



December 2017

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NEWSLETTER #4 December 8th, 2017

Mrs. Scott's Scoop

Only 16 more shopping days! This year is certainly flying by.

Have you noticed the beautiful Christmas artwork in our hallways right now? We held "Deck the Halls" on Dec. 1st where all of our students worked on decorating the Bernard hallways for Christmas. It looks so festive in our school. We also started our Canned Food Drive (see below), and our Christmas carol singing. We are definitely getting into the spirit of Christmas!



Report Cards

Our teachers have been working very hard to complete report cards for all of our families. You will be receiving these on Friday, Dec. 15th. If you have any questions about your child's report card, please contact your child's teacher directly. Thank-you.



Inclement Weather

This time of the year can bring weather that we need to be prepared for, especially first thing in the morning. Just a reminder to parents that, in the event that the snow falls in Chilliwack, please check out Bernard's website, or the Bernard Parent Facebook page, or listen to the local radio station (FM98.3) in the morning to see if school has been cancelled due to weather conditions.

Also, students have been reminded that the snow has to stay on the ground while playing outside. While we all like to have fun with the snow, we really don't want to have anyone getting hurt outside. Thanks for playing safe, everyone!

At Bernard, Attendance Matters! ☺

I hope that your children have been telling you about our new initiative at Bernard! Our entire staff has been researching and putting together a plan to help our students get to school on time, and to attend regularly. Parents, the research indicates that kids who come to school on time, and on a regular basis, do far better academically and socially/emotionally than students who are late, or stay at home on a regular basis. We have been holding draws for students who attend regularly, with some wonderful incentives. Parents, please help us to lower our number of lates and absentees...we don't want any of our students (your children) missing out on the learning that they need! If we can get below 20 lates, we will be planning a Spirit Day for the whole school! Thank you so much for your support with this! ☺



Bernard's Christmas Turkey Lunch

Our special school lunch is planned for Friday, December 15th. We can't wait to serve our students with a delicious turkey dinner and goodies. What a wonderful way to spread Christmas cheer. We would like to recognize **Ken's Tire and Wheel** for making a very generous donation to be able to feed all of our students. We'd also like to thank **Canada Safeway** and **Lehigh Trucking** for their donations as well. Our community really comes together for our students. What an amazing town we live in!

Bernard's Christmas Tree at the Coast Hotel

Every year, our school decorates a Christmas tree at the Coast Hotel. The theme this year is a "Rainbow" theme. Go and check it out. Thank you to the teachers and students who worked so hard to decorate this tree.



News from the Library

November was an amazing month at Bernard Elementary! In November we learned we were the recipients of a very generous gift from the Free Masons. The Free Masons donated two brand new bikes and two brand new bike helmets! The exciting news is that every child in our school has the opportunity to win a bike! Every time your child completes 25 nights of reading and returns the tear off record to school, your child's name is entered 5 times. Our most recent statistics show that 152 students have read 25 nights, 92 students have read 50 nights and 31 of our students have read 75 nights. There is excellent participation in primary grades but we are hoping for greater participation in the intermediate grades. If you haven't started, it is not too late. You can start today - keep track on the Home Reading Program card that was sent home in September and send those pages in when 25 nights have been completed. If you need a Home Reading Record, please see me in the library. Let's get everyone reading! Again, I wish to thank Mrs. Nancy Piper and Mrs. Nathalie Moojelski for their tireless efforts keeping track of participation and handing out the incentives that accompany each milestone. I appreciate you ladies!

On November 29, Eric Wilson, a Canadian author visited our school and spoke to our grade 3,4,5, and 6 students. The students and teachers appreciated and enjoyed his presentation - ask your child to tell you more about Eric Wilson. Some students were even able to get his autograph! I am currently trying to book an author for the primary students. I hope I have some news about that in the New Year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Mrs. Ens



WE ARE HAVING A BOTTLE DRIVE !!



SAVE those holiday beverage containers to donate to our **Intermediate Bottle Drive**. We are raising funds for our Year-end Activity Day. From JANUARY 8 – 12, 2018, you can bring your empty, recyclable containers to the school. Collection will be in the following classrooms:

- Jan. 8 – Mr. Slykhuis
- Jan. 9 – Ms. Marcinowski
- Jan. 10 – Ms. Jones
- Jan. 11 – Mr. Norton
- Jan 12 – Mr. Ball

We appreciate your support. Any pre-sorting and pre-counting would be AWESOME! We will accept cans, plastic and glass bottles, juice boxes, and foil Tetra packs.

Canned Food Drive

We are collecting non-perishables again this year. Please send items that you think families will really be able to use this winter (eg. something that you would serve your own family ☺). The deadline for the canned food drive is the morning of Thursday, December 15th. We are having a school competition this year to see if we can beat the number of non-perishable items that we collected last year (897 non-perishable items). If we beat that number, Mrs. Scott will give the students an extra recess for a day. ☺ Thank you for your donations this holiday season.

Christmas Carol Sing-Along

We would like to invite parents and community members to our school for our annual Christmas Carol Sing-Along. This will take place on Dec. 22nd (our last day of school) starting at 1:45 in the gym. Parents are invited to come and join us....bring your singing voices!



Christmas Concert

Parents will have a choice of 2 concert times again this year. The first one will be taking place on Thursday, Dec. 21st from 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m., and the second one will be on the same day from 6:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m. The dress rehearsal will take place the Wednesday before (Dec. 20th). Come on out and see our talented students ☺!



Lost and Found

We have our Lost and Found items displayed in the front hallway right now. Please make sure that your son/daughter checks for missing items because we will be collecting anything that has not been picked up before the Christmas holidays and donating these items to a local organization in town. Thank you.



Are your Child's Immunizations Up to date for Kindergarten?

Vaccines are a healthy choice for your child. They provide immunity and prevent

disease. Two vaccines are free for Kindergarten age children starting at age 4:

- Tdap-IPV: protects against tetanus diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough) and polio
- MMRV: protects against measles, mumps, rubella and varicella (chickenpox)

If Public Health does not have up to date information about your child's immunizations, you will get a letter from your local Public Health Unit.

As soon as possible please complete and return this letter to your local Public Health

Unit or school (attention School Nurse).

For an immunization appointment contact your family doctor, local pharmacist (for those 5 years of age and older), or Public Health.

To book an immunization appointment with Public Health:

- Residents of Fraser East (Mission, Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Agassiz and Hope), call **604-702-4906**
- Residents in any other area of Fraser Health, call **604-476-7087**

For more information: www.fraserhealth.ca/immunizations

Volunteer Orientation

If you plan on volunteering at Bernard Elementary in any capacity, I would like to provide a Volunteer Orientation for you. This will be the last call for any parents who would like to be volunteers. I can be reached at deneen_scott@sd33.bc.ca for any requests for an orientation. Thank-you.

Ideas for families:

Have you ever heard your child say, "I'm bored," or "What can I do?" Well, here are 21 ideas of things that you can do to have fun with your children over the holidays.

21 Things To Do Over Christmas Break

<https://www.thespruce.com/things-to-do-during-christmas-break-3542442>

Dates to Remember:

Dec. 11 th	Ms. Marcinowski/Mr. Norton/Mrs. Kostrzewa's classes go to Fort Langley
Dec. 14 th	Popcorn Day
Dec. 15 th	Christmas lunch for the students
Dec. 15 th	Report cards go home
Dec. 20 th	Dress Rehearsal
Dec. 21 st	Christmas Concert (1:00 and 6:30 p.m.)
Dec. 22 nd	Last day for "Canned Food Drive"
Dec. 22 nd	Christmas Sing-Along - 1:45
Jan. 8 th , 2018	(Monday) Schools re-open (Bottle Drive starts)



We wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

From the Bernard Staff 😊