



## Riverdale News

A bi-weekly update for parents and families  
*Ecole Riverdale Elementary...*  
*together, we SOAR to success!*

Principal: Leah Christensen  
Vice Principal: Gary Loosemore

February 6<sup>h</sup>, 2017

**A word from your Principal – Due to snow days and technical difficulties, this newsletter wasn't sent out last Monday. The next newsletter will be sent out as scheduled on Monday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>. Merci!**

We are at the half way point of the school year. It was the perfect time to hold learning conferences, for which we had a wonderful turnout last Thursday. Thank you to parents and families for spending some time in your child's classroom, learning more about his/her accomplishments so far this year, and what is yet to come. Your involvement and understanding of how to support your child's learning is key to his/her success, and we appreciate all that you do.

Selina Millar, our district Numeracy Helping Teacher had excellent information to share at our Curriculum Café regarding how to support learning at home. One way we support learning in all subject areas is to "make thinking visible." What this looks like in math is that the focus is not only on the answer, but on how a student arrived at the answer. There are many different ways to solve a problem, and this critical thinking competency is what we want to support and nurture in our children, across the curriculum.

If you were not able to come to the conferences last week, please contact your child's teacher to arrange another time to meet. Our aim is to provide as many windows into your child's learning as possible. Whether it's a phone call, a visit to the school, time on a fieldtrip...we welcome your support, questions and feedback. *Merci beaucoup!*

### School Closures and Weather

As our Superintendent said, these were very unusual times. The decision to close all schools in Surrey was not

taken lightly. While conditions in some pockets of the city may have been manageable, in many parts icy and dangerous conditions prevented access and safe travel to and from school sites.

In the event of future inclement weather, please listen to the radio, or go online to CKNW (980 AM), CBC (88.1 FM) or Global News for information on school closure. The district website went down on Tuesday due to high user volume. The radio stations/news websites are a reliable source of information. Thank you.

### Kindergarten Registration – English Program

Children who turn five before January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 are eligible to begin school in September, 2017. Registration begins on Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. Please see the school or district websites for further information re: documentation required for registration.

### Kindergarten French Immersion Lottery

Parents must register their child at their local catchment school prior to applying for a Choice program.

#### Timeline:

- **February 15: Deadline to register at catchment school in order to apply online for Choice programs;**
- **February 20: Online application closes;**
- **February 27: Random lottery draw takes place;** an email will be sent to all applicants announcing the lottery results.

### PAC Updates - Next PAC Meeting: Wednesday, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm (new date!). Childminding is provided.

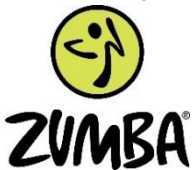
Once again, our dedicated PAC has been up to many things the last few weeks, and they have plenty more in store! Here are some highlights:

- Many thanks to those who came and completed **school-wide lice checks** last month: Sarah Schneider, Leanne Campbell, Renata Wright, Gloria

Rogers and Deb Imada. These take a lot of time and effort, but they really help control lice in the school.

- **Thank you** to the Hot Lunch Committee for providing students with a yummy lunch from Panago last month.
- The **next Hot Lunch is Subway**: Thursday, Feb 16<sup>th</sup>. Orders online through Munch a Lunch are due this Thursday, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>.
- **Clothing Drive**: Happening over six days: Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> – March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Drop off times are 8.15 – 8.45am and 2.15- 2.45pm.
- Fundraising Event! **Baker's Market** on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> in the gym (see attachment).
- Save the Date: Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> for PAC and CPF (Cdn Parents for French) **Carnivale!** To be held at Riverdale in the afternoon/early evening. Details to follow.
- Purdy's chocolate order – A couple of orders remain. If you have not yet picked up your order, please contact [riverdale.pac@hotmail.com](mailto:riverdale.pac@hotmail.com).

## Grade 6/7 Camp Committee Update



Thank you to all who supported the Zumbathon last Friday! Donations brought in nearly \$600 to support Grade. 7 camp!

**Bottle Drive Fundraiser** – Please see the attachment for details on how to contribute your empty bottles.

Please see the attached letter for updates from the fundraising chair, Corinne Moody.

## Technology at School

A student may bring personal devices to school (e.g. phones, tablets) for educational purposes if both you and your child's teacher have given permission for it to be at school. Riverdale's **Code of Conduct** clearly states that these devices are to be used for **educational purposes** only. We reinforce these expectations to students, and if they are found using them outside of class time for other purposes, they will be kept at the office until the end of the day. Thank you for your assistance in reinforcing these expectations with your child(ren).

## Welcome to British Columbia Family French Camp

At BC Family French Camp, children from French Immersion or Programme Cadre bring their families along to camp. Families camp in their own tents or trailers. Together, we form a friendly neighbourhood, surrounded by the sounds of children playing and singing in French.

Parents enjoy a rewarding blend of lounging time and sharing in a variety of small **volunteer duties** while their children use their French in a wonderful outdoor setting with their energetic and funny French-speaking moniteurs.

### And parents don't have to be able to speak French!

Evening activities for the whole family include night games, volleyball or kickball, communal dessert, communal dinner, and sing-along campfires. Many happy memories are always made at BC Family French Camp. **For more information:** <http://www.bcffc.com/>

## Staffing Update

Welcome to **Mr. Basra!** He will be assuming Ms. Spence's LST role until the end of June. Ms. Spence is currently off on maternity leave.

Welcome to **Mme Brennan!** With the additional staffing that resulted because of the Supreme Court judgement, we received an additional .6 LST (Learner Support Team teacher). Mme Brennan will be working with our French Immersion teachers and students.

**Ms. Wilson** will be off for a short leave. During her absence, the district will be filling the head secretary position. We will miss her and look forward to her return.

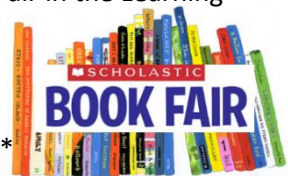
**Ms. Olsthoorn** (div. 13) continues to recover from a broken collarbone. We hope she will be able to return later in March. We wish her a full and speedy recovery.

## Student Safety

In order to ensure your child is safe at school, **it is district policy that parents/visitors first check in at the office before going anywhere else in the school.** We will then call down to your child's classroom to inform the teacher of your arrival. This also makes for fewer disruptions in the classroom. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

## Looking Ahead...

- Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Scholastic Book Fair in the Learning Commons. Special Family evening hours: Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm.
- Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> 6pm – PAC Meeting\*\* **Rescheduled to Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>** at 6pm
- Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> – BC Dairy Foundation – Mobile Dairy Classroom visit
- Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> – 2.30 – 4.30pm Grade 7 Camp Movie Night Fundraiser: *The Secret Life of Pets*
- Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> – BC Family Day – School is closed.
- Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> – Grade 7 Camp Fundraiser: Hot Chocolate Sales after school



- Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> *Have you Filled a Bucket?* Kindness Campaign
- Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> – Subway PAC Hot Lunch
- Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> – Non-instructional Day – School is Closed
- Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> – **Pink Shirt Day!** 9am Spirit Day Assembly
- Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> – March 2<sup>nd</sup> – PAC Clothing Drive
- Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Riverdale hosts Boys' Basketball Playday
- Feb 24<sup>th</sup> 9am Primary SOAR Assembly; 10.45am Intermediate SOAR Assembly

- Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> 9am Ready, Set, Learn, Thrive! at Guildford Recreation Centre (see attachment)
- March 7<sup>th</sup> – Communicating Student Learning Reports home
- March 8<sup>th</sup> – Guildford Park Grade 7 parent information night (see attachment)
- March 10<sup>th</sup> – Last day of School before Spring Break! Jumprope for Heart Fundraising Event!

***Ecole Riverdale...where we are all Ravens!***  
***Nous sommes tous des corbeaux!***