

# 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.*



### Honesty is the Best Policy

Well, we're in to our final month of term 2. We have had an incredible month of fun and learning. Many of our students participated in a community art project which will eventually be displayed in the renovated leisure centre. We also had our intermediate students participate in winter activities. Many of our students learned to ski or snowboard while others explored their creative side by making pottery with Mr. Foster. Still others enjoyed activities that included bowling, skating, swimming, and parkour. Our primary students have been focusing on kindness with their weekly reading times with Mr. Raible and have enjoyed books like "The Crayon Box That Talked" and "Roses are Pink, Your Feet Really Stink".

In March, our SEL focus will be on Honesty. Students will be learning about how important it is to own up to our mistakes (that we all make) and how to do the right thing even when no one is looking. If you are looking for resources to help teach this with your children, Psychology Today has a great article on how some of our common approaches actually reduce honesty in our children. Please click [here](#) to access this article.

As we come in to our final month of term 2, our students will be creating their portfolios for the student-inclusive conferences. They will also be checking in on their goals from term 1 and identifying which areas they need to focus on for term 3. Kanaka thanks you for sharing in your child(ren)'s education by focusing on the work they're bring home and practicing reading/writing and other projects with them. As you celebrate and take an interest in their schooling, their desire to learn and willingness to take risks increases. You are an important partner in their learning journey.

As always, should you have questions/concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.



Chad Raible

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@KanakaSD42

# Great Things @Kanaka



It is important for our students to have authentic audiences for their learning. Ms. Mantel's class performed a drama/dance number that they created after learning about performance from a drama company to our primary classes this month. They combined movement, spoken word, and dance to teach our primary students how to be kind.



Kanaka participated in a joint community art project led by community artists, David and Rebecca. Students used multi-coloured triangular shapes to create mosaics. These designs will be recreated in ceramic tile, fused together, and installed in the renovated leisure centre. A huge thank you to Yvonne Chiu for helping organize this activity for our students.



February was Energy Challenge Month. Ms. Murphy and Ms. Fuhrmann led the charge and created many challenges and activities for our students and staff. Here we see our "kindergarten clean-up crew" which helped keep our grounds clean over the month. Other challenges included "Tupperware Tuesday" and "Water Bottle Wednesday". Hopefully, we'll win again this year.

## W I T S

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/>

## Glove Your Neighbour

Led by our kindergarten classes, our school donated gloves to our local Salvation Army. Over the month of February, our school was able to donate over two hundred pairs of gloves and mittens to help those in need. We would like to thank Ms. Flanagan and the kindergarten teachers for helping organize this important charity.

## Pink Makes us Think – Kindness is Better



February 27<sup>th</sup> was "Pink Shirt Day". This day helps us to focus on being kinder to each other every day. Our We Team, under the direction of Ms. Tsia and Ms. Moran, organized our school to write "notes of kindness" to each other, an assembly on kindness, and lunchtime activities. Our students were able to participate in games, making kindness cards, getting our face painted, and even a dance party. In the assembly, our students watched videos and read books on how small acts of kindness can make a big difference. Let's continue to be kind daily.



## Term 2 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 21 and all day on March 22. School will be dismissed at 11:30 on Thursday March 21 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](http://www.sd42.ca), under the "Parent" tab you can scroll down to find "Reporting and Assessment".

## 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

## Upcoming Non-Instructional Days

- Thursday, March 21 EARLY DISMISSAL at 11:30 for Student Conferences
- Friday, March 22 Student Conferences all day
- Monday April 29 Professional Development Day
- Monday May 20 Victoria Day
- Tuesday May 21 Professional Development Day

## Choir News

Rick Scott and the KC Kids' Choir will be performing at the ACT on Wednesday, March 13. (7pm-8pm) This is a family friendly event – EVERYONE is welcome. Tickets are on sale at the ACT. (604-476-2787)

**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 6<sup>th</sup> – last afterschool choir rehearsal for the year
- March 13<sup>th</sup> – rehearsal with Rick Scott in gym 1:00 – 2:00
- March 13<sup>th</sup> – Rick Scott 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)

\*Please don't forget to pay for your child's choir shirt if you haven't already done so. Thanks!

## Library News

Once we near the end of March, please have a look for any library books needing to be brought back to school! Ms. Nagy would love to have them back before the break! 😊

Thank You!





## Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony Committee

Our next meeting for the Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony Committee is Monday, March 4 at 6:30 pm

## 2019/2020 Class Placement Reminders

It is not yet the time for parents to submit requests for class placements – this is typically done in May (forms will be available on our website). This is an advance reminder regarding the process of submitting a request for next year's class placement. As per School District 42 expectations, please take note of the following:

- **We do not accept requests for specific teachers** - We do accept information about your child's learning styles that might help us make stronger placements.
- **Teachers have a rich amount of information about your child** – this information makes for strong class placements and is based on a year-long experience with them.
- **We cannot make placements based solely on friendships** - if the social energy of the group is interfering with the classroom learning conditions, the group is often split to ensure the learning environment is beneficial for all.
- **Teachers cannot make any guarantees about next year's class placements** – We have changes in staffing and fluctuating enrollment which can occur up until the first week in September.
- **Parent requests are one piece of the information** we consider when placing students. We also have many other factors to consider and often our class placements are complex.
- **Our ultimate goal is to create balanced classrooms** that are beneficial for all.

Once again, please refer to the upcoming newsletters, should you be interested in submitting a request for your child's placement.

## 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 Publow](#), [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](#)

**PAC meeting** - is at 7pm on Wednesday March 6th in the library.

**Popcorn Day** - is also on Wednesday March 6th. \$1 per bag, 1 bag per student. We need volunteers so if you can help, please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e4ba4aa23a7fe3-popcorn12>

**Hot Lunch** - Thursday Mar 14 - sushi!

**Cook books fundraiser** – Mother's Day is around the corner and we have the greatest gift for her! We are creating school wide contribution cookbooks! We are asking for your favorite recipes. Not the ones from pinterest but we're talking about Nonna's Famous Spaghetti Sauce or Granny's Apple Pie!! We want your secret family recipes to share with your fellow students. Please write out your recipe(s) onto a recipe card and have your child give to their teacher NO LATER than March 20th. They will be collected and bound over the Spring Break, just in time for Mother's Day. Cook Books will be \$15 each and available for purchase online.

**Carnival Update** - Unfortunately due to a lack of volunteers to run the Carnival, we will not be having that event this year. We will try again next year as this is our most successful fundraising event - and it's tons of fun for everyone!

## Spring Break Ideas

Here are some local spring break camp ideas!

- Albion FC Soccer Camps April 1-5 or April 8-12. Cost is \$150 and includes instruction, ball and t shirt. [https://albionfc.ca/webapps/spappz\\_live/event\\_registration\\_page?event\\_category=camps](https://albionfc.ca/webapps/spappz_live/event_registration_page?event_category=camps)
- ACT Maple Ridge Young Artist's Camp April 8-12. Cost is \$200. Covers a multitude of art mediums. Call 604-467-7422 or visit [www.mapleridge.ca/1484](http://www.mapleridge.ca/1484)
- Wild & Immersive – currently they do not have anything specific planned during the Kanaka break, however, if you can get a group of 10 or more, they can make a program for your group (\$15 per student). Please check out what they have to offer! It sounds like a lot of outdoor fun <https://www.wildlearnings.ca/>



The 2018 Terry Fox School Run results are in! BC and Yukon schools showed great strength in numbers and leadership in the fight against cancer by raising over \$1.5 million!! We are so grateful to you for continuing the tradition of holding a Terry Fox Run at your school. Please share our heartfelt thanks with your school community for their incredible generosity and support of Terry's dream to find an end to cancer..

# The Redesigned Curriculum at Kanaka Creek Elementary

## *ABORIGINAL WORLDVIEWS & PERSPECTIVES IN THE CLASSROOM First Peoples principles of learning*

From kindergarten to graduation, students will experience Aboriginal perspectives and understandings as an integrated part of their learning journey. The inclusion of Indigenous ways of knowing and being is based on the understanding that Aboriginal perspectives and knowledge are a part of the historical and contemporary foundation of BC and Canada.

An important goal in integrating Aboriginal perspectives into curricula is to ensure that all learners have opportunities to understand and respect their own cultural heritage as well as that of others. There are two important aspects to embedding these principles of learning into classroom experiences. First, all students will be celebrated as individuals in a strength-based, learner-centred environment and second, all students will be nurtured in their understanding of the healing around Truth and Reconciliation.

### **Coming in April – Place-Based Learning.**



The above pictures show some of our grade 1 students exploring elements of coast Salish art. Students are exploring shape, direction, and form using traditional coast Salish shapes.



### **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.