



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

January 23, 2017

A word from your Principal

Since September, teachers have been working hard to establish routines with children, identify clear learning goals, establish success criteria and develop engaging learning activities to help your child be a successful, lifelong learner. As we approach the half way point in the school year, it is timely that next Thursday, February 2nd, will be a 1.30pm early dismissal and Curriculum Cafe, allowing some extra time for you to come to your child's classroom and learn more about his/her learning to date. Teachers are organizing different ways to help you see your child's learning in action, and to be able to communicate their growth, and to identify and share areas that require further growth.

You are your child's most important and influential teacher. Children are excited to share their learning with you in their classroom. Further information and details will be sent home this week. In the meantime, ask your child what they are most proud of, and where they feel they have done their most significant learning since coming back to school in 2017. We'll have many more questions and examples of learning ready for you to experience on February 2nd. We look forward to seeing you then!

Kindergarten French Immersion Lottery

Parents must register their child at their local catchment school prior to applying for a Choice program (e.g. French Immersion).

Timeline:

- January 16: Regular Kindergarten registration at your local school opens;
- January 30: Online application for Choice Programs opens;

- February 15: Deadline to register at catchment school in order to apply online for Choice programs;
- February 20: Online application closes;
- February 27: Random lottery draw takes place; an email will be sent to all applicants announcing the lottery results. Please see the school or district website for further information.

Kindergarten Registration – English Program

Children who turn five before January 1st 2018 are eligible to begin school in September, 2017. Registration begins on Monday, January 16th. Please see the school or district websites for further information re: documentation required for registration.

February 2nd 1.30pm Early Dismissal and Curriculum Café

Your child's teacher will be sending home a notice with further information about the format and how to sign up.



Parents and guardians are invited to the Curriculum Cafe (2.30pm repeated at 5pm) to join in a conversation about the importance of

communicating thinking and making thinking visible in mathematics. With support from the district helping teacher in numeracy, Selina Millar, we will look at strategies to initiate conversations with our children about their learning and ways to support them at home.

French Story Time – City Centre Library

Begins Thursday, January 12th from 3.45 to 4.15. A fantastic way to support French language development! Please see the attached flyer for details.

Guildford Eats Monthly Community Dinner

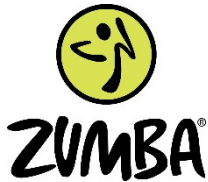
January 29th at the Guildford Rec Centre. Please see the attached flyer for details.

Inter A District Program – Queen Elizabeth Secondary

Information session for interested students in grade 7 and their families: January 24th, 2017 at 6.30 at Queen Elizabeth Secondary (10441 132nd St).

Grade 6/7 Camp Committee Update

The next meeting will be held **Thursday, Jan. 26th at 6pm.**



Friday, January 27th at 6:30pm. Come out and have some fun with a Zumbathon! Tickets are \$10, and available at the door, or through a grade 6/7 student.

PAC Updates

Congratulations to the Grade 6/7s for raising \$337.25 towards their camp from selling cookie dough and frozen food orders! And thank you to all the parent volunteers for organizing and raising funds for the school! Congratulations to Mme Neuman and Div 19 for raising the most \$\$ from the cookie dough and frozen food orders. Div 19 has a pizza party coming their way!

Ms. Lewis, our teacher-librarian, is organizing a school-wide Book Fair February 6th – 9th. If you are able to help out (set up, assist students, pack up, etc.), please email our PAC chair, Hilda Jewell at riverdale.pac@hotmail.com.
Merci!

Thank you to Gemma Fournier, who has assumed the role of VP for the rest of the school year. Many thanks for joining the executive!

One more fundraising initiative: Clothing Drive! Happening over six days: Feb. 21st – 23rd and 28th – March 2nd. Start spring cleaning those closets!

Please join us for our next meeting: **February 8th, 6pm – 7.30pm.** Childminding is provided. At this time there will be an election for vice chair. Hope to see you there!

Staffing Update

Several staff have been off temporarily due to injuries. Ms. Olsthoorn (div. 13) hopes to return next week following a broken collarbone. In her place we welcome

Ms. Chahal. Mme Barrington (FRIM LST) has been off several weeks with an ankle injury. In her place we welcome Mme Brennan. Ms. Spence (LST) is off prior to her maternity leave. We wish them all well and hope to see them soon!

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.

Due to the unusual weather and ice build up, we had several inside days last week. Unfortunately, we had two students fall on the ice before the school day began last week, injuring themselves. They are reported to be recovering well, and we look forward to their return this week. Following the incident, the school contacted our district Facilities to assess the situation. We know the weather has brought about complexity in pick up and drop off, and we thank you for your patience and consideration.

Looking Ahead...

- Jan. 26th – PAC Hot Lunch day (Panago Pizza)
- Jan. 26th 6pm – Camp Fundraising Committee
- Jan. 27th 9am Intermediate SOAR Assembly; 10.45am Primary SOAR Assembly
- Jan. 27th 1 – 2.30pm – PALS (Parents as Literacy Supporters for 3-4 year olds and caregivers) – in the Learning Commons (see attachment for more information)
- Jan. 27th – 6:30-8pm Zumbathon in the Gym (Camp Fundraiser)
- Feb. 2nd – 1.30pm Early Dismissal and Curriculum Café
- Feb. 6th – 9th Scholastic Book Fair in the Learning Commons
- Feb. 8th 6pm – PAC Meeting
- Feb. 10th 2.45pm Grade 7 Camp Movie Night Fundraiser
- Feb. 13th – BC Family Day – School is closed.
- Feb. 22nd – **Pink Shirt Day!**
- Feb. 21st – 23rd and 28th – March 2nd – PAC Clothing Drive

Ecole Riverdale...where we are all Ravens!

Nous sommes tous des corbeaux!