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NEWSLETTER #5

December 6, 2017

Principal's Message



Dear Families,

The spirit of caring and sharing kindness with others is alive and well at Bridge. In case you missed it, the Global Group recently held a most successful cupcake sale to raise money for our local causes, the Richmond Christmas Fund, Covenant House and Children's Hospital. In fact, the fundraiser was so successful, thanks to your support and the hard work of the Global Group members, that we raised \$350. I am so proud of our dedicated group of change-makers, comprised of over 30 Grade 5, 6, and 7 students who baked cupcakes at home, stayed after school to decorate them and manned the tables. Their enthusiasm and dedication to helping others reflects one of our core values at Bridge, caring for others.

No doubt, the next few weeks will fly by with lots of merriment and festivities, at school and at home. No matter what holiday you celebrate our thoughts turn to sharing traditions with family, but also to helping those less fortunate than ourselves. Enjoy this season of joy. I look forward to seeing you all at our Winter Musical.

Sincerely, Wanda Salewski, Principal



WEBSITE

bridge.sd38.bc.ca

Dates to Remember:

- Dec. 7 - Hold and Secure/ Lockdown Drill
- Dec. 11 - Grade 6 Immunization
- Dec 12 - Dare Graduation
- Dec 13 - Band Concert 1:30
- Dec 15 - Term 1 Reports Home
- Dec. 16 -Breakfast with Santa
- Dec 20 - Winter Concert Time 1:15 pm and 6:30 pm
- Dec 22 - Winter Wonderland skating field trip to Minoru Arena
- Dec 22 - Last day of school before Winter Break
- Jan 8 - First day back at school following Winter Break

Bridge Wins Again

Write-on Bridge!!

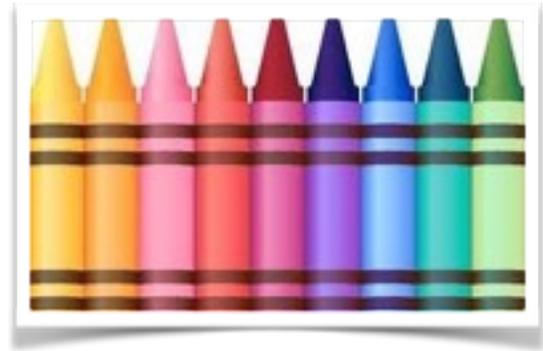


Congratulations to students in Div. 5 and 14, English Grades 5/6 and French Grades 6/7 who recently entered the Travel through My

Eyes essay contest. Thirteen Richmond schools participated in this contest that was sponsored by the World Duty Free Corporation. The top six essays from Bridge written by Sohena Bhogal, Inaaya Zahir, and Ella Zhu from Grade 6 and Renan Dobrer, Brady Wanlin and Camila Ledesma from grade 7 were submitted to the contest. I am very proud to announce that Ella Zhu won honourable mention for Grade 6 and Renan Dobrer won honorable mention for Grade 7. Each of these students won cash prizes and our school received \$500 for the library. This is the third year in a row that Bridge had two winners. Bravo, we are proud of you! A big thank you to Mme. Trewin and Mr. West who guided their students through the essay writing process. Please check our website to read the winning essays.

Kindergarten Registration

All Kindergarten registration is now done at the School Board Office. Please check the district website, www.sd38.bc.ca for information about documents required to register and dates.



Registration for Early French Immersion and Montessori must be done by 4:00 on January 16. Please remember, if your child is a sibling of a student already at Bridge, registration still needs to be completed by January 16. Parent information sessions for late French Immersion will be held on January 10 at Whiteside and January 11 at Diefenbaker. Please attend the one that is most convenient for you.

MATH GAMES

Many students at Bridge have been working on improving their strategies, number and spatial skills, perseverance, turn-taking and risk-taking through math games. Some of these games and activities are teacher created and others are commercial games that make great birthday or Christmas gifts. Here are some of our favourites in case you'd like to do some holiday shopping:

Blokus, Left Centre Right, Gobblet, Mancala, Otrio, Even Steven's Odd, Mastermind, Q-Bitz, SET, Tic Tac Two, Rock Me Archimedes, Yahtzee, Tantrix and Eternas.

Please see Mrs. Lin if you need more information about these games and other great math websites and apps.



This Year's Winter Concert - Snow Biz



Snow Biz is our upcoming Winter Musical. The entire school is learning new songs under the direction of Ms. Chiang and new lines under the direction of Mme Miller, Ms. Funston, and Ms. Aasen. Mme. Trewin and the decorating committee are getting the props ready and Mr. Reed is busy fine tuning the music system. This event is truly a whole school project with everyone pitching in. We can't wait to see your faces when we do the final performances on December 20th.

There will be two performances, one in the afternoon at 1:15 (doors open at 1:00) and one in the evening at 6:30 (doors open at 6:00). For the evening performance, the children should be at school, in their classrooms, no

later than 6:15. Please remember that parking will be at a premium, especially in the evening. If you live close to the school, it might be a good idea to walk. Please bring an item for the Food Bank as admission to the performance.

Many thanks to all our dedicated staff who contribute to this production by creating scenery, practicing songs, leading rehearsals and spending countless hours outside of the regular school day to make this concert so memorable.

Dare Grad



For the past ten weeks our Grade 5 students have been working with Constable Kandola from the Richmond RCMP on the DARE program. DARE stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education. Our students learn at an early age how to stand up for themselves and say no to drugs. This program will culminate in the DARE grad on Dec. 12 in the gym at 9:00. All grade 5 parents are invited to join us.

FOOD BANK

Division 13 is once again collecting canned goods and other non-perishable items for the annual Food Bank Drive. This very worthy cause supports Richmond families during the entire year and especially now, during the upcoming holiday season. Please send any donations of canned goods, non-perishable items, and toiletries to the school with your child to deposit in the classroom Food Bank box. Items will be picked up on Dec. 21.



Communicating Student Learning



This year marks the second year that we are reporting based on the of the New Curriculum. If you recall, last year, there were changes in the format of report cards as we began using a reporting platform provided by the Ministry of Education, My Ed BC. As in the past, letter grades are used for intermediate students and performance scales are used for primary students as an indication of achievement. Whereas in the past, all subjects were not reported upon each term, this year they are (with the exception of the new subjects listed below)

The following is a reminder of changes that took place last year, that will continue this year. There is no longer any place to report on effort (G, S or N) for Intermediate students. Effort and perseverance is an important aspect of learning and one that can help students greatly in life. As we feel that it is important for you to know how much effort your child is putting into work at school, it will be reported on anecdotally in the “Term comments” section that is now found at the end of the report card. This section also includes goals and ways to support learning.

Please remember to celebrate your child’s effort with him/her. It is not possible for every child to get straight A’s or exceeding expectations, but it is possible for every child to do his/her best and to feel proud of him/herself.

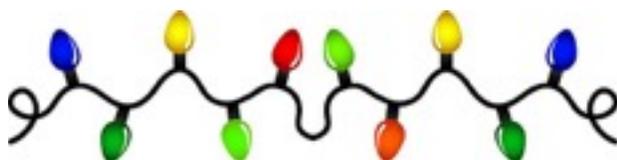
Another change has been in curriculum areas. Two new areas, Applied Design, Skills and Technology and Career Education, have been added and will be taught and reported on for all students in Grades K-7. Please refer to the Ministry of Education website (<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum>) for more information about these and other subjects as they relate to your child. Students in Grades K-5 will not receive comments or grades/performance scales (NM = No Mark) until the final term. Gr. 6 and 7 students will receive term comments in all reporting periods and a grade in the final term. As well as the above mentioned changes, two familiar subjects have been

renamed; Physical Education is now **Physical and Health Education** and Fine Arts is now **Arts Education**.

Probably the most significant change this year is that some of our teachers are beginning to use e-portfolios as a way to communicate student learning. This is a platform that invites you, as parents to go online to view your child’s work. The work might take the form of a short video of your child reading or explaining his/her learning or a photo of a project. The goal of e-portfolios is to give you a greater understanding of the process of learning rather than simply a final evaluation. As well as teachers’ comments, there is an opportunity for you to provide comments. This year, all teachers will be doing a standard paper report as has been done in previous years, but looking ahead to the next few years, it is likely that reporting will change and e-portfolios will play a significant role in communicating student learning.

In the final report cards, there will be teacher assessment as well as student self-assessment. The concept of self-assessment has been around for many years, but this year, it is different in that it will be based on the Core Competencies (Communication, Creative and Critical Thinking, and Personal and Cultural Identity and Social Responsibility). Guidelines and procedures are being developed by the District and will be communicated to families later in the school year.

Please remember to take time to talk to your child about his/her report card, to celebrate progress made and to discuss upcoming goals for the new term. Thank you, in advance, for supporting your child’s learning.



Lock Down & Hold and Secure Drills

During the school year, we are required to conduct a number of emergency practices, such as fire, earthquake, and safety drills. These safety drills were formerly known as CODE YELLOW and CODE RED, but are now referred to as HOLD & SECURE and LOCKDOWN. These practices include opportunities for us to make sure that the adults and children in our school are prepared in the event of an emergency situation. Teachers review the procedures with students before the drills and because of the frequency of our practices, the procedures become second nature in the event of a real emergency. While it is very unlikely that a real event of any kind of emergency will occur in the school life of most students, we hope that the skills that they learn will stay with them.

We will be practicing a Hold and Secure drill on Dec. 7. In a Hold and Secure drill, the outside doors of the school are locked. This would occur if police had advised us of a situation they were dealing with in our neighbourhood (ie. broken gas line or perhaps an animal on our field) During a Lockdown drill, all of the doors, inside and outside, are locked and students stay inside their classrooms with their teachers until All Clear is announced.



A Lockdown would occur when there is an intruder or concern within the building. In the very unlikely occurrence of an actual Hold and Secure or Lockdown, signs would be posted on the front door telling parents we are in a Hold and Secure or a Lockdown and would be asked to check the District website for information, rather than call the school. Any students outside are brought into the building, if safe to do so, until an All Clear is announced. If students cannot be brought back inside safely, their class or duty teachers would take them to our offsite safe location at McRoberts Secondary. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please speak to Mrs. Salewski or Mrs. Lin. Your child's safety is our most important priority. As well, please remember that we live in a very safe community and look out for each other.

WINTER WONDERLAND

This year the entire school will be skating at the Winter Wonderland at Minoru Arena on December 22. You will soon be receiving a notice outlining all the details including when each division will be skating. As skates are hard to tie, especially for small fingers, we are inviting parents to join us to help tie skates and keep track of lost mittens. You are welcome to skate as well, but will have to cover the cost of your skating and rentals.



Piano Players Needed for Carollers

Looking for Parent Volunteers

During this holiday season, we would like to start the mornings by sharing some cheer and singing holiday songs. This would probably be during the last week of school from 8:15 until the bell rings at 8:40. If you can come and help by playing the piano, please let the office know.



Incentive Outdoor Academy:

an academically driven outdoor leadership program at **MacNeill Secondary School**

The Incentive Program at MacNeill attracts high achieving, academically motivated students. Through the enriched curriculum and outdoor leadership opportunities, students are able to expand their horizons and challenge themselves mentally and physically.

Students join our program in grade 8 and stay until grade 10, enjoying a warm, supportive atmosphere where students work with 4 teachers. Highlights of the program include a 3-day biology field trip to Bamfield Marine Science Center, kayaking, sailing, snow hikes, PNE physics, an annual science fair, and much more. Some of the outdoor activities offer students the opportunity to gain nationally recognized certifications. No prior outdoor experience is required. Students in the program can participate in and benefit from MacNeill Secondary programs such as clubs, sports teams, and band.

Depending on activity choices, yearly fees for the program can range from \$1000-2200. These costs include electives, PE, enrichment field trips, and two overnight trips (3 days and 6 days).

Come and find out more! Info presentations:

Tues. January 16 at 7:30 pm in Room 226 MacNeill Secondary

Thurs. Jan. 25 at 7:30 pm in Room 226 MacNeill Secondary

For application information and to find out more, go to our website:
<http://macneill.sd38.bc.ca/incentive>



PAC CORNER

NEXT PAC MEETING

The next PAC meeting will be January 23rd at 6:30 in the library. Babysitting will be provided.

Upcoming Events / Dates to Remember:



Breakfast with Santa - Saturday, December 16th

Please mark your calendars for this Bridge tradition. Come and sit on Santa's knee and have delicious pancakes.

"Tickets available now through Munch-a-Lunch for Breakfast with Santa. This event requires parent volunteers in order to run. Please send your volunteer forms back to school by December 8, 2017. Grade 6/7's who are volunteering as elves will be signing up at school and will be bringing home a notice for parents to sign in order to confirm that they may volunteer at the times they have selected. These forms will be sent out this week and are due back to school by Monday, Dec 11. Thanks for your help!"

Join William Bridge PAC on Facebook for regular updates and links to newsletters. "Like" us at www.facebook.com/WilliamBridgeElementaryPac

Your 2017-18 PAC Executive

Chair	Andrew Scallion
Vice Chairs	Lynda Murdoch, Joanna Newman
Secretary	Catherine Sugiarto
Treasurer	Eric Yue
Members at Large	Sandy Pellizzari, Christine Fawcett, Susie Cabral

Please contact us by email anytime with any questions, comments, or concerns at bridgepac@gmail.com We look forward to hearing from you.