

Kanaka Creek Elementary

FEBRUARY 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.



Be Kind, Be Fair

Well, we've been back for a few weeks now, and we are excited to be learning together in 2019. As a school, we've been exploring social emotional learning and working together to ensure we come together as a community. While this can seem difficult with a school of close to 600 students, it is an important part of the learning process. Studies show that students who feel connected to their community and the adults in their life experience greater success both academically and in overall wellness.

To that end, our school this month is focusing on a few "whole school" tasks. We, led by our "Green Team" will be embarking on a "Energy Challenge". Our school, combined with the help from our district, are encouraging our students and their families to be more energy conscious. Initiatives like "TupperWare Tuesday" (use less plastic wrap) and "Water Bottle Wednesday" (reduce our reliance on plastic bottles/tetra packs) as well as other challenges will inspire our community to use less waste and be more energy conscious.

Our social emotional theme this month comes from our "Student Voice" team and our planner to "Be Kind" and "Be Fair". We will be celebrating "Pink Shirt Day" at the end of February but we must remember that each day we can "Be Kind and Be Fair" to each other. In classes, our students practice gratitude projects and encouraging each other. They work in centers times to learn turn taking and being fair. They also learn through adaptations for specific students that fair doesn't mean we're all treated equally, it means we all get what we need.

We hope you will join us in our themes and challenges this month. As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Chad Raible



Follow us on twitter!
@KanakaSD42

Great Things @Kanaka



Our basketball season is in full swing. We have recreational and competitive teams for both our girls and boys this year. Each team has played a few games and enjoying success, whether through victories on the court or camaraderie off of it. We'd like to thank Ms. Thirkell, Ms. McPherson, Ms. Bazett, Mr. Farmer and Mr. Blakeway for their help this season.



Well, winter is here and with it, our winter activities are in full swing. Grade 6 and 7's participate in skiing/snowboarding, swimming, or skating/bowling while our grad 4 and 5's participate in activities at VanCity OCR, The Great Escape, bowling/skating, or pottery. Our students are having a great time getting out and trying something new.



For the last few weeks, we've been having a new weekly feature with our primary students. "Mr. Raible's Reading Corner" is a 20-minute segment that happens each Wednesday and is a chance for our grades K/1 and 2/3 students to get together for a bit of fun and learning. We read a story together, try to figure out how we can use its message within our community, and have some fun along the way.

Literacy and Collaboration

Ms. Nagy, our librarian, has a number of different roles in our building. She helps create a love for literacy, manages our incredible selection of books, and collaborates with our teachers to create activities and lessons that engage our students through play and exploration. In the past, classes have used our "Kanaka Creates" activities, explored the design process, and researched new ideas.

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/>

Social Emotional Awareness at Kanaka!!



Our teachers have many resources and tools they use to teach social emotional learning here at Kanaka. "Zones of Regulation", "mindful moments", yoga and restorative strategies are just some ways that teachers teach our students to be self and socially aware. Within the classrooms, students can access a variety of sensory tools to help keep them regulated. Stand up desks, hokie stools, pedal desks, fidget toys, and many other tools are used in various ways within our classes. All of these strategies and tools help ensure our students are ready to learn.



Classes Not in Session

- **Thursday, February 14 as it is a PRO D day**
- **Friday, February 15 as it is a school closure day.**
- **Monday, February 18 as it is Family Day.**

Moving?

If you know you will not be attending Kanaka Creek Elementary next year, we would appreciate it if you let us know. During the next couple of months, we will be working very hard to accommodate all of the requests to transfer to Kanaka Creek, and it is very helpful to our planning if we know who will or will not be attending next year. Thanks for your help with this request.

Guidelines for Transferring Schools

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 7 News

The grade 7 students are holding a bottle drive on Saturday, February 9 from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. All proceeds go towards their leaving celebration in July.

Grade 8 Registration

Grade 8 registration for the 2018/19 school year opens at noon, February 5, 2019, and must be completed on the parent portal. The online registration form will automatically populate with your child's secondary catchment school. This is determined by your address (not your elementary school). You can check the School District website <http://www.sd42.ca> for your catchment school and if you recently moved, make sure the office has your correct address (you must show proof of new address, Rental Agreements are no longer accepted). Please note that new development areas may not reflect accurate results of your catchment school. Please call and confirm with the school if necessary. Families will be able to request their first two choices of schools. Registration numbers are limited by capacity. Details regarding acceptance criteria are noted below.

The size of the school facility may limit the number of out-of-catchment registrations that can be accommodated. The school district will accommodate catchment registrations first, then attempt to accommodate sibling out-of-catchment registrations. Sibling placement cannot be guaranteed, however. Our acceptance criteria are as follows:

1. In-catchment area students who, in the previous year, attended the school;
2. In-catchment area students who, in the previous year, were placed by the district in a different school due to a lack of space
3. Siblings of in-catchment area students (grades 8 to 11);
4. New in-catchment area students;
5. Siblings of out-of-catchment area students enrolled in the school (grades 8 to 11);
6. Out-of-catchment area students currently attending an SD42 school;
7. Out-of-district students currently attending an SD42 school;
8. Students not currently attending an SD42 school but residing in Maple Ridge or Pitt Meadows;
9. Out-of-district non-residents

All Grade 8 online registration must be completed by noon on **February 20, 2019**. When a school is declared full if registration did not occur by deadline students may not get their catchment school. Parents will be notified before Spring Break as to where their child is assigned.



Grade 8 Registration - Con't

Movement between schools after February 20 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.

Kindergarten Registration

The sibling phase of Kindergarten registration is complete and all siblings who registered during that phase have been accepted into kindergarten at Kanaka Creek. The general phase of Kindergarten registration opened at noon on February 12 and closes at midnight on February 19. If you know someone who has a child who will be five on or before December 31, 2019 (born in 2014), please remind them to register for kindergarten.

Visitors and Volunteers

A reminder that all visitors and volunteers are expected to report to the office by way of the main entrance, sign in, and collect a visitor or volunteer tag. This includes parents delivering lunch to their child(ren). This is a safety and security measure as it is important for us to know who is in the school and on our playground. Displaying the tag also tells children that you are a welcomed guest in our school. When children see an unfamiliar face in the school or on the playground, they will likely view you as an unwelcome 'stranger' and for younger children this can cause them some unnecessary anxiety.

The KC Kids' Choir

Our January term practices began 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. A notice will go out on the portal this week to sign up.

Glove Your Neighbour

wraps up February 13th. Kindergarten classes are still accepting donations of "adult sized" hats, scarfs, socks, gloves etc.

PAC News

Your 2018-19 PAC: Chair – Alexis Playdon, Vice Chair – Kristy Wyllie, Treasurer – Amanda Maliwat, Secretary – Christine Calvert, DPAC Rep – Marlene McCaffrey and Eva Mentz, Hot Lunch Coordinator – Anthea Pablow, Fundraising Coordinator – Amanda Griffin, Danielle Miller, Members at Large: Cathy Josic, Jackolynn Wright, Angela Downey, Carla Neiva, Louise Smith, Allison Didrikson, Shane Gehring, Faiza Karim-Jadavji, Shayla Forster, Heather Lambert

Popcorn Day – February 6 We need more volunteers to make this event happen so if you are able to help out for 2 hours after the bell on Wednesday, we would greatly appreciate it! If we don't have enough volunteers by noon on Monday, we will cancel the event. To sign up to volunteer, go to the following link:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e4ba4a_a23a7fe3-popcorn11

If you haven't pre-paid for popcorn days yet, you can do so on the portal:

www.kanakacreek.parentcouncil.net

Next PAC Meeting – February 13 @ 7:00pm

Library News

Library Books: Please make note of your children's library day and consider returning their books a day early. That way, they can always sign out new books with their friends during Library Time. Once the books are overdue, parents will automatically start receiving overdue notices sent to the email address registered on the Parent Portal.

Emergency Preparedness

This term we will continue to practice our emergency procedures including fire, earthquake and lockdown drills. Also, please ensure your Emergency Release forms have been completed on line. These forms will allow us to release your children to someone other than you in the event of a serious emergency resulting in school closure.

Food Allergies

We have a number of students in our school with severe food allergies, the most common being to peanuts. Please be aware of any severe, life threatening allergies in your child's classroom and pack lunches accordingly. Thank you for helping to keep all our students safe.

Winter Family Fun Day 2019

The Maple Ridge Lions Club
invites all Families to join them
for a **FREE** fun filled day

Family Treasure Scavenger Hunt



Sensory Deprivation Obstacle Course for Everyone

Cooking with Kids

Games

Prizes

Special Guests



St. John Ambulance
Therapy Dog



**Raptors Ridge
Birds Of Prey**

Maple Ridge, B.C.
www.raptorsridge.com

Family Day - Monday, February 18

11:00am - 4:00pm

Albion Fair Grounds - Commercial Building

23448 105 Ave, Maple Ridge



Our Lions Concession will be open...

As a community we will be donating
all of today's donation & concession proceeds
to a Special Family in Need of our help.

This Family has been struggling with overwhelming circumstances
with their child & numerous weekly trips to hospitals doctors & specialists.



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 BC's new curriculum, visit <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>

Coming in March – Aboriginal Worldviews & Perspectives in the Classroom.



Students are given challenges and tasked to work in groups to complete them given specific materials. On the left, we see students engaged in a challenge to build a prototype of an invention that will help save the environment. On the right, students are creating artwork around the theme “Be Kind”.



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.