

DIAMOND/RELEVANT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

November 2018

Dear Parents,

With autumn fully underway, students have settled into the routines and expectations of their classes, and they are demonstrating an impressive work ethic and commitment to their studies. Socially, the new students have blended into the school with their kind and friendly natures, and we are especially pleased with the positive social interaction and responsibility that we observe around the school every day!

The following newsletter contains information on important dates and activities for November.

Diwali Celebration – November 7th

Diwali, also known as the festival of lights, is the biggest festival celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs and Buddhists around the world. Its date changes every year and commemorates different things depending on local tradition and culture. This year Diwali begins on Wednesday, November 7th and students are welcome to wear traditional clothing on this day; otherwise, they can wear the regular dress code.

Professional Day – November 9th

There will be no classes on Friday, November 9th as teachers will be having a professional day.

Remembrance Day

The school will be closed on Monday, November 12th, for the Remembrance Day holiday. *Please note there are poppies available for purchase at the office prior to the holiday with all proceeds going to the Cloverdale Royal Canadian Legion.*

Take Our Kids to Work Day

On Wednesday, November 14th, students in Grade 9 will participate in *Take Our Kids to Work Day*, an annual national program where Grade 9 students spend the day at work with a parent or family member. This important experience helps them to learn valuable workplace skills and fulfills curriculum learning outcomes in the Career Education Program by helping students make connections between school, the world of work, and their own futures.

Grade 7, 8 and 9 Escape Room Field Trips

Students in Grades 7,8 and 9 will be going on a field trip to Exit in Langley. While there they will decode clues to solve challenging puzzles and use team building skills in a fun environment. The Grade '8s will be going November 15th, the Grade 7's on November 19th and the Grade '9s on November 26th. Permission forms for each grade will be sent home later this month.

Grade 12 Excursion to We Day

On Thursday, November 22nd students in Grade 12 will be attending We Day at Rogers Arena in Vancouver. This inspiring event brings together world-renowned speakers, performers and tens of thousands of youth to celebrate a year of action that transformed communities and changed lives. Permission forms will be sent home shortly.

Grade 7 & 8 Digital Tour

Students in Grades 7 & 8 will be participating in a digital tour of the Natural History Gallery at The Royal BC Museum in Victoria on Wednesday, November 28th. They will be taken through many exhibits such as the Haida Gwaii Coastal Forests, Seashores, and Climate and Atmosphere galleries. They will then have a chance to ask questions about what they have seen. The cost for this tour is \$1.00 per student and will be collected by homeroom teachers on the day of the tour.

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November Special Lunches

Students have the option of ordering lunch from Pita Pit on Friday, November 16th. Also, on Thursday, November 29th the Grade 12 students will be organizing a pizza lunch to raise funds for their graduation. Order forms for these lunches will be sent home next week.

Progress Reports & Parent-Teacher Conferences

Report cards will be sent home at the beginning of December. Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for Thursday, December 6th, beginning at 2:15 and continuing until 8:00 p.m. *Parents may phone Laura-Lynn at the office to book an appointment starting on Friday, November 30th (please note we will not be booking appointments prior to this date).* 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 talk to your child's homeroom teacher or call the school to arrange an alternate appointment. *Please note that students will be dismissed at 1:45 p.m. on Thursday, December 6th, and there will be no after school programs on this day!*

A Plea to Help Those in Need

There are a growing number of homeless people across the lower mainland trying to survive in our wet, cold winter weather. Homeless shelters and food banks are desperately seeking donations. Throughout November we will be collecting gently used or new clothing or other useful items to donate to the Gateway/Front Room Shelter which provides services for the homeless in Surrey. If you have any donations to help with this very worthy cause, please put them in our collection bin in the school's main entry hallway. The following is a list of items needed:

- Warm weather adult clothing, including winter jackets/coats, 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

Communication between home and school is very important to us. Please do not hesitate to come in or call the school at any time if you have questions, concerns or ideas that you would like to discuss.

Diamond/Relevant Staff