



A.E. PERRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter #5

January 2015



Principal's Corner

Happy New Year and Welcome back! I know we hadn't planned to start with a huge helping of winter, but there you go! I hope all our A.E.Perry families had a memorable winter break and that 2015 brings only wonderful things for you. We are looking forward to a productive and rewarding remainder of the academic year. The return from winter break provides us with a great opportunity to review and to rework routines and procedures in order for students to be more successful in school.

By working together to ensure a successful second half of the school year, we strengthen the partnership between home and school and our students flourish. Thank you for your continued support and interest! Here are a few suggestions for starting the year off right:

- * Please make a renewed commitment to help your child get to school on time each day.

- * Have your child organize belongings the previous evening; mornings are too busy and rushed.
- * Take time to review teacher assigned work with your child.
- * Feel free to contact your child's teacher with questions and ongoing concerns.

Mrs. P. Armstrong

Literacy

We will have a special focus on Literacy activities during the month of January. Students will participate in a variety of extra reading activities throughout the month. We will be collecting gently used books from January 8-19th for a school wide book exchange scheduled for the 20th. On the 27th, our popular Drop Everything and Read Day will also include Beach Blanket Reading. Send your child with a blanket or beach towel, sunglasses and a beach hat. Watch for more information on school wide reading activities.

The official Literacy Week is January 24-31 this year. January 27th is Family Literacy Day in Canada. On this day, Canadian families are encouraged to read together, play together, and plan to continue to learn as a family all year long. This special day was created in 1999 by

ABC CANADA, a charity that researches and promotes literacy in Canada.

There are many free city-wide family activities planned for Kamloops children, including skating, Science story time, Library and Art Gallery events. A special film encouraging reconnection with nature called "Play Again" will be shown at the Paramount. For a more complete list and more information, go to www.literacyinkamloops.com

Here are a few ways you can reinforce the development of reading skills:

- Read aloud to your child every day
- Sing songs and listen to music or poetry tapes
- Visit your local library and museums-
- Write notes and put them under your child's pillow or in their lunchbox
- Tell stories



Winter Weather

The thermometer continues to reflect winter conditions...sometimes really cold winter conditions! Just a reminder that students should be continuing to dress warmly for outdoor recesses. (warm coat, toques, mitts, boots) Please remember to ensure that your child comes dressed for the weather. Many students arrive at school with inappropriate winter clothing, claiming they are not cold. On extremely cold days, particularly when wind chill factors lower temperatures considerably, we limit the amount of time

students spend out-of-doors or hold recess indoors. With the exception of these occasions, we expect all children will go outside for recess and during the lunch break.



Basketball

The basketball season is about to begin. We have both a boys' and a girls' team. Thank you to our coaches, Mr. Westwood , Mrs. Clare and Mr. Sofiak for stepping up to volunteer. We sure appreciate it. Go Roadrunners!

Spelling Bee

Once again this year, our school will be participating in a school Spelling Bee. Our event will be held In February. Parents are welcome to attend so watch for more information!

Parent-Child Mother Goose Program

We will run another session of this wonderful program again this year. We have organized it to run from January 14-March 4 on Wednesdays evenings from 6-7:00 pm. We hope to have many pre-schoolers taking advantage of this opportunity.

Wednesdays January 14-March 4

6:00-7:00 pm at

A.E.Perry Elementary

to register please call 250-376-6224

There is no cost.

If you know of parents of pre-schoolers who may not have access to the school newsletter, please pass on the information to them.

FSAs

The Foundation Skills Assessment is administered each year to Grade 4 and 7 students in all public and provincially funded private schools in British Columbia. The assessment provides a snapshot of student achievement in Reading Comprehension, Writing, and Numeracy. Results of the assessment are used at the provincial, district, and school levels to plan for continued improvement in student achievement. The skills tested are linked to the provincial curriculum and student performance is measured against provincial performance standards. At A.E. Perry, this year, grade four classroom teachers will administer the FSA between January 19th and February 13th. All grade four students in attendance will be expected to participate. Parents will receive their child's test booklet and with his/her assessment summary by the end of March.

YPC

Our second concert will take place in the first week of February.



Board Representative to BC School Trustees Association

Mr. Gerald Watson
Board Representative to BC Public School Employers Association

From the Board Meeting of: DECEMBER 15, 2014

BOARD NOTES:

BOARD OF EDUCATION – INAUGURAL MEETING

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Please be advised that the Board of Education conducted its Inaugural Board Meeting and election of Board Officers on Monday, December 8, 2014. The newly elected Board Officers are as follows:

Denise Harper
Chairperson

Meghan Wade
Vice-Chairperson

Kathleen Karpuk

- The Board enjoyed a performance from the Parkcrest Children's Choir.
- The Board received a presentation from Gina Morris and Clare Sladden on Air Awareness in Education.
- The Board approved the Superintendent's Report on Student Achievement 2014-2015.
- The Board received an update on the Special Olympics BC Winter Games which will occur in Kamloops in February 2015.
- The Board approved an out-of-province field trip request for music students from Westsyde

Secondary to travel to New Orleans in March 2015.

- The Board approved the recommendations in the Distance Learning Model Report.
- The Board approved the Real Property Disposal Bylaw for the disposal of 820 Crestline, Kamloops, BC.

The next regular public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, January 12, 2015, at the School Board Office, 1383 – 9th Avenue, Kamloops, BC.

May

Friday, 1 - YPC
Monday, 11th - Non-Instructional Day
Friday, 15 - YPC
Monday, 18th - Victoria Day

June

Thursday, 25th - last day for students
Friday, 26th - Administration Day

School Calendar - Updates

January

Monday, 5th- schools re-open
January 21 PAC mtg
January 26-30 Literacy Week
January 27 – Family Literacy Day

February

Friday, 6th – YPC
Monday, 9^h – Family Day – schools closed
Friday, 20st -District In-Service - School Closure

March

Friday, 13th Multicultural Day
last day before Spring Break
March 16-27 Spring Break
Monday, 30th - schools re-open

April

Thursday, 2– Early Closure, Parent-Teacher Interviews
Friday, 3rd - Good Friday
Monday, 6th - Easter Monday
Monday, 20th - Inservice Day