

Kanaka Creek Elementary

DECEMBER 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.



A Well-Deserved Break

Well, we are just finishing up our first term in the 2018/19 school year. I know that you will agree with me that our school community has had a great three months of learning and are ready for a bit of “down-time”. While this task of learning isn’t always easy, I am reminded of a quote from Tom Hanks in “A League of Their Own” where he reminds his baseball players “it’s the hard that makes it great”. While learning and trying new things can sometimes be challenging, it can also be seen as exciting and fun as well. In November, our students challenged themselves in many ways. Some of our students were exploring the physics of motion by creating balloon powered cars while others were exploring the effect of heat on water molecules. Still others were exploring the relationship between temperature and rainfall in the lower mainland. Our primary students were making predictions and they are learning to read and our intermediate students are working at building connections with their own knowledge and new ideas.

Our students are learning to focus, analyze, communicate, and present their ideas as well. The activities our teachers create fuse traditional academic learning with social emotional learning. Social-emotional learning encompasses the skills, attitudes, and knowledge that students (and adults) need to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. Research shows that students that build these skill sets as a part of their learning typically do better academically and have better life outcomes. As a community, Kanaka will continue to build these skills along with academic skills as we “strive to build a community of responsible learners who strive to attain their potential.”

Enjoy your break, we’ll see everyone in January.



Follow us on twitter!
@KanakaSD42

Great Things @Kanaka



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!!



Our annual "candy drive" culminated in a massive candy stuffing day at the end of November. Kanaka students decorate bags with Christmas art and wishes and then, Mr. and Ms. Moran's classes stuff it with Halloween candy collected throughout November. All of the bags are then given to seniors' homes in the area.



Our grades 5-7 classes participated with classes from Whonnock and Eric Langton in a movie screening this month where they learned about "The Peel Project" – the last natural watershed in Canada. Before the movie, the students heard a local Katzie elder, Rick Baley speak on the importance of protecting our wild life and maintaining balance in nature.

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/>

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 Bookfest books by Madeleine L'Engle. Ms. Nagy congratulates all participants for their reading efforts in Bookfest 2018! Well done!

Kanaka Remembers



Many of our classes found ways to honour and remember our veterans during the month of November. Our grade 2's paid a visit to our local legion and put metal poppies made by THSS students near crosses at the front of the building. As an entire school, we donned our poppies and participated in a respectful ceremony in our school gym. Our students sang O Canada, learned about the reason why we remember, heard the classic poem, In Flanders Fields, and participated in a moment of silence. Thanks to all who made this day one to remember.



Student Inclusive Conferencing

Registration for kindergarten and c'usquanela Elementary begins January 2019:

c'usquanela Elementary – Registration for kindergarten to Grade 7 opens January 7 - c'usquanela 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'usquanela Elementary is scheduled to open for the 2019/20 school year. Visit <http://elementary.sd42.ca/cusquanela> for details about the registration process and for associated timelines for c'usquanela Elementary registration.

Kindergarten Registration (all other schools) – *Sibling 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. Click below for more information: <http://www.sd42.ca/kindergarten-registration/>

Registration Phases:

JAN 7-31: c'usquanela 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.

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.** If you have some spare clothing that your child has grown out of, donations to the office are greatly appreciated (especially pants and socks) during this soggy weather.

2019 Intermediate Winter Activities

If you have not yet given permission or payment on the portal, please do so ASAP

- Grade 4/5
Dates are January 17, 24, 31 and February 7.
- Grades 6/7
Dates are January 18, February 1, 8, and 22.

KC Kids Choir News

Our January term practices will start up after school on Thursday January 17th. This year we will be preparing a concert to perform at the ACT with our good friend Rick Scott! (The concert is scheduled for 7 pm at the ACT on Wednesday, March 13th. Tickets go on sale December 1st - great Christmas presents for Granny and Granddad!) A notice will go out on the portal the first week of January to sign up.

Dodgeball Winners!!

Congratulations to the B-League Benders who won the annual Bruce Grady Memorial Dodgeball Trophy. Team members include: Laina Hyland, Breanne Lind, Marcus Chenard, Nathan Wheeler, Spencer Fowle, Grayson Mudry and Blake Young.

Choir News

PERFORMANCE: The choir concert will take place on Thursday, December 6th at 7pm in the gym

FEE: There is no fee this term, but students will be asked to provide some items for their costume (a specific coloured t-shirt, bug antennae). Details to follow!

*It is important to sign your child up for choir on the portal for attendance /safety reasons.

If you have questions about the concert, please contact Miss Flanagan (Dawn.Flanagan@sd42.ca)

Winter Fun Fair @ MR Library

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!

The Redesigned Curriculum at Kanaka Creek 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 goal-oriented ways. Educated citizens in today's ever-changing 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 career-life 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.



Our grade 7's worked with their teachers and Ms. Munro to create a business plan, create a product, and then sell it in our annual Entrepreneur's fair. Students learned about product pricing, marketing, and many other topics associated with Career Education.



Redesigned Curriculum: Know-Do-Understand

All areas of learning are based on a “**Know-Do-Understand**” model to support a concept-based, competency-driven approach to learning. In this model, three elements work together to support deeper learning: **Content (Know)**, **Curricular Competencies (Do)**, and **Big Ideas (Understand)**. BC's new curriculum design enables a personalized, flexible and innovative approach at all levels of the education system. All areas of learning have been redesigned using this model.