

Kanaka Creek Elementary

MARCH NEWSLETTER

At Kanaka we strive to develop a community of responsible learners who strive to attain their potential in a safe, cooperative and healthy environment.



Educating the Whole Child

What an amazing month we've had here at Kanaka. Students are embracing the new curriculum as they continue to concentrate on their development of basic skills. A comprehensive education involves looking at the whole child and developing programs and activities that allow our vastly different population to find areas of strength and areas to improve on. While we at Kanaka are committed to maintaining a high standard of academic achievement, we also recognize that students need to be learning design thinking skills, arts education, physical education, and even time exploring through play – at all ages. Our intermediate students have been embodying this philosophy this month through their exploration of winter activities. Primary students have been exploring through play as well. Whether it be dedicated center time in class, extra physical breaks outside during instructional time, or inquiry time within our library; all of these activities provide valuable learning opportunities that allow our students to grow in a variety of ways. Whether in the classroom or out in the community, our students need to experience success in order to flourish. Thus, we need to provide a large variety of experiences to ensure this success is realized. As always, should you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Chad Raible

Upcoming Events

Mar 5 th	Computer Club - lunch Ticket sales for Sign Night – all week before/after school
Mar 6 th	Lego Club - lunch
Mar 8 th	Choir Practice after school Cup Stacking – lunch Swimming – Div 3, 5 Dan the Recycling Man – Div 15, 18-22
Mar 9 th	Snowshoeing – Div 5 Artist Visit – Div 6 & 7 Div 20-22 – 100 Days Celebration
Mar 12 th	iGirl/iGuy presentations for grade 6's
Mar 13 th	iGirl/iGuy presentations for grade 6's Lego Club – lunch Purdy's Chocolate Order deadline
Mar 15 th	Choir Practice after school Cup Stacking – Stage
Mar 16 th	Rev's Bowling – Div 19-22 PAC Hot Lunch Kindy 100 day Celebration
Mar 20 th	H8WT – on stage morning
Mar 21 st	Choir Concert – 7pm – ACT
Mar 22 nd	Student Conf-dismiss 11:30
Mar 23 rd	Student Conf- no school
Mar 27 th	Purdy's Pickup – Stage – 2-3pm
Mar 29 th	Assembly, Last Day

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[@KanakaSD42](https://twitter.com/KanakaSD42)

Great Things @Kanaka



At our last school assembly, Ms. Hoogstin's class regaled us with a "dino-tune". The students sang and danced and strutted their stuff on stage. We also heard from our Green team about the great work our students have been doing making our school more sustainable. The WE team also encouraged us to be kinder.



We had a great Family Glow Dance a couple of Fridays ago. Our PAC organized a great night of food, music and fun. Families came out and brought (or bought) as much "glow in the dark" swag they could. Then it was up to ACDJ DJ services who wowed the crowd and kept us dancing all night long. Stay tuned for a tally on how much this great night brought in to the school.



We had the great privilege of having the BC Lions come to the school and present to us on the importance of conserving energy. This fit in nicely with our Green Team's focus in February to try and conserve as much energy as we can in the school. The Lions provided a high energy message that gave us practical tips on how we can protect our environment. What a great day!

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/>

Volunteers Needed

Recently, a number of parents have commented on social media sites about the safety of our parking lot. Please help us by adhering to the rules/signs posted. Please do not double park or park in anywhere that is not a designated spot. We are looking for volunteers to help us manage the lot to keep your children safe. A meeting will be held soon. If you can, please consider helping.

A Day of Pink



We had a great day on February 28th as we vowed to bring more positivity daily to our lives here at Kanaka. Our We Team leaders invited each class to put their name on a heart and to have others write positive messages on that heart. These were then placed on some boards at the front of the school. In the morning, our students were able to "high five" our WE team and walk past that board as they entered. At recess and lunch, students visited our local RCMP who came wearing pink, got their face painted, and danced in the sports court. What a great day for all!! Way to go, Kanaka!!



2018/19 Transfer Guidelines

These guidelines apply to students who want to:

- Transfer to Kanaka Creek from another school in Maple Ridge / Pitt Meadows
- Transfer out of Kanaka Creek to another school in Maple Ridge / Pitt Meadows

Parents need to go to their current school to request a student transfer form. The current school will keep this form. There will be a series of three meetings to decide on transfer requests in the months of April, June, and August. Once decisions have been made at these meetings, parents will be phoned to let them know. Families who move into a school catchment need to go to that school to register. If they are hoping to attend a different school, they can indicate this on their registration form.

In general, acceptance criteria for prioritizing new registrations are:

- Students who live in catchment
- Students who live out of catchment with siblings already in the school
- Out of catchment without siblings
- Out of District with siblings
- Out of District without siblings

Grade 8 Registration

All Grade 8 online registration must be completed by noon on **March 2, 2018**. Date and time will be a factor after catchment and sibling students are placed. When a school is declared full if registration did not occur by March 2, 2018, students may not get their catchment school. Parents will be notified after Spring Break as to where their child is assigned.

Movement between schools after March 2 deadline requires a transfer process. Transfer forms are available at all secondary schools.

The ability to transfer will be limited by building space and available staffing. See Student Transfer Guidelines.

A review of transfer requests will be completed before the Grade 7 orientation date in May. Individual meetings and/or visits will occur after placement

Grade 7 News

Purdy's Easter Chocolate Fundraiser! Help the Grade 7's raise money towards their Leaving Ceremony by purchasing yummy Purdy's Chocolates for Easter. Order forms have already gone home with your child OR you can order online:

1. purdysgpp.com
2. Customer #33366
3. Click JOIN CAMPAIGN
4. Invite friends and family to help! Simply ask them to follow the same steps as above.

Order deadline is Tuesday, March 13th. Orders are to be picked up at the School Stage on Tuesday, March 27th from 2-3pm.

Questions? Email Angela at mcfad@shaw.ca

Student Inclusive Conferences

Spring report card time is quickly approaching. Once again we will be holding Student Inclusive Conferences to share your child's progress over the term. Conferences will be scheduled on the afternoon of March 22 and all day on March 23. School will be dismissed at 11:30 on Thursday March 22 and students will attend school only during their conference time with the teacher that afternoon and on Friday. To learn more about the Student Inclusive Conferences, click on the following website: www.sd42.ca, under the "Parent" tab you can scroll down to find "Reporting and Assessment".

Are You Moving?

We are in the preliminary stages of planning for next year here at Kanaka Creek Elementary. If you know that you will not be attending our school in the fall, could you please let the office know as soon as possible. Thank you.

Tissue Contest – We Need More Kleenex

We are having another prize draw for a \$50 Cineplex Gift Card! Bring an unopened box of tissues to the office and enter your name to win - one entry for every box. Winner will be announced on March 29 – just in time for you to enjoy a movie during April Break.



KC Kids Choir – (after school choir)

Fred Penner and the KC Kids' Choir will be performing at the ACT on March 21. This is a family friendly event – everyone welcome. Tickets are on sale at the ACT.

CHOIR MEMBERS: Need to wear their choir shirts and dark pants to the ACT. Report to the stage door at 6:20 (Leave ALL coats and valuables with parents) Parents will meet their children in the lobby after the show. Don't forget to buy tickets at the ACT! (No ticket needed for choir performers)

- March – last afterschool choir rehearsal for the year
- March – “pre rehearsal” on stage 1:35 all choir members (not kindergarten)
- March – rehearsal with Fred Penner in gym 1:00 – 2:00
- March 21 – Fred Penner and the KC Choir 7:00 pm at the ACT

KINDERGARTEN PERFORMERS: Need to wear their choir shirts to the ACT- but they do not come backstage at 6:40. These performers stay with their parents and watch the show until they are called up on stage (about half way through -for four songs)

Don't forget to buy tickets at the ACT! (A ticket is needed for Kindergarten performers)

Parking Lot – Safety First

We still are having many parents/caregivers choosing to disregard our signage around the building:

The Drop Off area at the front of the building should only be for families who are dropping off their older children and don't need to leave their cars. **You should only be in this area for 10-15 seconds maximum.** If you need to walk with your child and wait with them at their door, please park on Kanaka Way and walk on to the property.

The Fire Lane near the Flag Poles - This area is only for daycare providers and parents with students with disabilities who **have the school parking pass**. Cars in this area should always have someone in them to be able to move them quickly should an emergency occur.

Please help us out as we try to keep our parking area safe for your children.

PAC News

Popcorn Day is coming again this Friday, March 2. \$1 per bag, 1 bag per student.

Hot Lunch – March 16th

Wooden Sign Painting Night — the Kanaka Creek PAC is hosting a sign painting night at the Townhall Public House in Maple Ridge on March 23rd. Only 35 spots are available. Tickets will be sold by the PAC outside the main office on March 5-9 before and after school.

Spring Plant Sale – Once again, the PAC will be selling bedding plants in time for spring planting. Orders were sent home last Friday and are due back Friday, March 23rd. Pick up is on Saturday May 5 between 10 and 12. If you are unable to pick up your order you **MUST** send someone in your place as orders cannot be stored.

Save the Date – the Kanaka Creek Carnival is back! July 5th, 2018 from 5-8 pm

Upcoming Non-Instructional Days

- Thurs, March 22 Dismiss @ 11:30 for Student Conferences
- Fri, March 23 Student Conferences all day
- Mon, April 30 Professional Development Day
- Mon, May 21 Victoria Day
- Tues, May 22 Professional Development Day

Core Competencies

The new curriculum has a component called the core competencies. These need to be reflected on annually and embrace big ideas that encompass a number of curricular areas. These competencies are in Communication, Personal/Social Responsibility, and Critical/Creative Thinking. Once per year, students need to reflect on their work and find examples where they are showing a particular competency. For example, the Communication Competency encompasses statements such as: Effectively communicates and share ideas, Engages respectfully in dialogue with others, Contributes to lessons, activities and discussions, Communicates in a variety of ways and settings. Students can highlight group projects, presentations, class discussions, and a host of other activities to show that they've met this competency. For more details, visit:

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/competencies>

The Redesigned Curriculum at Kanaka Creek Elementary

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

Collaborative learning is an educational approach to teaching and learning that involves groups of students working together to solve a problem, complete a task, or create a product. This approach requires students to be highly engaged in their learning, with a focus on process rather than on the right answer.

Students are expected to come prepared to discuss and collaborate. Teachers build in accountability with group marks and individual student assessments. Students teach each other through working on challenging class problems with the teacher as facilitator or coach. The goal is to shift learning from teacher-centered to a student-centered model.

For more information about the new curriculum, visit <http://www.sd42.ca/new-curriculum>.

Coming in April – Place-Based Learning.



Students in division 11 are working together to explore the properties of states of matter. Here you see them identifying a substance that behaves both as a liquid and a solid.

The Redesigned Curriculum at Kanaka Creek Elementary



Students in Division 5 are collaboratively working to dissect a cow's eye and to properly identify the parts of the eye on the diagram.



Core Competencies: What are they and why are they in the new curriculum?

The new curriculum centres around the following three core competency areas: **communication**, **personal and social**, **thinking**. They are sets of intellectual, personal, and social and emotional proficiencies that all students need to develop in order to engage in deep learning and life-long learning. Competencies are evident in every area of learning and in every grade, and come into play when students become actively engaged in their learning. During the school year, students will have an opportunity to self-assess their proficiencies in these core competencies.