



Ladner Elementary School

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Principal: Mr. J. McCallum,

Vice Principal: Mme C. Edge-Partington

NEWSLETTER #04 December 6, 2016

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Happy Holidays! With December upon us, I would like to take the opportunity that the season brings to say THANK YOU to our very supportive community, for all your help so far this year. Your contribution, no matter how small, combines with everyone else's to make a HUGE difference for the students here at Ladner Elementary. I hope that December is a wonderful month for all of you!



On behalf of the entire Ladner Elementary staff I would like to wish our community a very Merry Christmas and holiday season! I hope you all enjoy time with family and friends. I also want to wish everyone all the best for a happy and healthy 2017!

SCHOOL INFO & REMINDERS

"Scrooge"



Last week was spectacular! I hope everyone who was able to join us for one of the four "Scrooge" performances was as thrilled as I was with the talent our students demonstrated. Watching the whole thing come together in under a month was impressive and I hope that everyone walks away from the experience with great memories. I want to thank our students, staff and parent volunteers for all the hard work they put into making "Scrooge" a success. I would also like to thank our community for coming out in large numbers to watch the productions. Each show was very well attended and this really added to the students' experience. Finally, a huge "Thank You" goes to Mr. Pichler for bringing out the best in our students. What he was able to accomplish in only one month was unbelievable. Also a big thank you to the PAC for the financial support that helped us bring the production of "Scrooge" to the school.

The two afternoon shows were both recorded by Delta Film Academy students. I hope to have copies of the recordings in the new year. If you are interested in purchasing a copy of a DVD of the shows, watch for an order form coming home at some point in January.

Annual Ladner Elementary Food Drive



Our Me To We Group is organizing the school's annual food drive for **Deltassist**. This year our drive will be running until **December 14**. The most useful contributions include grocery staples such as: pasta, fruit juices, canned fish and meat, cereals, rice and peanut butter. (Please do not send food that has expired). Donations of soap, shampoo and toothpaste are also needed. Due to health regulations, we cannot accept home canned goods. If you are able to help out, please have your child bring their contribution to their classroom. Thank you in advance for making this annual event a huge success!

Weather Information 2016-17

Announcements of District-wide Closures and/or Delayed Openings of Schools



As winter weather has arrived, we want to remind parents/guardians, students, and staff of the Delta School District's winter weather procedures and announcements.

All schools in the Delta School District will remain **OPEN** if at all possible during winter weather, including snowfalls. Any district-wide closure will be decided by 7:00 a.m. at the latest and will be announced through the media as well as through the District and school websites. Please note that no announcement will be made stating that schools are open. Only closures and delayed openings will be announced.

Information about any district-wide closures will be sent to Metro Vancouver radio and television stations. Please check the following stations for school closure information:

Radio	Television
CBC AM 690 radio, 88.1 FM	Global BC
CKNW AM 980 radio	CBC TV
News AM 1130 radio	CTV BC
Fairchild AM 1470 radio	City TV

Announcements of school closures or delayed openings will be posted on the School District's website. Individual school closures due to unique circumstances (e.g., power outages) will be announced as early as possible on the District website as well as on the affected schools' websites. On occasion, schools may delay the start of the school day; if this happens, specific details will be posted on the school and District websites.

Student safety is the first priority of the Delta School District. Parents/Guardians are responsible for their children's safe travel to and from school. If, for any reason, a parent/guardian feels that a child cannot travel safely to school, then they should make other arrangements. Schools will be kept open except under extreme circumstances to provide the option of attendance for all, but the decision to attend is the responsibility of each family.

During extreme weather conditions it is also common for police and other authorities to advise citizens to avoid unnecessary travel. Parents should take this advice as well. Students will not be penalized for lack of attendance under such poor weather conditions. This is also a reminder to all students to dress warmly and wear appropriate clothing. Sidewalks and roads can be extremely slippery and so students walking to school are advised to take extra care.

At this time, we encourage you to review your own preparations for winter weather and ensure that you are familiar with your municipality's snow and ice response procedures. We request that you strictly adhere to parking restrictions in and around all Delta schools. Your child's school will contact you about any changes to driving routes that may be put into effect on streets adjacent to the school.

With your cooperation and adherence to winter weather procedures, we can help achieve safe conditions for students travelling to and from school. Please put safety first.

Dressing for the Weather

Although we enjoyed some wonderful fall weather and many warm sunny days, winter is now truly upon us. As the temperature continues to dip, it is important that the students come dressed in outerwear appropriate for the cold, wet and wind. Here, on the West Coast, rain is just a fact of life. On most days, students will be going outside at recess and lunchtime. It is



only in the case of **extremely poor** weather, that we designate the recess and/or lunch hour as an “in day”, which means that students are to stay inside and play quietly in their classrooms rather than venture outdoors. *We refrain from doing this unless absolutely necessary, as the children need the opportunity to get out in the fresh air* and be physically active before heading back into the classroom.



Not only do students need to be dressed warmly enough to enjoy themselves outside at recess and lunch, but having warm clothing is also essential in the event of an emergency or unexpected situation requiring a building evacuation. Many students are still coming to school without jackets, wearing shorts and hoodies ... even on the coldest, rainiest of days. Please ensure your children come to school dressed accordingly for being outside at recess and lunchtime (e.g. boots and a coat). Because our field also gets quite mucky and wet at this time of year, packing an extra pair of socks and pants into your child’s backpack is also suggested.

Term 1 Report Cards



On **Wednesday Dec. 14**, students will be bringing home their first, formal, written report card for the current school year. This is an exciting time for children and parents, a time to offer encouragement and support as well as a time to set realistic goals. As you sit down to discuss your child’s report card with him/her, keep in mind the following questions.

- **At what type of work does my child excel?** All children have strengths and it is important to look at areas of excellence as well as areas requiring attention. Celebrate your child’s successes.
- **What type of work is most challenging for my child?** Areas of challenge provide children with opportunities to demonstrate perseverance, diligence, and determination, virtues that we want to foster in our children.
- **What is my child’s attitude towards learning?** Attitude is a key ingredient to success. While we need to help children be realistic about what they can achieve, everyone does better with a winning attitude.
- **How can I support my child in his/her learning?** While a variety of homework activities may be assigned on any given night, use the report card to determine which subject area might require extra attention. This will provide a focus for those evenings when your child says, “But I don’t have any homework.” Regular practice with reading, spelling, or basic math facts will make a difference over time.
- **What goal(s) can we set together for the next term?** Together, with your child, choose something to work on and then make a plan for how to achieve the goal.

Thank you for your positive partnership with us in helping your child to succeed at school. If you have questions about how you can support your child in their learning, contact their classroom teacher. Together we can make a difference.

Student Safety – Sign in at the Office



This is a reminder to all parents and other visitors to please remember to sign in at the office when visiting or volunteering in the school for any reason (meeting, milk/snack/lunch program, morning reading, etc.) Not only is this important in terms of ensuring that all of our students are safe, it is also important in terms of ensuring that **you are safe and accounted** for in the event of an emergency.

Volleyball Season



On November 21 and 22 our Grade 6 and 7 Volleyball teams wrapped up their seasons with tournaments at Sacred Heart (grade 6) and DSS (grade 7). Both teams worked hard and improved over the season. They also represented our school very well and demonstrated excellent sportsmanship! Thank you to Mrs. Edworthy, Mme Shivji, Ms. Elliott, and Mr. Lapierre for coaching these enthusiastic groups of students!

Volunteers Needed!



1) Mme Valentino is looking for any adults with sewing skills to volunteer to help make vests for the choir. If you can help, please contact her at dvalentino@deltasd.bc.ca .

2) Mme Valentino is looking for any adults that have carpentry skills who might be able to build castors for our acoustic piano, or build a permanent dolly for it. If you can help, please contact her at dvalentino@deltasd.bc.ca.



Lost & Found



Please check the "Lost and Found" areas the next time you are in the school. It contains many clothing items, and *any unclaimed items will be donated to the clothing bank before we leave for Christmas Break*. To prevent items from being lost (and not found!), please identify your child's clothing with his/her name on the label.

Canadian Student Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey



Our school has been chosen to take part in Health Canada's 2016/2017 Canadian Student Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey (CSTADS). CSTADS asks students questions about tobacco, alcohol and drug use, bullying, mental health, and school connectedness. In British Columbia, the survey will be implemented by the University of Victoria and the University of Waterloo.

On January 31, 2017, students in grade 7 with parental permission will take part in the survey. The school will receive school-specific results and a \$100 honorarium by participating in the survey.

Please visit the project at cstads.ca for more information or call 1-877-472-4680.

PAC NEWS

PAC Meeting



The next PAC meeting will take place at 6:00 p.m. on January 10th in the staffroom. Babysitting will be provided. This is a terrific group of parents who work hard to support school activities. In addition, they are a nice group of people to get to know. Please join us, even if you have never been to a PAC meeting before!

SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATION

French Immersion Applications for the 2017/2018 School Year

Are you, or is someone you know, interested in finding out more about the French Immersion Programs in Delta? Applications for the French Program will be available at schools as of January 3rd, 2017. Parent Information events will be held after Christmas:

Early French Immersion (Kindergarten entry) – January 24th, 2017 6:30 pm
@ Ladner Elementary

Late French Immersion (Grade 6 entry) – February 2nd, 2017 6:30 pm
@ Ecole Cliff Drive



Applications for both the Early and Late French Immersion programs will be available at the school office in January. **Application deadlines:**

Early French Immersion is Friday, Friday 3rd, 2017 at 4:00 pm

Late Immersion is Friday, February 17th, 2017 at 4:00 pm.



Promotional Concerts for Early French Immersion

Charlotte Diamond

www.charlottediamond.com



Sunday, January 8th, 2017 @ 2:00 pm
South Delta's Theatre (Equinox) – 750 53rd St., Delta

Tickets will be \$3 in advance, \$5 at the door. Tickets will be available for purchase at the French Immersions school shortly.

- South Park, Ladner Elementary, Cliff Drive, Devon Gardens, Richardson Elementary, Sunshine Hills & Chalmers Elementary

Rumour has it that Charlotte Diamond will be retiring soon, so this may be the last opportunity to see her perform in Delta!

MESSAGES FROM YOUR PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE



Handwashing to Prevent the Spread of Germs

Germs are invisible and they are just about everywhere. When you touch a doorknob, pick up a book, or pet a dog your hands pick up germs. Handwashing prevents the spread of germs. Why not take a few minutes and review these steps with your family?

- ✓ Wet your hands under running water.
- ✓ Scrub with soap for a count of 30. Make sure you work up some suds.
- ✓ Rinse under running water for a count of 5.
- ✓ Dry with a clean towel.

All family members should wash their hands:

- ✓ After using the washroom.
- ✓ After petting an animal.
- ✓ Before eating.



For more information on hand washing and the most common infections, read the BC Health Files at www.bchealthguide.org/healthfiles or contact a Public Health Nurse.

Children and Tobacco Smoke

How does tobacco smoke affect my child's health?

Children exposed to second hand tobacco smoke are more likely to suffer from:

- ◆ Tonsillitis
- ◆ Ear infections
- ◆ Sore eyes, noses and throats
- ◆ Coughs, wheezes and asthma
- ◆ Chest infections
- ◆ Deaths or injuries in the house



Did you know that:

- ◆ Spending 24 hours in a smoker's home is like smoking 3 cigarettes?
- ◆ Spending 1 hour in a smoker's car is like smoking 3 cigarettes?
- ◆ National Non Smoking Week is the 3rd of January.

What can I do to help keep my child from starting to smoke?

- ◆ Make your home and car smoke free spaces
- ◆ Talk about tobacco with your child.



Why does My Health My Community matter to me?

Do your kids have safe places to play? Is work stressing you out? Do you know your neighbours? Do you have enough transportation options in your community? All of these things affect your health and well-being. Your participation will influence your community's priorities in improving population health.

If you are over the age of 18 and believe in the importance of the *My Health My Community*, please complete the following online survey, share your commitment with the people in your life – friends, family members, neighbours and co-workers and encourage them to take part.

It's easy to be a champion for *My Health My Community* – start by telling your family, friends and colleagues about the survey and why you've chosen to participate.

<https://www.myhealthmycommunity.org/survey.aspx>



CALENDAR REMINDERS



Thursday, December 8	PAC Christmas Craft Fair Evening
Friday, December 9	Hot Lunch
Wednesday, December 14	First Term Report Cards home
Friday, December 16	Last Day before Winter Vacation
Tuesday, January 3	School Reopens
Tuesday, January 10	PAC meeting, 6:00 pm
Friday, January 20	Special Lunch