

DIAMOND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

December, 2017

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that Christmas is fast approaching, and there are less than three weeks until Winter Vacation! Our December calendar is filled with many exciting events and activities. Attached is the calendar for the month.

Parent-Teacher Conferences & Progress Report Covers

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for next Thursday, December 7th, beginning at 2:15 and continuing until 8:00 p.m. *Parents may phone Sue at the office to book an appointment starting on Monday, December 4th.* If you are unable to attend a conference on this day, and you would like to set up an appointment to discuss your son or daughter's progress, please do not hesitate to call the school to arrange an alternate appointment. ***Please note that students will be dismissed at 1:45 p.m. on Thursday, December 7th, and there will be no after school programs on this day!***

Students' progress reports will be sent home on Tuesday, December 5th. Please ensure that you sign and return your son/daughter's progress report cover to the school as soon as possible after this date.

"Holiday Programming" Winter Production

The Kindergarten to Grade Nine students are pleased to present their annual winter production called *Holiday Programming*. Performances will be held at the school on Thursday, December 14th, in the afternoon at 12:45 p.m. and then again in the evening on the same day at 6:30 p.m. Due to the large number of students involved in the production, the show will run approximately one hour and forty-five minutes in length. Admission to the show will be as always by donation of food items, toys, or money to the Surrey Food Bank. An R.S.V.P. and costume requirements will be sent home next week.

Charlotte Diamond Workshops

We are very excited to have Charlotte Diamond performing at the school on the afternoon of Tuesday, December 19th, for music workshops with students in the primary and intermediate classes. Parents, grandparents and siblings are welcome to attend. The workshops are at the following approximate times:

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 12:30 – 1:15 p.m. | Kindergarten and Grade One |
| 1:15 – 2:00 p.m. | Grades Two & Three students |
| 2:00 – 2:45 p.m. | Grades Four to Six students |

All of Charlotte's music is available for purchase at the school and makes great Christmas gifts! She also has "hug bug" puppets, as well as music books, available for purchase. Students can visit Charlotte's website at www.charlottediamond.com.

Special Lunch

The special lunch in December is *Subway* on Friday, December 15th. An order form is attached with the newsletter.

Grade Two Field Trip to 4 Cats Art Studio

The Grade Two students participated in a polymer clay workshop at 4 Cats Art Studio in Surrey today, Friday, December 1st.

Kindergarten Christmas Craft Workshop

To get into the festive season and enhance the Art curriculum, the Kindergarten class will be participating in a craft workshop during the afternoon of Wednesday, December 20th. Further information on the workshop will be sent home later in the month.

Pinnacle Program Reminder

Just a reminder that due to the Winter Production there will be no after school program (*Games Galore*) or homework room on *Thursday, December 14th*. In addition, there will be no programs after school on *Thursday, December 21st* due to early dismissal of the students directly after the Christmas party at 2:00 p.m.

Christmas Party

The Kindergarten through Grade Six students will be participating in Christmas activities at the school on Thursday afternoon, December 21st. They may wish to dress up for this occasion, and they are *not* required to wear uniform clothing on this day. We are requesting that each student bring a food item (enough for 3-4 children) to contribute to the party. *Since we have students with severe allergy to peanuts and nuts, please try to avoid sending snacks that contain these items.* Also we would like to encourage some healthy snack items (e.g. fruits, vegetables, fruit bars, bread sticks, nacho chips, popcorn, yogurt, cheese & crackers, homemade cookies or muffins, drinks, etc.). *Dishes that you wish returned to you must be labeled!*

On this day students attend from 8:55 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at which time they will be dismissed for the holidays.

Winter Vacation

Students will be dismissed for Winter Vacation after the Christmas party ***on Thursday, December 21st. Please note that students will be dismissed at 2 p.m. on this day.***

School will reconvene after the holidays on ***Monday, January 8th***.

Snow Day Procedures

In the event of snow and winter conditions, your son/daughter's teacher will phone you first thing in the morning to let you know that school is cancelled. There will also be a message left on the school's answering machine, as well as on the school's website at www.diamondelementary.ca, in regard to school cancellations.

A Ongoing Plea to Help Those in Need

For the month of December we are continuing to collect donations for the growing number of homeless people across the lower mainland trying to survive outside in our wet, cold winter weather. Please feel free to bring in any of the following gently used or new items to donate to *Gateway/ Front Room Shelter which provides services for the homeless* in Surrey:

- warm winter adult clothing, including winter coats/jackets, sweaters, long-sleeved tops, undershirts, vests, gloves, rain ponchos, winter hats (toques), scarves, socks
- blankets
- work related clothing (i.e. work shirts, jeans, coveralls, heavy duty gloves)
- winter boots, work boots and running shoes
- personal care items and toiletries

If you have any donations to help with this very worthy cause, please put them in our collection bin in the school's upstairs entry hallway.

Diamond School staff would like to thank all of the parents who have helped us out in so many ways this fall with field trips, special events, donating items to the school, etc. Your support is invaluable to us. We wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable Winter Vacation, filled with lots of quality time with family and friends!

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM ALL THE STAFF AT DIAMOND SCHOOL!