

February 2018

Deneen Scott, Principal | Tel 604.795.7840 | deneen_scott@sd33.bc.ca | <http://bernard.sd33.bc.ca>
Jeff Hanson, Vice-Principal / jeff_hanson@sd33.bc.ca

Newsletter #6 February 6th, 2018

Mrs. Scott's Scoop:

2018 started out with a lot of excitement in the air when the snow stayed and we enjoyed building snowmen and snow forts on the back school fields. We had many interesting creations and a lot of laughter. I love that white stuff!



January, February and March are very busy months for our students and teachers. ☺ With our attendance initiative and more families understanding the importance of getting to school every day and being on time, we are clearly seeing a difference in how well our students are learning. Thank you for making attendance an important part of your everyday routines. ☺

Kindergarten Registration:

Yes, it's that time of the year. We are now accepting Kindergarten registrations for the 2018-2019 school year. Our secretary, Mrs. McCarthy, is keeping an eye on our on-line registrations. Spots are filling up quickly! ☺ Don't forget, you have to register on-line now @ www.sd33.bc.ca/e-registration ☺.



Ready, Set, Learn:

Our "Ready, Set, Learn Open House" will be taking place Feb. 22nd at 1:10 - 2:30. This event is for all 3 and 4-year-old preschoolers (and their parents ☺). We review Early Learning and discuss some ideas

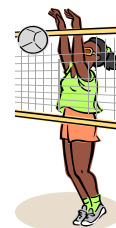
that parents can practice at home with their children to help prepare them for Kindergarten. If you are able to attend this event, we ask that you RSVP to Mrs. McCarthy by calling the school office or by emailing lianne_mccarthy@sd33.bc.ca, so that we know how many families to prepare for. We will also be holding a Kindergarten Orientation closer to the end of the school year. ☺

PAC Meeting:

Our next PAC meeting is on Feb. 6th at 6:30. Don't forget...all Bernard parents are part of the PAC! We would love to have you come out and listen to, take part in, or simply come and meet folks at our next PAC meeting. Babysitting is provided. Thank you! ☺

Volleyball Teams:

We had a lot of excitement recently with our boys' and girls' volleyball teams! They both have year-end tournaments happening on Feb. 5th and Feb. 6th. Thank you, again, to these talented athletes for playing on our school teams, and for showing wonderful sportsmanship throughout this season. Thank you also to Mr. Ball and Ms. Hooper (boys' coaches ☺), and Mrs. Marcinowski and Ms. Jones (girls' coaches ☺), for taking the time to volunteer for our kids.



Extreme Weather Conditions

Just a reminder that should we experience extreme winter weather, please check out our school district's website (<http://sd33.bc.ca>) or our school's website (<http://bernard.sd33.bc.ca>) for up-to-the-minute information. You can also check out our Bernard Parent Advisory Council Facebook Page, or tune in to STAR FM 98.3 for information on school closures. All school closures will be announced on the radio after 6:30 a.m. and will be on our website and Facebook page as soon as I am notified. Please do not call the school or the board office as the website information, Facebook information, and radio reports come directly from the Superintendent of schools.

Also, please make sure that your child is dressed for the weather! We have been experiencing many cold days recently. Students should have their heads covered and their hands covered for sure. Warm boots are also a must. Our back field can be very muddy and slippery ☹! Thanks, parents.

Pink Shirt Day:

"Pink Shirt Day" this year is on Wednesday, Feb. 28th. As always, we are asking students to try to wear pink (or red if there is no pink at home) on this day. This is an anti-bullying campaign that every school in Chilliwack supports through various activities around the district. Thank you to all Bernard families for supporting "Pink Shirt Day"! We will be holding a special assembly this day as well (1:45).

PAC Bake Sale:

On March 5th and 6th our PAC is going to hold a Bake Sale after school. They are asking for parents to help out with baking some yummy treats for our families. Parents are able to purchase the baked items after school on these days and take them home to share with their families. Students will not be eating these goodies at the school. Thank you for your continued support of our PAC initiatives.



Message from DPAC:

Invitation to Introductory Parent Advocacy Workshop

*The Chilliwack District Parent Advisory Council is pleased to be hosting BCCPAC's newly created **Introductory Parent Advocacy Workshop** on the evening of February 22nd, 2018. While this event is open to all parents and caregivers in SD 33, we would also like to encourage each of our school PAC executive members to attend in order to become familiar with the new resources now available.*

Background information:

One of BCCPAC's goals for the year has been to update and develop self-advocacy resources for parents. They have created a PowerPoint presentation and discussion that will be made available to PACs and DPACs in order for them to be able to offer the workshop to their members in the future, and be prepared to offer assistance to parents needing to advocate for their child.

Description:

At this FREE workshop, you will learn how to advocate for your child's needs, including such processes as:

- preparing for meetings*
- navigating district policy and procedures*
- working collaboratively towards solutions*

Together we will explore example scenarios, so you want to miss this informative event!

Light snacks and refreshments will be provided. Click here to register through [Eventbrite](#)

About the Presenters:

Jen Mezei, BCCPAC President has been involved with PAC and DPAC for over a decade - including five years as the Burnaby DPAC Chair. She has been a parent representative on Education, Special Education, LGBTQ, Advanced Learning and Policy committees. Jen is passionate about providing parents

with the opportunity to provide meaningful and informed input. She believes that the sharing of information is necessary to build capacity within our PACs and DPACs and to strengthen the parent voice in the collaborative process. Jen has three children and works in the renewable energy sector. She is the 2010 winner of the BCCPAC George Matthews award for excellence in Parent Leadership.

John Gaipman, BCCPAC Executive Director has been in public education for 37 years. For the past fourteen years, he has been Superintendent of Schools; twelve of which were with the Victoria School District and two with the New Westminster School District. John is married with two daughters and one granddaughter. John is excited to be the new Executive Director of BCCPAC. It is his hope, through his vast experience in public education, he will be able to support the causes of BCCPAC.

Dates to Remember:

- Feb. 6th - Girls volleyball tournament
- Feb. 6th - PAC meeting 6:30
- Feb. 7th - Mr. Norton's class visits the public library
- Feb. 12th - Family Day - no school
- Feb. 13th - Ballet group comes to perform and teach our students - 11:00 - 12:00
- Feb. 15th - Grade 2's go to Science World / Strong Start is closed
- Feb. 16th - Hot Lunch - hotdogs ☺
- Feb. 21st - Mr. Norton/Mrs. Kostrzewa/Ms. Marcinowski's classes go swimming
- Feb. 22nd - Ready, Set, Learn - 1:10 - 2:30
- Feb. 22nd - Popcorn Day
- Feb. 22nd - PAC Movie Night - more info coming soon
- Feb. 23rd - District Professional Day - no school
- Feb. 28th - **Pink Shirt Day** - Anti-bullying (all students to wear a pink or red shirt to school)
Special "Anti-bullying" assembly - parents are welcome - 1:45
- Mar. 5th and 6th - PAC Bake Sale - after school
- Mar. 13th - PAC meeting at 6:30
- Mar. 14th - Report cards go home
- Mar. 16th - Egg Drop / Last day of school for Spring Break
- Apr. 3rd - Back to school (Tuesday)

