December 2018 Newsletter Blue Mountain Elementary

12153 248 Street, Maple Ridge, BC V4R 1J3Principal: Mrs. Laureen Hickeylaureen_hickey@sd42.caT: 604 463 6414F: 604 463 4955Website: elementary.sd42.ca/bluemountain

Message from the Principal:

Greetings!

First of all, I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Laureen Hickey and I am the new Principal at Blue Mountain Elementary. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first couple of weeks here at Blue Mountain. Thank you to the parents, staff and students who have made me feel very welcome here. I have worked in a number of elementary schools in the past and am excited to join with your community in the coming months and years. I look forward to working with staff, parents and students to ensure our students feel valued and reach their full potential. There are a number of important dates and informational items in the newsletter so please be sure to take a look through it.

Lastly, thank you for supporting the various school fundraisers. We appreciate your generosity and community spirit. We would also like to thank our PAC for their leadership and organization regarding these and many other events. Parental involvement is so important to the success of any school and we value both your input and incredible efforts that make Blue Mountain a very special school!

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.



Laureen Hickey laureen_hickey@sd42.ca



Upcoming Events December 6 PAC MEETING 7 pm December 7 Div. 7 Act FT 12:30 December 11 Bowling Div.4, 5, 6 (9:45 – Noon) Evergreen & Pool Div. 1, 2, 3 Reading Link Challenge 9:30 am Hot Lunch Pizza December 12 Crazy Christmas Sweater/Clothing Day - wea Your favourite Christmas clothing ME TO WE : 25 cent candy cane fundraiser PACKS Pep Rally in Gym 1 pm December 13 Christmas Store in library December 14 Christmas Store in library December 20 Christmas Concert 9 & 1 [Date] December 21 PJ Day and Last school day of 2018 December 25 Merry Christmas January 7 School opens - full days

Christmas Concert Information

Important School News

Inclement Weather: December and January typically bring a few days of ice or snow. If you wake up to the "white stuff", please don't phone the school. Information on school closures will be posted on the district website, through the district Facebook and on local news stations by 6 A.M. If you are on a bus route, the "snow bus route" was already sent. It is also available on the district website. For more information, please go to: http://www.sd42.ca/inclement-weather-procedures



Safety in the Snow: Students are reminded to be sure they are dressing appropriately for the weather. Recess and lunch are typically held outside so, if we get some snow, proper warm boots, toques, gloves and coats are a must. As the weather changes, some play areas might be shut down due to safety, if too icy. Students must be safe at all times or they might be asked to be supervised by an adult.

NO SNOWBALLS!! Just a reminder that throwing snow in any form is **NOT PERMITTED** on school grounds. Children are welcome to enjoy the snow by building forts and snowmen. Snowball throwing can be fun but is VERY dangerous and not a safe school activity. Please review these expectations with your child. Thank you for your cooperation.

Hall of Fame

Apologies Hall of Fame Names will be sent out on the portal this weekend. Sorry for any inconvenience. We welcome everyone to join us on December 20th for our annual Christmas Concerts. Similar to last year, we are holding a morning concert (**9:00 am**) and an afternoon concert (**1:00pm**) We hope you can join us!



Unwrap the Season

On December 20th from 5-8pm, Thomas Haney Secondary's student council and leadership will be hosting a winter carnival! All proceeds from this event are being donated to the Youth Wellness Centre, in order to help those suffering from mental illness within our community. Join us for a night of games, photos, inflatables, food, a raffle, and more as we ring in the Christmas season together!

Costs:

- Admission is by donation
- Game pass: \$5
- Raffle ticket prices are: 1 for \$2, 3 for \$5, 7 for \$10
- Pizza: \$2 per slice
- Hot chocolate: \$1
- Baked goods: \$2
- Caricature drawings: \$10-\$15

Wolf Paw Recognition of the Six Pillars of Character.

- Div. 1 Jayden J,
- Div. 3 Cameron D., Isabella W., Sydney G.,
- Div. 6 Ivan C., Chase V.,

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Div. 7 Lynn S., Chase N.,
Div. 9 Sierra C.,
Div. 14 Liv C., Abby S.,
Div. 15 Jada G., Maddy U., Scarlett C., Georgia M.

Maple Ridge Winter Fun Fair

Saturday, January 26th 11am-2pm. Come and celebrate Maple Ridge Winter Fun Fair on Family Literacy Day at Maple Ridge Public Library! Join us for an action-packed day with Showstoppers Academy and a Family Dance Party. Meet local community groups to learn about the many amazing programs and services available in our community. There will be lots of fun family activities, popcorn, contests and prizes for all ages! Everyone is welcome!

Kindergarten registration and registration for c'usqunela Elementary

Registration for **kindergarten** and **c'usqunela Elementary** begins **January 2019**. Find out about the online registration process for both below:

c'usqunela Elementary – Registration for kindergarten to Grade 7 opens January 7

c'usqunela Elementary registration is open to students who will be in kindergarten through to Grade 7 in September 2019 who want to register in this new school, located at 24093 – 104th Avenue, Maple Ridge. c'usqunela Elementary is scheduled to open for the 2019/20 school year.

Visit <u>http://elementary.sd42.ca/cusqunela</u> for details about the registration process and for associated timelines for c'usqunela Elementary registration.

Kindergarten Registration – Registrations begin January 21

Kindergarten registration for the 2019/20 school year is open to children who are **5 years old on or before December 31, 2019**. Visit the district website for detailed information on the five phases (c'usqunela Elementary registration, sibling registration, choice registration, general registration, late registration), registration timelines, and other important information: <u>http://www.sd42.ca/kindergarten-</u> registration/

Registration Phases:

JAN 7-31: *c'usqunela Elementary Registration*: Open to students who will be in kindergarten through to Grade 7 in September 2019 and want to register for this new school.

JAN 21-25: *Sibling Registration*. Open for siblings of students already attending the desired elementary school (currently in grades K-6).

FEB 1-4: *Choice Registration*. Open for all students who want to participate in any one of SD42's unique program offerings (e.g. Environmental School, French Immersion, Montessori).

FEB 12-19: *General Registration*. General registration for English school.

FEB 27-June 26: *Late Registration*. This phase is for parents who may have missed previous registration phases.

Book Fest Success

Bookfest Club members participated in the 35th annual Bookfest Competition on November 28 where they had a chance to challenge their knowledge of the books they read during Term One. As well, students were able to hear from Mr. Doug Savage, author/illustrator of *Laser Moose and Rabbit Boy*, another of the Bookfest books. Students got to try out their own artistic skills during a directed drawing lesson from Mr. Savage. Bookfest Club members also enjoyed a private screening of the movie *A Wrinkle In Time* on December 3rd. The movie is based on one of this year's Bookfestbooks by MadeleineL'Engle. Miss Terris congratulates all participants for their reading efforts in Bookfest 2018! Well done!



Doug Savage

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Dress For The Weather

As we are now into the cold and wet weather so be sure to dress appropriately with coats, boots, umbrellas, etc. We go outside at recess and lunch most days so a spare set of clothes in your child's backpack is a good idea. Thank you.



Don't forget to use your 'WITS'

WITS is a pro-active program encouraging children to make safe and positive choices when faced with peer conflict.

The WITS acronym – Walk Away, Ignore, Talk It Out and Seek Help provides a common language that children and adults can use in their environment to solve social problems.

Please visit the WITS Program website for more information. http://www.witsprogram.ca/kids/



Constable Eastwood

Last week you may have noticed a police officer outside by our playground. His name is constable Eastwood and he is assigned to our school. The RCMP and Constable Eastwood's mission is to reach out to elementary aged children to create positive connections with elementary schools and the police. Constable Eastwood will be visiting our school, several classrooms and joining us for one of our assemblies. He will talking about their role and creating a positive connection and connotation with the police.

WE Day

Our We Team participated in the annual We Day this month. They, along with approximately 15,000 other students and teachers from across the province spent the day watching some incredible performances and hearing some great stories from leaders and humanitarians across the world. We know with all this great inspiration the rest of the year will be awesome!!



Lost and Found

We will be cleaning out our lost and found box. These items will are displayed by our main entrance for students and parents to look at. Please take anything that is yours before **Friday, December 21**st.



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WE Team Initiatives

The We Team is selling Candy Canes for \$.25 on Dec. 12th. Our fundraiser is to raise money for our adopted village in Kenya, Africa. Please bring in a quarter to help support this worthy cause.

Crazy Christmas Sweater and Crazy Clothing Wearing Day Dec. 12th

On the same day, Dec. 12th all staff, parents and students are encouraged to get into the festive season by wearing their ugly beautiful Christmas sweaters and clothing.



Breakfast Club Volunteer Needed

A big thank you to the Parent Volunteers who help make our morning Breakfast Club run. Our students benefit immensely from the program and we appreciate the extra time you take in the mornings to make this happen for our students. The Parent who organizes the Breakfast Club is looking for a parent volunteer to help on Wednesday mornings to assist with making breakfast for a few of our students. If you might be able to volunteer, can you please email Merilee at merileeis@hotmail.com for more information. It is a valuable program and we appreciate any assistance you can give.

From all of us at Blue Mountain Elementary, we want to wish you a wonderful, safe and Happy Holidays!



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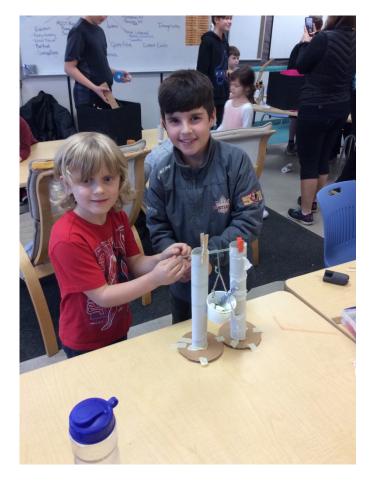
The Re-Designed Curriculum at Blue Mountain Elementary

CAREER EDUCATION A lifelong journey

A person's career is considered their journey through life, and career education encourages students to pursue this journey in personal, meaningful and goaloriented ways. Educated citizens in today's everchanging world are open to multiple career-life possibilities for the future and are flexible and able to adapt to emerging opportunities that fit their overarching values and aspirations.

The **career education** curriculum is designed to help students from kindergarten to Grade 12 learn how to effectively manage their life journey towards several possible preferred futures. Through purposeful careerlife development, students learn to recognize their evolving interests and strengths, refine their learning goals, and apply this self-knowledge to the exploration of career-life possibilities. Career-life development is a lifelong process of self-discovery, growth in competence, and learning from experiences in educational, work-related, and personal life contexts.

Coming in January – Numeracy.



Two students in Mrs. Rideout and Mrs. Krieger's class work on a STEM activity incorporating the core competencies of communication and creative/critical thinking.

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