



Riverdale News

An Update for Parents and Families

Ecole Riverdale Elementary...*Learning, Caring and Doing Our Best*

November 16th, 2015

**Posted bi-weekly on the School Website

A WORD FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL

On Tuesday, November 10th, our staff and students created an incredibly moving Remembrance Day tribute to all Canadian men and women who have served to protect the rights of freedoms of Canadians, and people around the world. Our choir sang a moving rendition of John Lennon's classic, "Imagine", while Mme Kibbe and Mme Suarez's classes sang beautifully, "L'enfant de paix." Mms Sauder and Ms. Loh's classes recited "In Flanders' Fields/Au champs d'honneur", and M Mountali's students sang "Un canadien errant". We had a special guest veteran, Mr. Pullan, who shared with us some of his experiences as a Peacekeeper in the former Yugoslavia. We listened in silence as Mr. Clark played "The Last Post", and as Ms. Haywood's class shared "What Peace Means to Me."

Thank you to all of our staff and students for sharing your talents and time, through artwork, music, spoken word and silent reverence. We are thankful many parents and family members came to join us for this special event. It was yet another example of why Riverdale is such a special community and place to learn and grow.

SUPPORTING OUR WONDERFUL PAC

Our PAC has been busy with plans to help fundraise money to replace some aging ipads as well as equipment for our upcoming "Makerspace". They have already hosted a successful Family Photo Night (thank you!), and they have many more plans on the horizon!

The new provincial curriculum supports teachers and students to think differently about what learning in the classroom might look like. With an emphasis on critical and creative thinking, students need opportunities to build, invent, create and design their own learning. Riverdale is looking towards developing a shared space, or portable modules, that allow for this type of exploration and integration of curriculum to occur. A Makerspace provides students with hands-on, creative ways to encourage design, experimentation, building and inventing as students deeply engage in science, engineering and tinkering.

With these worthy goals in mind, please note the upcoming PAC fundraising events:

- **Community Craft Fair – Thursday, November 19th, from 1:30 – 6:30 in the gym.** There are over 30 vendors, door prizes, and delicious treats at the concession. Entrance is free with a food bank donation (\$1 otherwise);
- **Cookie Dough, Pies and Pizza Order Forms – Due Nov. 24th** - The class with the most orders wins a pizza party!
- **Family Movie Night – Friday, Dec. 4th. Doors open at 6pm** – The show... "Cool Runnings" A hysterical comedy that features an inspiring storyline about four Jamaican Athletes that persevere, despite obvious challenges, to enter the Canadian Winter Olympics as a bobsled team!

Principal: Leah Christensen

Vice Principal: Gary Loosemore

surreyschools.ca/riverdale

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GRADE 7 UPDATES

Camp Fundraising

If you are interested in getting involved with a fundraising initiative, please contact Richard and Julia Wood (rawjaw@shaw.ca).

Grade 7 Celebration

If you are interested helping with the Grade 7 Celebration (food, dance, etc.), please contact Stacy Ellis (stacyellis3@hotmail.com).

Naomi Suzuki, the older sibling of Koji Suzuki in division 2, has generously offered to compile baby pictures for the celebration slide show. We hope to have all children represented. Please note the following information:

- Photos are to be sent digitally to riverdale2016grad@gmail.com
- Send a maximum of **three** photos (baby, early years)
- Please send to Naomi prior to the Winter break if possible. She currently has time to compile the presentation as part of her volunteer hours.

Thank you!

MERCI at Au REVOIR!

We thank Ms. Summers for spending the last 10 weeks with us. Ms. Summer was a Learning Support Teacher and classroom teaching partner with Mr. Loosemore. She is now off to have her first baby, and we wish her the very best! Ms. DySalvador will be joining us for the next two weeks while we interview and fill the position. Welcome Ms. DySalvador!

SCHOOL SAFETY

In order to ensure your child is safe at school, it is district policy that parents 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. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Thursday, Nov. 19th – PAC Craft Fair, 1:30 – 6:30pm in the gym
- Friday, Nov. 27th – Intermediate SOAR Assembly at 9:00am; Primary SOAR Assembly at 10:45am.
- Tuesday, Dec. 1st – First term report cards issued
- Thursday, Dec. 3rd – Early Dismissal at 1:30pm for Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences
- Thursday, Dec. 10th – Riverdale Winter Concert: Afternoon 1:00 pm; Evening 6:30 pm (ticket sales information will be sent home shortly)
- Friday, Dec. 18th – Last day of classes before Winter Break – Pyjama and Special Holiday Movie Day!