

DIAMOND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

November, 2018

Dear Parents,

The Halloween parties yesterday were 'spooktacular' fun with lots of exciting activities for everyone! There were so many original and amazing costumes that helped create a truly wonderfully festive atmosphere!! The fabulous assortment of foods sent in by the parents for the occasion was truly appreciated.

The Scholastic Book Fair at the start of October was the most successful one in Diamond history! We would like to extend an incredibly tremendous thank you to the parents who purchased books and/or volunteered to help run the event. We truly surpassed our goal and made over \$2700 in sales which earns the school \$1500 in credit towards new books and resources for the classrooms. Thank you so much for your amazing support!

Thanks also to everyone who brought in food items for the Thanksgiving Food Bank drive at the beginning of October. The Surrey Food Bank was delighted to receive all the generous donations from our school! Congratulations to the Kindergarten and Grade Six classes for collecting the largest amount of food items and winning a *No-Dress Code Day!*

Attached is our calendar of events for November.

November Special Lunches

Special lunches in November include a Pita Pit lunch on Wednesday, November 14th, as well as Little Caesars lunch on Thursday, November 29th. An order form for the Pita Pit lunch is attached to the newsletter; and a Little Caesars lunch order form will be sent home later in the month.

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 for students on Friday, November 9th, as there is a professional day scheduled.

Remembrance Day – November 12th

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 this date with all proceeds going to the Cloverdale Royal Canadian Legion.*

Wear Your Favourite Outfit Clothing Day – November 16th

The Kindergarten through Grade Six classes will be participating in a special clothing day on Friday, November 16th. 'Wear Your Favourite Outfit' Day is all about embracing others' ideas and including everyone, meaning on this day you can wear an item of clothing or outfit that is your absolute favourite without fear of judgement. Superhero costume? Go for it! Formal wear? Lookin' sharp! Sporting uniform of your beloved team? Yes! .Those rather strange trousers you think the world might not be ready for? Give it a go! Perhaps you have an item of clothing you only get to wear once or twice a year, or perhaps you have an outfit that you don't have the opportunity to wear and wish you could wear more often. Well, now is your chance!

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 Sue 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 child's progress, please do not hesitate to talk to their 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!*

CLASS SPECIAL EVENTS & FIELD TRIPS:

Grade Five Field Trip to Historic Stewart Farmhouse – November 8th

The Grade Five class will be going to the Historic Stewart Farmhouse to participate in a workshop called *Immigrant Perspectives* on Thursday, November 8th. A permission form, along with further information is attached to the newsletter.

Grade Six “Exit” Escape Room Field Trip – November 19th

The Grade Six class will be going to the “Exit” Escape Room in Langley on Monday, November 19th. They will be transported back in time and will have to use their logic and teamwork skills to try and escape from the four different themed rooms. A permission form is attached to the newsletter.

Grades One & Two Field Trips to Create-It Emporium – November 22nd & 23rd

On Thursday, November 22nd, the Grade One students will be visiting the Create-It Emporium in Cloverdale to explore their creativity with paint. The Grade Two class will be visiting the Emporium the next day on Friday, November 23rd. The workshop form will be sent home next week.

Grade Four Welcome Tour at Surrey Museum – November 23rd

The Grade Four class will be touring the newly renovated Surrey Museum on Friday, November 23rd. Further details will be forwarded at a later date.

Grade Three *People of the River* Workshop – November 26th

To enhance their Humanities program, the Grade Three students will be participating in a *People of the River* workshop at the Langley Museum on Monday, November 26th. A permission form will be sent home later in the month.

Kindergarten Field Trip to 4 Cats Art Studio – November 30th

The Kindergarten class will be going to the 4 Cats Art Studio to participate in an interactive clay workshop on Friday, November 30th. Further details, along with the permission form, will be sent home later in the month.

A Plea to Help Those in Need

There are a growing number of homeless people across the lower mainland trying to survive outside in our wet, cold winter weather. Across the lower mainland, homeless shelters and food banks are desperately seeking donations, and our elementary staff and students would like to help! Throughout November we will be collecting gently used or new clothing or other useful items to donate to Gateway/Front Room Shelter which provides services for the homeless in Surrey. Please use the following list as a guideline for items needed:

- 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.

Cold Weather Reminders

With the weather turning colder, it is important for students to come to school with a coat, as well as a school sweater for wearing inside the classes. Gloves or mittens are also advisable to send along on colder days if your child plans to go outside at recess or lunch.

As cold and flu season is upon us, it would be greatly appreciated if parents would send a box of tissues (Kleenex) to your child's homeroom teacher to add to the classroom supply. Thank you to those parents who have already done so!

An Important Clothing Reminder

Please ensure that ***all school clothing is clearly labeled*** with the student's name, and that s/he has not accidentally come home with another student's school sweater or shirt. Thank you!

If at any time you have any questions, concerns, or ideas that you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to call the school.

Diamond School Staff