

## **January Newsletter**

January 27, 2012

Dear Families,

January has given us a more than a taste of the kind of winter usually experienced in other parts of the country. The snowy days, although challenging for drivers, have provided great fun for the students.

Please ensure that your children dress appropriately for the weather. The students will be going outside for recess and lunch recess except during the worst weather conditions.

Students are well settled into their learning this term. The upcoming months are very important in terms of student achievement. Routines and expectations are in place, and students usually show significant growth over the course of the term. We encourage you to check your child's planner to keep up to date with assignments and class events. While visiting classrooms, I've noticed student engagement and excitement about learning throughout the school.

As always, please feel free to contact your child's teacher or me at any time if you have questions or concerns. Together we are partners in your children's learning.

### **Kindergarten Registration**

All Surrey schools now offer a full-day Kindergarten program. Children who will turn 5 before January 1, 2013 are eligible to begin school in September 2012. To register, please bring your child's birth certificate or passport; proof of citizenship for the student and parent (Canadian birth certificate, citizenship card, passport, landed immigrant document, permanent resident card); proof of residency (purchase or rental agreement, property tax document, B.C. Hydro or gas bill) ; and appropriate legal documentation verifying parent or guardian custody, record of immunization and B.C. Care Card.

**Please pass this information on to any neighbours who have Kindergarten aged children. Thank you.**

### **Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA)**

Students in British Columbia in grades 4 and 7 write FSA tests. The Foundation Skills Assessment is an annual province-wide assessment of British Columbia students' academic skills, and provides a snapshot of how well BC students are learning foundation skills in Reading Comprehension, Writing, and Numeracy. This year Principals and Vice-Principals will be administering the tests.

At Chantrell Creek, the FSA will be administered to students from January 30-Feb 8. Each teacher will receive a schedule, so students know when they write each component of the test.

Information for parents is available at [www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessments/fsa/](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessments/fsa/)

## **Traffic and Safety**

**Please exercise extreme caution when dropping off and picking up your children. The winter weather conditions can make driving hazardous. Please slow down and watch for children crossing the street.**

Thank you to our dedicated traffic volunteers who brave the elements to ensure our students get to school safely each morning.

Reminder: Please do not park where traffic cones are placed.

## **Staffing**

We welcome Jane Roux to Chantrell Creek, who is filling in as Head Secretary for Susan Desrosiers while on she is on medical leave. We thank Marilynn Johnson for stepping in to replace Kathy Eastgate who has taken a new assignment in the district. Katherine Hayes will take over the clerical position January 23.

## **Dates to Remember:**

January 27 "Wacky Hair Day"

January 31 Assembly 1:00

February 10 Professional Day School is not in Session

February 14 Valentine's Day

February 20-24 Student Leadership Initiative: Cancer Awareness Week

## **Basketball**

The season is in full swing. Thank you players for your commitment, enthusiasm and sportsmanship. Thank you to coaches, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Betts, Mr. Scott, and parent coaches; Monica Baarda, Nancy Hall and Barry Jones.

## **Student Leadership Team**

Our leadership team has been meeting regularly and working hard to accomplish a variety of goals. Students are working on leadership speeches, a cancer fundraising project and developing house teams by making posters and attaching names to our colours: purple, gold, white and black. In addition to these activities, our student leaders have worked hard to create and promote spirit days. A big thank you to all of

our students leaders who regularly give up their lunch recess to participate. Please stay tuned for upcoming events.

**Parent Engagement Forum “Learning in Surrey-Navigating a Preferred Future”  
Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at Elgin Park Secondary**

The focus of the evening is on sharing information, discussion and activities related to the education journey the community wants for its children now and in the future. The new BC education plan will be a reference as will other information about learning. For more information, please see Mrs. Thorvaldson.

Until next time,

Sincerely,

Deborah Thorvaldson