

DIAMOND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

November 2019

Dear Parents,

The Halloween parties 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 support and fabulous assortment of foods sent in by the parents for the occasion was greatly appreciated. A special thank you to Sam, the grade 5's and Dennis and the 7 – 10 Music class for the Halloween Safety presentation in the Elementary assembly.

The Scholastic Book Fair at the start of October was a tremendous success! We would like to extend an incredible thank you to the parents who purchased books and/or volunteered to help run the event. We truly surpassed our goal and made over \$2270 in sales which earns the school \$1300 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 Langley Food Bank was delighted to receive all the generous donations from our school! Congratulations to the Grade One, Grade Four and Grade Seven 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 for the Kindergarten to Grade Six students include a Pita Pit lunch on Wednesday, November 20th. An order form for the Pita Pit lunch is attached to the newsletter.

The Grades Seven to Ten students will have the opportunity to order a lunch from the *Lunch Lady* on Tuesday, November 19th.

Professional Day

There will be no classes for students on Friday, November 8th, as there is a professional day scheduled.

Remembrance Day Holiday

The school will be closed on Monday, November 11th, for the Remembrance Day holiday. *Please note there will be poppies available for purchase at the office prior to this date with all proceeds going to the Cloverdale Royal Canadian Legion.*

Graduation Program Café (School Teachers and Staff Version)



Friday October 25th, the school teachers and staff participated in the first of three planned **Graduation Program Cafés**, one for teachers and staff, one for students and another for parents. This café provides an opportunity for members of the school community to discuss many items related to the planning of the graduation program including the values established by the founders of the school, hopes and fears going into the future, suggestions for future consideration and an assessment and promotion of the vision of the school. There was food and fun as well as serious discussion. The Graduation Program Planning committee is now preparing to bring a second café to the **Grade 7 to 10 students** for the next stage of our consultation process.

Wear Your Favourite Outfit Clothing Day

The Kindergarten through Grade Ten classes will be participating in a special clothing day on Friday, November 22nd. *'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 Wednesday, December 4th, beginning at 2:15 and continuing until 8:00 p.m. *Parents may phone Sue or Laura-Lynn at the office to book an appointment starting on Friday, November 29th (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 Wednesday, December 4th, and there will be no after school programs on this day!*

CLASS SPECIAL EVENTS & FIELD TRIPS:

4 Cats Art Studio Field Trip - Grades Two & Three

On Thursday, November 14th the Grade Three class will be going to the 4 Cats Art Studio to participate in an interactive workshop. The permission form for this field trip has already been sent home. The Grade Two class will explore their creativity at the 4 Cats Art Studio on Wednesday, November 27th as well. Further details, along with the permission form, will be sent home later in the month.

"Exit" Escape Room Field Trip – Grade Six

The Grade Six class will be going to the "Exit" Escape Room in Langley on Monday, November 25th. 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, along with additional information, will be forwarded next week.

The Great Escape Excursion – Grades Four & Five

The Grades Four and Five classes will be enjoying a fun excursion to *The Great Escape* in Langley on Tuesday, November 26th. A permission form, along with additional information, will be forwarded next week.

Surrey Art Gallery - Kindergarten

The Kindergarten class will be going on a tour, as well as participating in a workshop called *The World of Clay*, at the Surrey Art Gallery on Thursday, November 28th. Further information will be sent home closer to the date.

Langley Gymnastics – Grade One

To enhance their gymnastics unit, the Grade One class will be visiting Langley Gymnastics to participate in a program on Friday, November 29th. The permission form for this field trip will be sent at a later date.

Shattering the Image: Anti-Gang Presentation – Secondary Students

Shattering the Image is an anti-gang presentation that is tailor-made for Surrey youth, parents, educators and community groups. The date of this workshop is yet to be determined but is being planned toward the end of November.

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.

An Important Clothing Reminder

Please ensure that ***all school clothing is clearly labeled*** with the student's name so we can clearly identify the correct owner should an item get misplaced. Thank you!

October Events at Diamond!

Diwali!

The Grade Twos had fun celebrating Diwali, the Festival of Lights, by making lanterns of their very own! We would like to thank one of our parents, Neeru, for coming in to teach us more about this special holiday and for showing us how to make these beautiful paper lanterns.



Rock Climbing

The Grade 6 Rock Climbing field trip was a huge success. The students supported and encouraged each other to climb to the very top of the walls! The staff at the climbing centre commented that the class was among the best they've worked with in terms of behaviour and maturity.

Clover Lanes

On Monday, October 21st, the Grade 7-10 classes went to Clover Lanes to practice their bowling skills. This field trip was a great opportunity for the students to mix socially while participating in a fun and non-judgmental environment. The students were commended by the Clover Lanes staff for their polite and respectful behavior.

Student Vote

While Canadians across the country were performing their democratic responsibility by voting in the latest federal election, the secondary students at Diamond School were participating in the Student Vote program. The Student Vote program is administered by Elections Canada and is developed to increase awareness and participation in Canada's democratic process. All of the students participated in an electoral simulation with professional ballots and voting booths.

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