



Pacific Way Elementary

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Newsletter

November, 2017

November 3rd – YPC #1 Green Thumb Theater
November 5th – Daylight Savings Time Ends (Fall Behind)
November 14th – Picture Retakes - 8:30 a.m.
November 10th – Remembrance Day Assembly 10:45 a.m.
November 13th – Remembrance Day – No School
November 14th – photo retakes (first thing in the morning)
November 22nd – PAC meeting – 1:15
November 25th – Craft Fair - 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
December 4th – Non-Instructional Day – No School for Children
December 13^h Dress Rehearsal Christmas Concert – 1:00 p.m.
December 14th – Christmas Concert – 6:30 p.m.
December 15th – Term 1 Report Cards Go Home
December 22nd – Last Day before Winter Break

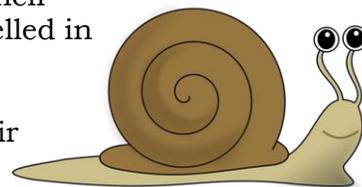
October was an extraordinary month here at Pacific Way Elementary. There were many highlights and great learning moments. To name a few, there were students programming (coding) robots, K students collaborating with Grade Nines, students showing their thinking about the solar system, sea monsters, pumpkins, taxation, snails (it really felt like snail month) and a whole host of other concepts. Plus, our student leaders stepped up to lead an assembly on perseverance, planned a pumpkin carving contest, and made a haunted house. We got to enjoy an evening of costumes and dancing last Thursday, courtesy of our PAC. And all the while, we worked on helpfulness and consideration, putting these virtues into practice in our school community. A very fine October indeed!

Culture of Thinking

One of our core school goals is to develop creative and critical thinking skills in our learners. As teachers, we are always looking for ways to inspire and encourage our students to go deeper, to make their thinking visible, to explain and to elaborate. One of the forces that defines classrooms is INTERACTION. This is evident in “showing a respect for and valuing of one another’s contributions of ideas and thinking in a spirit of ongoing collaborative inquiry.” (Dr. Ron Ritchhart, Harvard Graduate School of Education). I would encourage you as parents to ask your children questions like, “What is an idea you learned from someone else is school today?” or “What’s one way you showed your learning or thinking today?” Or, in conversations you have with your children, take the time to allow them to explain their thinking. All children (and adults!) should know that their thoughts and ideas are valuable, and that learning is a process that goes far beyond just knowing facts or getting the right answers!

Thank You!

Thank you to each parent who took the time to meet with teachers at our parent/teacher conferences two weeks ago. There is tremendous power in teachers and families working together. Thank you as well to all Grade One parents who participated in the “Come Read With Me” program at the school today. Parents who spend time with their children on teaching simple, positive reading strategies that were modelled in this session will see huge benefits in their child’s literacy development.



Oh yeah, thanks to all of the students who took super good care of their snails. Such fascinating creatures they are!

Now that November is nearly upon us, we need to start adjusting to some colder temperatures. We do expect students to spend recess and lunch breaks outside, and a warm coat and cold weather gear are necessary.

Please help your children keep track of their belongings. If you put names in hoodies and jackets we will attempt to return them rather than leaving them in the lost and found.

The boot racks are out and we are expecting everyone to take off their wet shoes or boots at the door. This helps keep our halls both clean and dry. Thanks for your cooperation.

Terry Fox Run

On September 29th we joined schools throughout Canada and celebrated the 37th Anniversary of the Terry Fox Run. The students raised \$550.05 this year. Thank you.

Library News

Thank you for supporting our fall Scholastic Book Fair! Our sales were amazing, and we now have lots of Scholastic credits to spend on new library books and learning resources for classrooms! Sincere thanks to all families!

Congratulations to Shayla Odian in Mrs. Johnson's class who was the winner of the \$25 Scholastic Book Fair Prize. Both Shayla and Mrs. Johnson were able to pick out book fair books.

Lockdown Drill

On the morning of Tuesday, November 7 we will be practicing a schoolwide lockdown. As per school district policy, each school is requiring to have at least two lockdown drills per school year. The purpose of the drill is to prepare students and staff for any emergency, such as an intruder alert, whereby every classroom will be locked and students remain quiet until the drill is complete. It would be helpful if you spend a few moments sometime over the next few days discussing this with your child. Please keep in mind, the intent of this drill, just like any other emergency procedure, such as a fire drill, is not to frighten students, but to educate them in the name of preventive safety measures.

Lost and Found Items

Are you missing any clothing items? Please come and check the lost and found bin. It is located in the main hallway.

PAC News

Our PAC is purchasing 24 Chrome books and a charging cart for the primary wing of the school.

Shuswap Pie Fundraiser is underway. Please make your orders online at pacificwayhotlunches.net. Orders available until November 19th.

Look for a fun paint fundraiser coming soon.

Annual Craft Fair November 25th 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Next PAC Meeting: November 22nd 2017, at 1:15. Hope to see you there.



PAC Family Social and Dance

Thank you to the PAC for all their hard work on the Halloween Family Dance. The evening was a great success. It was nice to see all the costumes and smiles.

Leadership Group

The October Leadership group (Sam Rea, Adam Barkworth, Danica Renwick, Arjan Bachhal, Presley Shishido) did a great job organizing a pumpkin carving contest with two categories; scary and creative. The group also created an amazing haunted house in which other classrooms visited. They collected non-perishable food items that were donated to the local food bank

Volleyball Season

Our four school teams are all doing a great job of representing Pacific Way. The season is now half over for our Coyote teams, and it's exciting to see the skills and teamwork developing!

Community News

Horse Sense Training & Petting Zoo



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SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73
(KAMLOOPS-THOMPSON)
 1383 9th Avenue
 Kamloops, BC
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NOTES FROM THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

October 23, 2017

CONSENT AGENDA

- o Remembrance Day assignments.

Details of the consent agenda can be found on the public agenda.

EDUCATION TOPIC

The Board congratulated the successful participants of this year's Leadership Development Program. The two-year program, which started in Kamloops nearly 50 years ago, is designed to develop the District's future leaders from within the ranks of current employees. This year, 10 teachers completed the two-year program. The LDP integrates courses, TRU-based instruction, senior leader mentorship and in-school practicums to develop leadership and enhanced pedagogical skills.

PUBLIC INQUIRIES

City Coun. Arjun Singh introduced the Board to seven secondary students from schools across the city who are the inaugural members of a newly formed student city council. The students - will address, debate and provide insight into City issues and the decisions made by council, particularly those issues that are important to youth. The group asked to the Board about the possibility of forming a similar student school board. Trustees agreed the initiative would provide interesting opportunities to engage students while providing the Board with valuable insights from young people.

REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

DISTRICT LEARNING PLAN – The Board heard a presentation from senior staff regarding the district learning plan, which is the high-level document that sets the educational direction District staff will follow. The plan identifies trends based on student success rates, and offers new directions for education stemming from the B.C. government's revised curriculum, the District's new five-year strategic plan and the Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement. The Board was told the implementation of the plan will lead to better strategies and structures to improve outcomes and benefit all of the District's students.

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