



## 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

November 7, 2016

### A word from your Principal

It has been an incredible two weeks since our last Riverdale News. From fun Hallowe'en activities to Student-Led conferences, our classrooms and hallways have been busy places!

Thank you to all of the parents and families who were able to join us on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. We had an incredible turn out, and it was inspiring to see classrooms filled with students showing parents the routines of the day, as well as showcasing their learning in all the different subject areas.

As we discussed at the Curriculum Café, there are many ways we communicate student learning to parents.

**Conferences** are one very effective way to communicate where your child's learning is in relation to specific learning goals and competencies. We plan to have another conferencing opportunity early in the new year.

Digital portfolios (in the form of **Freshgrade**) are an option some teachers are using to communicate learning. If your child's teacher is using this method of communication, a one-page permission letter will have come home for you to read and sign. For those parents who are receiving regular, online updates of their child's learning through Freshgrade, a paper report will be sent home at the end of the year. All other communication is either digital or in person (phone, email, conversation, etc.)

The district's **Communicating Student Learning (CSL) template** is another option many teachers will be using this year. These paper reports will be sent home three times in the year. The first is scheduled to come home

Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning and growth, please don't hesitate to contact myself and your child's teacher.

Thank you for all of your support, interest and enthusiasm...it's contagious!

### A Winter in Canada

#### December 15<sup>th</sup> Concert Date

It's that time of year and all the classes are starting to prepare for our yearly Concert, a **Winter in Canada**, which will be held on **December 15<sup>th</sup>**. Matinee performance will be at 1:00pm and an evening concert at 6:30pm.



This year, along with our usual songs celebrating the Holiday season, we will be celebrating Canada's 150th birthday with some popular

Canadian hit songs that will get everyone ready to Rock in the Holiday Season. Come join us as we jingle jangle our way into the Holidays, Canadian style!

Please watch for tickets and information, to be sent home later this month.

### Grade 7 Camp Fundraising Update

#### Next Meeting: November 16<sup>th</sup>, 6pm

We are kicking off our fundraising efforts with a Basket Raffle at the Craft Fair on Nov 19th. We will also be selling tickets school wide and hope to generate over \$1000 from this fundraiser. If you know of anyone that can donate a product or service to our raffle, please E-mail us at [riverdale.pac@hotmail.com](mailto:riverdale.pac@hotmail.com). Thank you!

**Movie Night – 2.30-4pm Friday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>** Details to follow

## Student Safety

We take your child's safety seriously. Throughout the year, we have several "Lockdown" and "Lockout" Drills, as well as Earthquake and Fire Drills. In the last two weeks, we have practiced our 2<sup>nd</sup> fire drill of the year, in which students exited the building very calmly. We also had a successful "Lockout" drill last week.

In order to ensure your child is safe at school, **it is district policy that parents/visitors check in at the office**. We will then call down to your child's classroom and ask that your student meet you at the office. This makes for fewer disruptions in the classroom during teacher instruction. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

## Thank You and Best Wishes to Mme Shah

Students in Mme Shah's class (grade 2/3 French Immersion) will wish her well this Wednesday. Mme Shah will be leaving on maternity leave, expecting the arrival of her little one shortly. We wish her the very best, and look forward to her visit in the new year!

## Terry Fox Success!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Riverdale's amazing fundraising this year. As a result, students were delighted to see Mme Christensen throw pie into Mr. Loosemore's face on Hallowe'en, and Mr. Speak got Mme Christensen right back! All good fun for an excellent cause. A special thank you to Ariana in div. 5 for raising over \$140 on her own by baking and selling cookies!

## PAC Updates

- **Next PAC meeting is Wednesday, Nov. 16th @ 6pm** in the Learning Commons. Child minding is provided. This will be combined with a Grade 7 Camp meeting to discuss fundraising plans.
- **Next Hot Lunch** – November 24<sup>th</sup>
- Thank you for bringing in your child's Earthquake Kit. Kits will be loaded into the bin this week.
- Thank you to PAC for funding our first ArtStarts Ballet Performance of Jabberwocky this month!

## Technology Update

The district is replacing many of our school's old, outdated laptops in a one-time grant. We are thankful to be receiving a number of newer Mac laptops, which will be put to very good use!

## In the Community

Check out many fun and free events at the **Guildford Public Library**, including...

- Teen Book Club – Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>, 3.45-4.45pm
- Get Your Game On! Grades 6+ Xbox Connect and board games, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> 4-5.30pm
- Lego Club (Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, 3-4pm)

Another great option for families are Maker Meet Ups at **City Central Library**, from 6.30 – 8.45pm every other Friday.

**Surrey's 10th Annual Kids Conference, taking place Nov 18 and 19<sup>th</sup> at Fleetwood Community Centre**, is a collaborative, creative, and inclusive approach to connecting children ages 6 to 12 to community resources, services and educational experiences. Conference and a wide variety of activities are free of charge to kids:

[https://www.surreyschools.ca/departments/BDEV/Community Information/Programs for Kids/Documents/City of Surrey FREE Kids Grades 1-7 Conference %20 %20 Nov 18-19.pdf](https://www.surreyschools.ca/departments/BDEV/Community%20Information/Programs%20for%20Kids/Documents/City%20of%20Surrey%20FREE%20Kids%20Grades%201-7%20Conference%20%20Nov%2018-19.pdf)

## Looking Ahead...



- Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> – 9am Remembrance Day Assembly – Parents are welcome to join us in the gym
- Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> – Non-Instructional Day – School is closed
- Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> – Remembrance Day Holiday – School is closed
- Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> – 6pm PAC and Grade 7 Camp Fundraising Meeting
- Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> – PAC Holiday Craft Fair in the gym
- Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> – 9am ArtStarts Performance – "The Jabberwocky"
- Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> – 2.30 – 4pm Grade 7 Camp Fundraiser Movie Night
- Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> CSL Template (Report) sent home
- Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> - 1pm and 6.30pm Winter Concert
- Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> – Last Day of Classes before Winter Break

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

