



Pacific Way Elementary
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Newsletter

February, 2017

February 22nd - Pink Shirt Day
February 23rd - Parent Teacher Interviews - Students Dismissed at 12:30 pm
February 24th - Non Instructional Day - No School
March 15th - Second Term Report Cards go home to Parents
March 20th - March 31st - Spring Break
April 7th - Day of Suwewtwecw
April 14th - Good Friday
April 17th - Easter Monday
April 24th - Non instructional Day - No school

Our Vision of a Learner

At Pacific Way Elementary, our vision for learners encompasses the qualities of being **positive, accountable, cooperative, and kind. (PACK!).** To unpack that a little further, the following statements can summarize each of these qualities:

Positive - "I find the best in every situation."

Accountable - "I am responsible for my behavior."

Cooperative - "I work well with others toward a common goal."

Kind - "I treat others the way I like to be treated."

In fostering that vision, we are intentionally creating opportunities each day to support, encourage and inspire our learners. One way we do that is by focusing on a particular virtue every 2 weeks, which is incorporated into announcements, lesson plans, assemblies and den group activities. On Friday, our students met in their den groups (multi-age groups) to create positive bumper stickers, positive messages which now grace each locker in the school. This week, we will be focusing on the virtue of justice, with our student leadership team sharing anti-bullying messages and strategies for each class.

Pink Shirt day takes place on Wednesday, as part of our anti-bullying message for the week.

We have also now "adopted" a new coyote mascot for the school and have named him Rocky "Seklep" (Secwepmec for coyote). Rocky the Coyote will be hosted by a different classroom each week, determined by the winner of our weekly class awards. This week's award will go to the class that consistently has the neatest boot rack in the hallway!

School Plan

As a staff, we have been engaged in the process of developing a school improvement plan. This process involves establishing our vision of a learner, identifying instructional priorities and developing a sharp focus for the upcoming school year that is in alignment with the School District #73 Strategic Plan (<https://youtu.be/i082iPqfxVg>) and our Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement, which incorporates the First Peoples Principles of Learning (<http://www.fnesc.ca/wp/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/PUB-LFP-POSTER-Principles-of-Learning-First-Peoples-poster-11x17.pdf>). In the near future, we will be putting out a survey to the families of Pacific Way as we engage our community in this process. It is exciting to see the direction we are heading, as we embrace inquiry-based learning, higher order thinking, and making our learning visible through presentations of learning. Stay tuned for more information.

Upcoming Lockdown Drill

In accordance with SD #73 Policy all schools are required to have two lockdown drills per school year. On the morning of March 3rd Pacific Way will be conducting our second lockdown drill of the school year. Lockdown procedures take place in the event of an intrusion where students and staff may need to be located to a safe area.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent teacher interviews will be held on Thursday, February 23rd from 1:30 - 4:00. As this is an early closure day students will be dismissed at 12:30. If you wish to meet with your child's teacher please make an appointment with them. Term two report cards will be sent home on March 17th this year.

Hoops Update

Congratulations to all five of our teams on a very successful basketball season. The regular season wrapped up last week. Our Tier 3 girls team, coached by Mrs. Nikkel and Mrs. McCauley, finished the season in fine fashion with two consecutive impressive victories. The Tier 3 Boys, coached by Mrs. Ridley and Mrs. Jumaga, were equally impressive, showing weekly improvement and winning their final game with a tremendous effort.

Best of luck this week to our Tier 1 Boys team (coached by Mr. Aujla), our Tier 1 Girls team (coached by Mr. Egdell) and our Tier 2 Boys team (coached by Mr. Ollek). The girls

have already won their first round playoff game over St. Ann's and have advanced to round #2. Both boys teams have played some really fine basketball this season and are poised to compete with their trademark speed and tenacity in playoff action this week. Go Coyotes!

Finally, a big thank you to all of our coaches and teacher sponsors, including Mrs. Morrow, Mrs. Gundel, and Mr. Bigham, and my super dedicated assistant referee, Mr. Kaban!

Young Artists Contest

Students interested in submitting art for the Young Artists Conference, please submit it to Mrs. Morrow by the end of February. Work must be 2-dimensional. For more information you can go to the link <http://www3.sd73.bc.ca/general/content/young-artists> or see Mrs. Morrow.

Science Fair

We will be hosting a school science fair for intermediate students on Monday, March 6. Projects will be on display in the school gym throughout the day, but due to evening bookings, we will not be able to have them there after school. If you have some time during the day, you are welcome to come in and check them out!

Floor Hockey

The Pacific Way intramural floor hockey league is up and running with over 60 students participating. Games have been taking place on Wednesday and Friday at lunch with four teams playing each of these days. The regular season games have been action packed but the students are really excited about the playoffs which start this week. Thanks to all of the students and teachers who have made this season so much fun.

Library in Need

The library is desperately seeking donations of DVD cases in good condition to replace our deteriorating ones. If anyone has any cases can you please drop off at the office. Thank you.

Library News

We had a great Reading Week at Pacific Way Elementary School! We had 124 students participate in the ever-popular Book Swap, and we donated 4 boxes of leftover books to the Heap the Honda book drive. We also had a record number of participants in the Unplug and Play Challenge! A book or poster prize was handed out in each classroom. The winner was drawn from the challenges that were returned. The lucky winners were:

Mrs. Wassing: Jenna S.

Mrs. Anderson: Sienna L.

Mrs. Gundel: Lincoln M.
Ms. Thoms: Blayne D.
Mrs. McLaren: Faith P.
Mrs. Sherwood: Mikayla A.
Mrs. Johnson: Ashlyn W.
Mrs. Bigham: Maddison W.
Mrs. Salle: Siya S.
Mrs. Alm: Steele M.
Mr. Sandhu: Paige B.
Mrs. Morrow: Rylend S.

PAC Corner

Grand Raffle Draw date on May 11th is fast approaching! Let us try to make our goal of selling 3000 tickets. If you have booklets that need returned, please do so ASAP. If you require more booklets email the PAC @ pacwaypac@gmail.com

Community News

Enjoy an hour of rhymes, songs and stories with your babies and younger children. **Parent-Child Mother Goose Program** begins on April 7 - June 2 at Pacific Way on Fridays 9-10 am. Registration via www.eventbrite.ca starting March 13 at 9 am. For more information please call 250-554-3134 ext 333. Cost: Free!! Sponsored by the BC Ministry of Education Ready, Set, Learn Initiative.



Round Up

New Date: Thursday, February 23rd, 2017
Time: 6:30 – 8:30 pm Place: Henry Grube Centre
Doors open at 6:00 pm

- If you have a child who is ready for kindergarten, this is an opportunity to learn about Kindergarten and Child Care options
- Talk to health care professionals, early childhood professionals and learn what is available in our community
- Presentations: SD #73 Early Learning Coordinator and Aboriginal Resource Teacher and Early Childhood Educator
- Breaks are scheduled for visiting the Resource Tables



Board Notes

From the Board Meeting of: February 6, 2017

1. The Board approved the Consent Agenda which contained the following reports/information:
 - Finance and Planning Committee Highlights
 - Policy Committee Highlights
 - Education Committee of the Whole Highlights
 - District Parent Advisory Committee Highlights
 - FSA Results 2016 Update
 - Rural Education Engagement - Regional Community Meeting
 - Notices of Motion:
 - Policy 301.1 Ordinarily Resident
 - Policy 543.1 Physical Restraint and Seclusion in School Settings (New)
 - Policy 903.1 Bullying, Intimidation, Harassment and Discrimination - Universal
 - Policy 903.2 Bullying, Intimidation, Harassment and Discrimination - Employee Specific
2. The Board received a presentation from Principal Carol DeFehr, Teacher Kim Edstrom, and a grade 7 student from Westmount Elementary on the Seven Principles of Learning.
3. The Board received a presentation from Kamloops-Thompson Teachers' Association's President, David Komljenovic, regarding the two-week Spring Break.
4. Associate Superintendent Olsen provided the Board with copies of the proposed school calendars for 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020 which reflects a one-week Spring Break. The Board approved the posting of the school calendars on the School District's website for a period of one (1) month for public consultation, starting February 10th or sooner. During this period, feedback will be collected from parents and the community through a link provided on the website.

The next Regular Public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, February 27, 2017 at the School Board Office, 1383 Ninth Avenue, Kamloops, BC.