



Principal: Leah Christensen  
Acting Vice Principal: Laura Hodak

## Riverdale News

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

Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### A word from your Principal

The hallways were filled with conversations and excitement last Thursday at our Student Led Conferences! Many thanks to the parents and families who came to see their child's/children's learning in action. Students were thrilled to show you their routines, and to tell you about what's been happening in their classrooms. Equally important is the opportunity for children to share their learning in all different aspects of school life. This is one of the most powerful ways to understand your child's learning.

We also had a wonderful presentation at our Curriculum Café about how to support reading at home for children of all ages. Our guest speaker, Joanne Holme, shared many practical ideas as well as some of the latest research on what makes the greatest difference for students' learning. Thank you everyone who was able to join the conversation!

Times have changed since traditional report cards and letter grades. There are many reasons for this. The research is clear about student motivation and ways to best support learning, and we have seen significant shifts in education over the last decade. About half of our classes are communicating student learning through online portfolios using Freshgrade. There are no written reports using this method of communication. If you have any questions about how to access the portfolio, please contact your child's teacher. The other half of our classes will receive a written report this week on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Both of these options are supported by the district, and both communicate learning effectively.

Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions about their learning and growth. Our doors are open! Thank you for your support!

### Dressing for the Cold, Wet Weather



20 Ways to Play  
in the Rain

Thank you for ensuring your child has rain gear and cold weather clothing so they stay warm and dry outside at recess and lunch. An extra pair of inside shoes and socks is always a good idea.

*Merci beaucoup!*

### Ecole Riverdale's Winter Concert

Staff and students are gearing up for another fantastic concert this season! We are pleased to host two concerts:



- 1. Wednesday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm**  
Tickets are \$2/person, with proceeds to Riverdale's music program  
**OR**
- 2. Thursday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 1pm**  
Tickets are free. Entry is a food bank donation.

Ticket information went home last week. Please return your request by **Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**.

## PAC Updates

**Next PAC meeting will be in January (date TBC) @ 6pm** in the Learning Commons. Child minding is provided.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who brought us another delicious **Hot Lunch** last week! Students always enjoy a change, and we're thankful the Hot Lunch committee is there to provide it for them. The next Hot Lunch will be on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Remember to bring your toonies to the Winter Concert! PAC will organize another **50/50 draw** for both the afternoon and evening concerts!

If you haven't already, please join PAC on our Facebook Group Page. We post PAC events, provide you with reminders for school and PAC events, post important deadlines and share ideas and information. Please search Ecole Riverdale PAC in Facebook to find our group. The group is open to Parents and Guardians of Riverdale students.

Thank you to everyone that supported the holiday Poinsettia and Wreath fundraiser. We will announce the division that raised the most funds to win the new year pizza party before the winter break.

Family Photo night - Thank you to all the families that came out and had pictures taken. We have received the packages and will be contacting you to collect them. If you didn't get your order in, you can still place an order and have it shipped directly to your home for \$5.00 delivery charge or download the digital pictures for the same fee.

## Grade 7 Camp Updates

Upcoming **Movie Night this Friday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>**! Tickets and information comes home today! Students must have permission to stay. Donation is \$2/ticket to support Gr. 7 camp. There will be delicious treats at the concession!



## Volleyball Season Draws to a Close

Many thanks to coaches Speak and Joseph for leading our girls' and boys' teams through a successful and fun season! Volleyball Playdays happened last week at WF Davidson school, and then the basketball season will get underway shortly. But it won't happen before a daring match of teacher vs student volleyball this Wednesday and Thursday at lunch. Tickets are \$1, with proceeds going to Grade 7 Camp!

## Student Safety

We take your child's safety seriously. Throughout the year, we have several "Lockdown" and "Lockout Drills", as well as Earthquake drills and Fire Drills. Recently we had a successful 3<sup>rd</sup> fire drill, and a "Lockout". "Lockout" and "Lockdown" drills are to practice in the case of a dangerous intruder in the school or in the neighbourhood.

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...

- Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> – Communicating Student Learning Progress Reports sent home
- Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> – 2.45 – 4.30pm Movie Night!
- Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> 6pm - Winter Concert (see information above for details)
- Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> 1pm – Winter Concert
- Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Last day of school before Winter Break
- January 8<sup>th</sup> – Welcome Back!

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