



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

March 6th, 2017

A word from your Principal

Tuesday, March 7th marks the date when the second Communicating Student Learning reports go home for many students. These reports use the learning standards from the new curriculum, and include important pieces like the student self-reflection. I hope these documents provide you with lots of information to talk about with your child, and to engage them in conversations about their learning.

For those divisions that have documented learning using Freshgrade, I hope you are enjoying the information being shared in this format. Freshgrade gives you an ongoing window into your child's learning, and I would encourage you to talk with your child about what you are seeing and reading.

Research is very clear: When children understand the learning goals (where they are going), where they are now in relation to the goals, and how they're going to keep moving forward, their learning skyrockets. This is the power of the self-reflections: It provides the road map for their next steps.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns you may have. Teachers have worked diligently throughout the term to document and support learning, and we want to ensure the reporting process makes it clear for you to see areas of growth, areas of ongoing challenge, and how we're going to move your child's learning forward. We still have over three months together. Let's ensure they are the best three months yet! Thank you for all of your support.

PAC Updates - Next PAC Meeting: Wednesday, March 8th at 6pm. Childminding is provided.
Here's what happening:

- **A HUGE thank you** to the Hot Lunch Committee and volunteers for providing students with hot dogs and treats last week. Our chair, Hilda Jewell, couldn't have made this happen without you:
 - Evina Allan
 - Stacey Ellis
 - Traci Pavao
 - Tracey Kettner
 - Katrina Reid
 - Marcela Huacio
 - Melody Holunch
- **Purdy's Easter Chocolates** fundraising starts Thursday Mar 9th. Order online at www.purdysgpp.com (register or login) customer ID to find the school is 18559. Brochures will be sent home this week. Orders due back March 29.
- Thank you for all who helped out and donated for the Clothing Drive. Looks like we made our goal!
- West Coast Seed orders will be ready for pick up in the PAC room on Tuesday, March 28th from 2-3pm.
- Fundraising Event! **Baker's Market** on Saturday, April 8th in the gym. Already 18 vendors booked!
- Friday, April 28th from 5-8pm - PAC and CPF (Cdn Parents for French) **Carnivale!** Games, food trucks, bouncy castles...all with a Canadian flair!

Grade 6/7 Camp Committee Update

Please join us for the next meeting: Thursday, March 9th, from 5-6pm. A letter with details of current projects and updates went home with all grade 6/7 students on Monday.

TD Bank Music Counts Grant

Whooo hooo! Thank you to maestro Mr. Clark for all of the work involved in submitting the Music Counts grant. We just received the news that Riverdale won! \$10,000 in musical gear will be making its way to Riverdale this

year. Mr. Clark put together an exciting array of new instruments, including a set of Djembe drums, new ORFF instruments, an amazing synthesizer, and other gems. Can't wait to hear the improv and creativity flowing from some new sounds!

Whalley Baseball League Grades K-4/5

Following Spring Break, students will have an opportunity to have free baseball lessons. Whalley Baseball donates three days of their time to give students a chance to experience baseball. The program was a fantastic success last year!

Badminton Season Begins!

We're excited to have two teams again this year: Grade 5/6 coached by Mr. Loosemore and Mme Christensen, and Grade 7 coached by Mme Renaud and Ms. Loh. Thank you to our volunteer parent drivers for helping get us to our games!

Ultimate Seasons is Underway!

Thank you to Mr. Speak for arranging practices at neighboring

So Many Wonderful Ways that Make Riverdale a Great Place to Learn and Grow!

Staff at Riverdale give their very best every day, all day. For many teachers, this extends far beyond the 5.5 hours children are in the classroom. Below you'll find a sampling of some of the fine programs teachers and staff provide to support student learning in many ways:

- Sports teams (Cross country, Volleyball, Basketball, Badminton, Ultimate, Track and Field)
- Raven's Run Club
- Lunch Intramurals
- Primary Soccer at lunch
- Gr. 6/7 Girls' leadership club
- Gr. 6/7 Boys' leadership club
- FRIM Improv Club
- Knitting Club
- Sketch Club
- Attendance Matters/Breakfast Program
- BLAST after school program
- Choir
- Student Broadcast Journalism Club
- Student Spirit Days Team

Guildford Park PAC Invite

April 11th, from 7-9 pm, Canadian author will speak about her book, *Addiction: A Mother's Story. A true story of love and addiction*. Please see the attachment for details.

Staffing Update

Thank you and best wishes to **Ms. Base** in division 17. Ms. Base has been with us since the beginning of the year, filling in for Ms. Haywood, who has been on maternity leave. We will miss Ms. Base, her friendly smile, and her wonderful work with children. We wish her well in her new position at Georges Vanier.

We are happy to welcome back **Ms. Haywood** to division 17. Ms. Haywood is looking forward to meeting you and your children after Spring Break!

Congratulations to **Tyler Lutton**, our Community Schools Outreach Worker. Tyler has assumed a new role of Facilitator with Community Schools. He will still be connected to Riverdale, joining us for special events and the odd basketball game! We will miss Tyler and all of the incredible energy and connections he brought to Riverdale.

A warm welcome to two new Community Schools Outreach workers, **Amelia Misak and EJ David**! Amelia and EJ will continue to support the Attendance Matters/Breakfast program, SPARK boys' leadership club, lunchtime intramurals and BLAST after school program.

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...

- March 7th 9am – Grade 7 band concert in the gym
- March 7th – Communicating Student Learning Reports home
- March 8th – Guildford Park Grade 7 parent information night (see attachment)
- March 10th – Last day of School before Spring Break! Jumprope for Heart Fundraising Event!
- March 27th – Welcome back! First day back after Spring Break

- March 31st – Spirit Day: Dress like a teacher day!
- March 31st SOAR Assemblies – 9am Intermediate; 10.45am Primary
- April 4th – 7pm District Concours d’Art Oratoire at Panorama Ridge Secondary
- April 6th – 6pm YMCA Camp Parent Info Night
- April 7th – 2.30pm Gr. 7 Camp Fundraiser – Movie Night
- April 8th (Saturday) – 9am – 3pm PAC Baker’s Market in the gym

- April 14th – Good Friday – no school
- April 17th – Easter Monday – no school
- April 21st – Spirit Day: Earth Day!
- April 28th – 5-8pm PAC and CPF Carnival!

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