DIAMOND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
February 2020

Dear Parents,

February has arrived, bringing plenty of wet and chill! Please check out this newsletter for information on this month's activities and events.

2020-2021 Re-Registration

It's that exciting time of year again; re-registration for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year is just around the corner. Information and instructions on how to re-register students who are currently attending Diamond School will be sent out to parents and guardians over the upcoming week. Stay tuned for exciting information about our new online re-registration process! New Student Application forms for all new (not currently attending) students, including siblings of current students, are available now on our website.

Message from the Ministry of Education

- B.C. Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry has just announced the first case of novel coronavirus has been confirmed in B.C. - a man in his 40's who is isolated at home. https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0015-000151
- The Ministry of Education will continue to work closely with the Ministry of Health, local health authorities and other levels of government to ensure students and educators are kept informed and safe.
- B.C. has a strong ongoing monitoring system in place, nationally and internationally, through its local health authorities. At this point, there are no reasons for parents, guardians or school staff to be concerned.
- The Provincial Health Officer was clear that close contacts to the first case of novel coronavirus are not showing symptoms and are being monitored closely. The person who has novel coronavirus is in isolation and all public health protocols have been followed. We will continue to communicate when there are developments.
- The BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) has more information on its website about coronavirus (2019-nCoV) http://www.bccdc.ca/about/news-stories/stories/2020/information-on-novel-coronavirus.
- The BCCDC recommendations to reduce the risk of exposure are the same as fighting colds and flu:
    - Wash your hands frequently (it's the single most effective way of reducing infection spread)
    - Practice other good hygiene habits: don't touch your face/eyes/mouth with your hands, and cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze or cough (ideally with a disposable tissue or the crease of your elbow)
    - Clean and disinfect frequently touched workspace surfaces
    - Maintain good general health (eat a balanced diet, get enough sleep, exercise in moderation)
    - Stay home if you're sick
    - Contact 8-1-1 (HealthLink BC) or your health care provider for questions about your personal health situation

Special Lunches

On Thursday, February 20th, Grades 7 - 10 students have the opportunity to order Burrito's and Tacos from Quesada's Pizza. Students in K - 6 will have their Quesada lunch on Friday February 21st. Order forms for these lunches will be sent home at a later date.

Kindergarten, Grades One & Two 100th Day Celebration

On Tuesday, February 11th, the students in Kindergarten, Grades One and Two will celebrate the 100th day that they have been in school. There will be many fun-filled activities based around 100, and a notice with further details will be sent home at a later date.

Valentine's Day

On Friday, February 14th, the students will be participating in Valentine's activities. They may choose to include red or pink in their clothing on this day, or they may opt instead to wear their usual school uniform clothing. The students will be participating in special friendship activities to celebrate this occasion, and they are welcome to bring in a snack to share with the class. ***Please note that all students will require a regular lunch on this day!***

If your Kindergarten to Grade Six child intends to give out any Valentine cards, we ask that in keeping with the school's philosophy of not leaving anyone out, the students give to everyone in the class. For your convenience we have included a class list. Thank you for your consideration and cooperation!

1st National Read Canada Day

A new nationwide initiative that celebrates the richness, diversity, and breadth of Canadian literature, was announced in fall 2019. The *I Read Canadian Day*, will be taking place for the first time ever on Wednesday, February 19th, encourage families, schools, libraries, bookstores, and organizations to read Canadian books for at least fifteen minutes. The purpose of this event is to raise awareness of Canadian books and to celebrate the excellence of Canadian literature.

Pink Shirt Day / Anti-Bullying Day

Wednesday, February 26th is *Pink Shirt Day*. On this important day, we encourage students to wear a pink shirt to show their support for taking action against bullying! More information about Pink Shirt Day can be found at http://pinkshirtday.ca/about/.

Grade One Langley Gymnastics Field Trip

To enhance their gymnastics unit, the Kindergarten class will be visiting Langley Gymnastics to participate in a program on Thursday, February 6th. The permission form for this field trip has already been sent home.

Grade 1 Blaze Pizza Field Trip

In conjunction with their unit on nutrition, the Grade One class will be going on a field trip to Blaze Pizza in Surrey on Monday, February 10th, 2020. The permission form for this field trip has already been sent home.

Grade 2 In-Class Puppet Workshop

To enhance their drama program, the Grade Two class will be having an in-class puppet workshop on Thursday, February 27th. Details regarding this workshop will be sent home later in the month.

Grade 3 Langley Museum Field Trip

To enhance their Humanities program, the Grade Three students will be participating in a *People of the River* workshop at the Langley Museum on Friday, February 28th. A permission form will be sent home later in the month.

Grades Four - Six Bowling Field Trip

On Tuesday, February 25th, the Grades Four - Six classes will be going on a bowling field trip to Clover Lanes Bowling Alley. A permission form for this field trip will follow later in the month.

Grades 7 - 10 Body Science & Health Workshop

On Friday, February 7th students in Grades 7 - 10 will participate in a Health Workshop put on by Saleema Noon Sexual Health Educators who are trusted sexual health educators with more than 20 years experience in British Columbia.

Operation Bumbershoot

Grey skies and pouring rain … that's winter on our "Sunshine" Coast. The walk to Sonrise gymnasium is sometimes a wet one and we would like to make that small trek a drier experience for our senior students. If you happen to have a spare portable umbrella around your home, we are currently accepting umbrella donations for our students to use on rainy days. Umbrellas can be dropped off at the front desks of our offices any time. Our soggy students thank you!

Family Day Holiday

There will be no scheduled classes on Monday, February 17th, as the school will be closed for the Family Day holiday.

Professional Day

There are no scheduled classes on Monday, February 24th, as the teachers will be having a professional day.

Diamond Staff