for the weather. During these colder damp days, students need to have proper jackets, footwear, hats and gloves so that they can enjoy playing outside.

AROUND THE SCHOOL

Volleyball Season – Our volleyball season will finish next week with the Grade 7/Staff Volleyball game at lunch on Wednesday, Nov. 23rd. Thanks to Grade 7 team coaches Mrs. Shackles and manager, Mrs. Pali.

Food Bank Drive – We are organizing a Food Drive to coincide with the Staff/Grade 7 Volleyball game on November 23rd. It will continue throughout next week. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Red Cross Babysitting Course

Offered at Spulukwuks, Jan.30th, 2017, 8:30-3:30

11+Yrs

More information to come in early January.

PLEASE NOTE: The City of Richmond has asked us to communicate to each school regarding prohibited activities such as use of drones and model aircraft except in Manoah Steves Park.

FROM YOUR PAC – SOME REMINDERS

- **LUCKY 8 raffle tickets (sold & unsold) and money are due into the office **NO LATER THAN** Monday, November 28th 9:00 a.m.**
- **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA tickets should be purchased by Wednesday, November 23rd 9:00 a.m. so that PAC can complete their planning! Tickets usually sell out for this event, so order early to avoid disappointment!**

Dates to Remember



Friday, November 18 th	- Curriculum Implementation Day – No School for students
Tuesday, November 22 nd	- Vancouver Theatre Sports Presentation 9:20 a.m. Parents are welcomed.
Wednesday, November 23 rd	- Last day for Santa's Breakfast tickets
Friday, November 25 th	- Spirit Day #3 Patterns Patterns Patterns
Monday, November 28 th	- 9:00 Tea and Talk in the multipurpose room - Last day for Lucky 8 Raffle Tickets - PAC Hot Lunch Day
Wednesday, November 30 th	- Last day for Report Cards to be sent home - Breakfast with Santa
Thursday, December 1 st	- Assembly for Mrs. Shandola 1:20 p.m.
Friday, December 2 nd	- Last day of school before the Winter Break
Tuesday, January 3 rd	- School reopens for Term 2
Monday, January 9 th	- DARE for Grade 5 students starts - PAC Hot Lunch Day
Monday, January 30 th	- Professional Development Day – No School for students - Student First Aid Training – see above note

Tea and Talk Session #3

When and Where: Monday, November 30th at 9:00 a.m. in the multipurpose room

Topic: Building Student Success – B.C.'s New Curriculum

Over the past year, you have been hearing at our PAC meetings and other sessions of our redesigned provincial curriculum for K to Grade 9. Please come to find out more.

Please note:

Translation will be provided.

Please note: To learn more, you are invited to check out the Ministry website. Here is a suggestion for getting started:

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum> or Google “Building Student Success BC’s New Curriculum”

From there, go to TOOLS and check out

- Curriculum Redesign – Frequently Asked Questions
- Curriculum Redesign – What’s New? What’s the Same?



Tea and Talk #3
Monday, November 28th
9-10:00 a.m. in the Multipurpose Room
Topic: BC's Elementary Curriculum
the New BC Education Plan
Speaker: Mrs. Darlene Shandola

Translation will be provided

Tea and Talk 茶话会#3
日期: 2016年11月28日星期一
时间: 上午9:00-10:00
地点: 学校多功能厅 Multipurpose Room
题目: BC省小学教学大纲 – 新的BC省教育计划
主讲: Mrs. Darlene Shandola (校长)
现场将提供国语翻译