



# PRINCE CHARLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

12405 100 Avenue, Surrey, BC V3V 2X2 Phone 604-588-5481

[www.surreyschools.ca/princecharles](http://www.surreyschools.ca/princecharles)

January 31, 2021

Newsletter #7

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope you and your family are all doing well. January was a very positive month at Prince Charles in so many ways.

Firstly, we welcomed 20 students from our Blended online program back to school full-time. While we did have to reorganize and add an additional face to face division, disruption was fairly minimal and all students entering new classes are happy and have adjusted well. Additionally, we welcomed 8 lovely new students from other schools and communities.



Secondly, we had no notices from Fraser Health related to Covid-19 cases at Prince Charles in January. This is wonderful news. We remain vigilant in the school, following all protocols throughout the day. Having said that, we are only as good as the community around us and that means that our families are (hopefully) adhering to the current guidelines around visiting and gathering. The safety of our students and staff is dependent upon everyone's choices so thank-you for ensuring that you are doing the best you can to keep your family (and ultimately our school population) safe. Thank-you to all parents and caregivers for sending your child(ren) to school with a mask and to the adults for wearing a mask outside while waiting with your child.

## STAFFING

You may or may not know that we have 6 staff members who've had babies since August and all 6 babies are **boys!** Two staff members have welcomed babies since the holidays. Here's the list of teachers and support staff currently on leave:

Mrs. Burrell, Kindergarten – welcomed Hudson in August  
Mrs. Leong, Grade 1 – welcomed Linden in early October  
Mrs. Murillo – Kindergarten – welcomed Mateo in October  
Mrs. Gill – Head Secretary – welcomed Madden in late December  
Mrs. Williams – Kindergarten/Grade 1 – welcomed Riley in late December  
Mrs. Vytasek – School Counselor – welcomed Bowen in early January



Since December, Ms. Carleigh McIntyre has joined our staff, replacing Mrs. Williams in addition to Mr. Tom Lewis, our new counselor, who has replaced Mrs. Vytasek while she is on leave.

## JANUARY "KOTCHAS"

Congratulations to the following students whose names were drawn from our Kotcha entries on Friday. Staff give students a Kotcha because they "caught them" doing something great! (eg. demonstrating responsibility, respect, kindness, effort, accountability, helpfulness, etc.) All Kotcha winners get to choose a brand new book. Class Kotcha winners get a class reward.

Alewya, Div. 11 – sharing nicely to make others feel good  
Arnaaz – Div. 6 - for completing his morning routine without being asked  
Amraj – Div. 6 - for completing his work independently

Kevanjot – Div. 6 – good job completing work  
Damien – Div. 3 - for working on his personal goal  
Chloe – Div. 1 – for returning an important form on time

Class Kotcha awards this month were given to Division 3 from Ms. Zorn for playing “Don’t Stop” on the xylophones from beginning to end for the first time. They sounded amazing! Well done! Congratulations to Division 8 for being very creative and focussed during our drawing session with the Vancouver Symphony online with Ms. Zorn.

## VALENTINE’S DAY



Valentine’s Day is always a fun time for kids at school. Many teachers focus on friendship and all of the social-emotional learning that is related: what is a friend? How to make friends... how to keep a friend... how to nurture friendships, and kind behaviour. These conversations and lessons are always ongoing throughout the year at developmentally appropriate levels. The issues that arise in grade 6 and 7, for example, are vastly different than those in grade 1 and 2.

This year, with Covid-19 still prominent, we are limited to how we can celebrate Valentine’s Day in classes. These are the school district issued protocols we must abide by this year:

- Student/staff exchange of paper cards **can** occur
- Paper crafts (students using own scissors, glue, colouring supplies) **can** occur
- A theme day **can** occur. On Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> it is **Red** and **Pink** Day at Prince Charles!
- Sharing of food of any kind **cannot** occur on an individual or communal basis. This includes sharing of chocolates, cupcakes, candy, treats that come with Valentine’s Day cards, treats that are prepackaged and are individually wrapped)
- Exchange of items wrapped in plastic or made of plastic, such as treat wrappers or plastic bags **cannot** occur.

Hopefully next year, celebrations will look a lot different in schools, but for now, these are the guidelines we must follow.

## DROP OFF AND PICKUP

Parents, please keep our students safe during drop off and pickup. Some ongoing issues include:

- Parents dropping off, picking up and/or idling in the transit zone.
- Parents doing u-turns east on 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue, potentially endangering pedestrians on the sidewalk and cyclists in the bike lane
- Parking in the bike lane/on the sidewalk on the south side of 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue (not allowed)
- Speeding in a school zone ..... The speed limit is **30 km per hour** on 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue 8:00 am – 5pm on school days
- Parents ignoring cones and driving into the staff parking lot to park and/or drop off or pickup

Remember that this year, we have a staggered arrival time; your child(ren) may arrive between 8:30 – 8:45 am and will not be considered late.

If the weather is pleasant, and you are not on your way to and from work, please try to walk. That time together with your child can elicit wonderful conversations and also be much less stressful when you’re not worried about finding a parking spot. Thanks everyone!

## JANUARY VIRTUAL ASSEMBLIES

Please enjoy the performances by Kindergarten (Ms. Gill's class) and Kindergarten/Grade 1 (Ms. McIntyre's class):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwsGzm8IWec>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tP1xtLd5164>



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> – Lockdown Drill
- Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> – FSA (Foundation Skills Assessment) letter home to grade 4 & 7 parents
- Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> – **Red** and **Pink** Day
- Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> – B.C. Family Day Holiday – **NO SCHOOL**
- Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup> – Non-Instructional Day – **NO SCHOOL**
- Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> – **Pink Shirt Day**
- Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup> – Beach Day
  
- Thursday, March 4 – Class Photos
- Friday, March 5 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Formal Report Issued
- Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – Earthquake Drill
- Friday, March 12 – Pajama Day
- March 15 – 26<sup>th</sup> - Spring Break – **NO SCHOOL**
- Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup> – Back to school

And finally, please enjoy some of the amazing art and writing cheering up our hallways:

### **Mrs. Sengara's class – Grade 6/7s**



Mrs. Santoro's class – Grade 6/7s



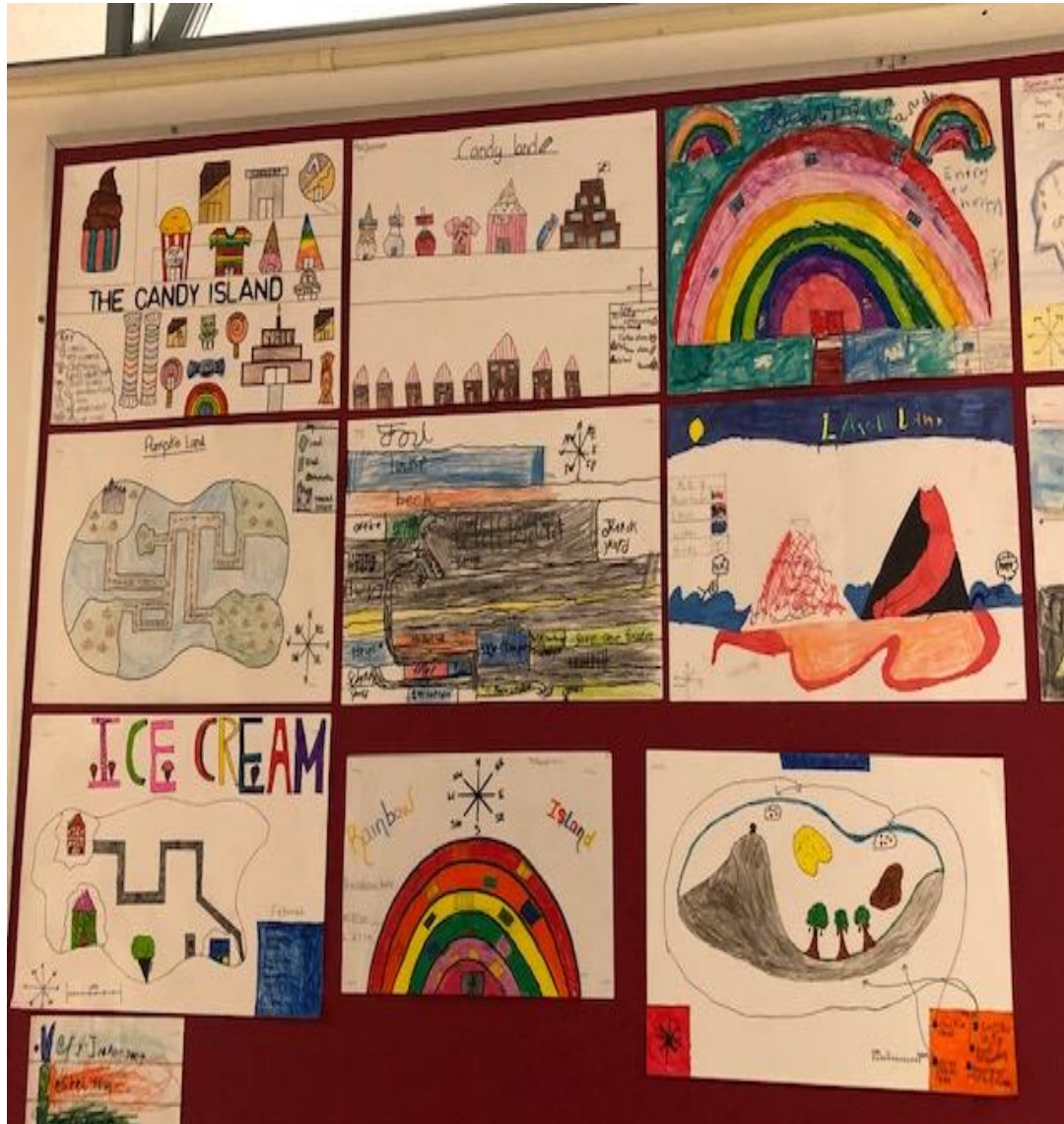
Mrs. Van Niekerk's grade 6/ 7s



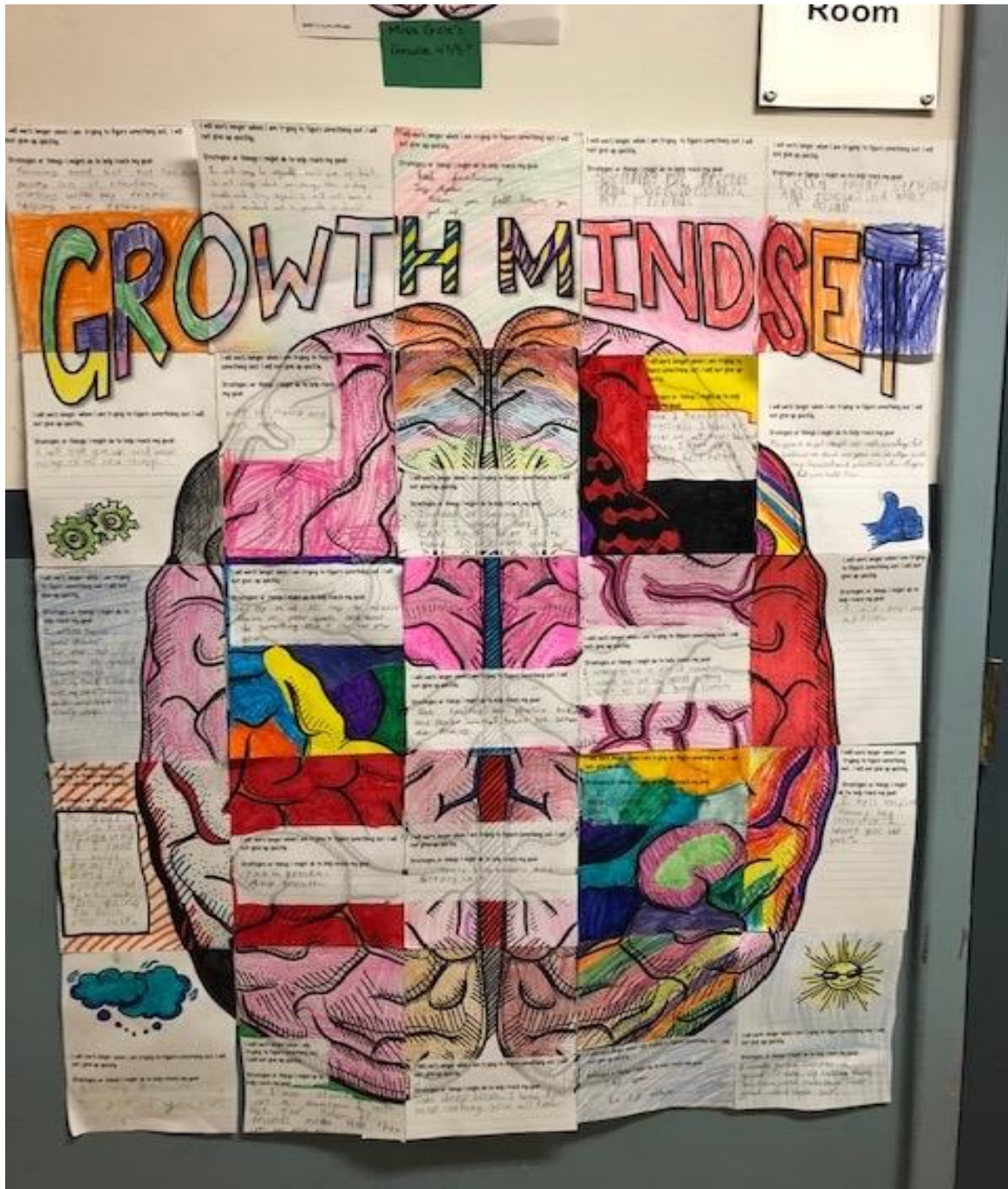
Mrs. White/Batiz's Grade 5/6s



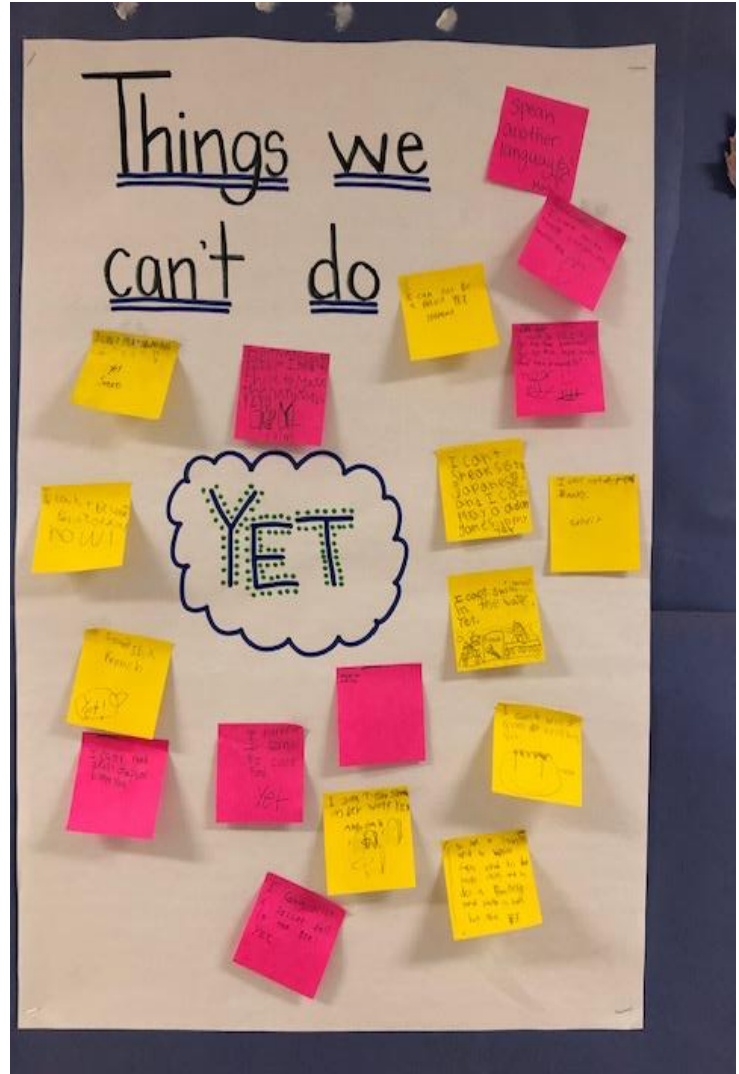
Mr. Parker's Grade 5/6s' Mapping Skills



Ms. Gale's Grade 4/5s – Growth Mindset... One's abilities can be developed!



Mrs. Lankmayr's Grade 2/3 class – Setting goals...







## Mrs. Gill's Kindergarten – Melting Into Winter....



More next month....

Have a great February!

Ms. D. Lomax, Principal