



## **Riverdale News**

### **An Update for Parents and Families**

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

**January 26, 2016**

\*\*Posted bi-weekly on the School Website

#### **A Word from Your Principal**

2016 is in full swing at Riverdale! Classrooms and hallways buzzing with activity. As teachers build on and explore new ideas in our curriculum, students are increasingly taking responsibility for their own learning. When your child comes home from school, instead of asking him/her what they “did” at school, try asking them what they “learned”. This question changes the conversation, and asks the child to reflect on his/her learning, as opposed to the activities they enjoyed.

Our school plan continues to focus on three main areas of learning: Literacy, Numeracy and Social and Emotional Learning. Teachers have volunteered to join learning teams in these areas, and along with helping teachers, we meet regularly to ask ourselves how we can continue to most effectively support student learning across the curriculum. We are hosting a parent information night to explore some changes to the curriculum and assessment, as well as how the district and province are working to better inform you about your child’s learning (please see below). Please bring your questions and curiosity to school on February 17<sup>th</sup>. As always, thank you for the many ways you support your child, and for being part of this incredibly diverse, supportive and welcoming community.

#### **Parent Information Night – The Revised Curriculum and Communicating Student Learning** **Wednesday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> from 6-7.30pm**

Please join us at school for some information and a conversation about changes to BC’s curriculum, and updates on ways of reporting your child’s learning, including Freshgrade. We hope to see you there!

#### **Basketball Season**

Our girls’ and boys’ grade 6/7 teams are having a fantastic season so far! Thank you to our coaches for sharing their time, passion and energy with our students: Ms. Cozza, M Mountali and Mr. Andrada. Go Ravens!

#### **Parking Lot Update**

Please watch for a separate email and details about the proposed adaptations to help with flow in our parking lot. We welcome your feedback as we find the best options prior to the re-painting of our parking lot in the spring.

#### **Foundation Skills Assessments**

The provincial assessments for students in grades 4 and 7 commence next week. A letter from the district, as well as one from the teachers’ union were sent home. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact Mme Christensen.

Principal: Leah Christensen

Vice Principal: Gary Loosemore

[surreyschools.ca/riverdale](http://surreyschools.ca/riverdale)

Tel. 604.588.5978

## Grade 7 Updates

**Grade 7 Parent Information Night – Guildford Park Secondary – Wednesday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7-8pm.** Please plan to attend if your child will be attending GP next year in grade 8. It is a very worthwhile and informative evening.

**Zumbathon!** One of our grade 7 parents has organized a fantastic event on Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, from 7-8.30pm in our gym. Come on out for an evening of fun! It's a great way to keep (or start!) your New Year's resolution! All proceeds go to support our grade 7 students' Camp Fund. Please see the attachment for details.

## Parent Forums

**Child and Youth Mental Health Resources – Wednesday, Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> from 6.30 – 8.30pm at KB Woodward Elementary (13130 – 106 Ave)** This event will include different agencies and resources designed to help you and your child with anxiety, depression, and other mental health concerns.

## Internet/Social Media Safety: Digital Literacy for Parents – April 12<sup>th</sup>, 7-9pm Guildford Park Secondary

Education is the first step in keeping our kids safer in this technology-driven world. It is not uncommon that our children know more about the workings of the Internet and Social Networking than we as parents do. This presentation is designed to educate even the most computer illiterate parent. Our presentation will provide the knowledge and information, based upon academically peer reviewed research, that parents need to know about the Internet and Social Networking to help keep their children safer.

## Volunteer Policy \*\*posted on the school website

Ecole Riverdale Elementary values volunteers in our school community, and there are many activities where a teacher would appreciate your support. Please be advised that the district has established the following procedures in order to ensure the smooth, safe and effective functioning of our school:

- ✓ Anyone interested in volunteering should first check with the teacher to set up a mutually suitable time/activity.
- ✓ All visitors and volunteers in the school must come to the office to sign in upon arriving at school.
- ✓ It is imperative that volunteers respect student and parent/guardian confidentiality.
- ✓ The Riverdale Code of Conduct guides all interactions amongst students, staff and volunteers. We have a safe and caring school that is free from acts of:
  - Bullying, cyberbullying, or harassment
  - Threats and intimidation
  - Violence in any form
  - Abuse in any form
  - Discrimination in any form, including race, colour, gender, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or ancestry

Should a volunteer have any concerns, please report directly to the school administration. Thank you.

## Kindergarten Choice Program (French Immersion) Lottery Timeline\*\*

- December 1st – Sibling Registration begins
- January 15th – **Siblings** have priority placement until this date
- January 18th – Those without siblings in FRIM register at local school/catchment school
- January 25th – Online applications open for lottery
- February 9th – Deadline to register at catchment school in order to apply online for Choice Program

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- February 15th – Online applications close
- February 22nd – Random draw for lottery takes place
- February 23rd – March 4 – Lottery results sent to applicants for accept and decline or with wait list placements via email

\*\*Please check the school website for further information.

## 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. If you need to contact your child, we will call down to your child's classroom to inform the teacher of your arrival. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

## Looking Ahead

- Tuesday, Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> – PAC Hot Lunch Forms are due
- Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup> - 9am Primary SOAR Assembly; 10.45am Intermediate SOAR Assembly
- Wednesday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Grade 7 Parent Information night at Guildford Park, from 7-8pm
- Thursday, Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> 9am – PAC Meeting
- Monday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> – Family Day – School is closed.
- Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> - Scholastic Book Fair in the Library
- Friday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> from 1-2.30pm – PALS Session #2 in the library for pre-school aged children and their parents/caregivers.
- Friday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> - Grade 7 Camp Fundraiser – Lion King Double Feature in the gym – (2.45 – 4.15; 4.30 – 6pm) \*\* Students in primary (grade three and younger) must be accompanied by a parent/adult.
- Monday, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> Jumprope for Heart Campaign ends with an Activity Day in the Gym –
- Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> - RAK it up Campaign (Random Acts of Kindness)
- Wednesday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> - Parent Information Night – Communicating Student Learning and Curriculum Redesign – 6-7pm
- Thursday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> – “The Maple Man/La Grande Coulee” special event for all students, K-7
- Friday, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> – Non Instructional Day - School will be closed
- Pink Shirt Day – Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> –
- Friday, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> - SOAR Assemblies
- Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> - Spirit Day: “Dress Like a Royal Day”
- Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> - Zumbathon – Grade 7 Camp Fundraiser – 7 – 8.30pm in the gym
- Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> - PALS Session #3 from 1-2.30pm in the library for pre-school aged children and their parents/caregivers.
- Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> - Last day of school before Spring Break
- SPRING BREAK/SCHOOL CLOSURE – March 14<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>
- Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> – Welcome Back! School Re-opens
- Looking way ahead...April 18<sup>th</sup> is an additional Non-Instructional Day. School is closed.