



Marion Schilling Elementary School Newsletter

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"Learning is Cool at our School!!"

January 29, 2015

Dear Students, Parents/Guardians:

This week our school has been participating in a variety of school-wide literacy activities in conjunction with Literacy Week. Literacy Week is always a special week! I want to especially thank all of our families who were able to donate gently used or new books to Kamloops' Literacy "Heap A Honda" book drive!

MSES directly benefits from this initiative as books for our Bright Red Book Shelf come through this initiative. These books are free to our students to take home and read. We do encourage students to return the book when they have finished with it so another student may also enjoy it. Tomorrow our Literacy Week ends with students and staff dressing as their favourite book character.

**Big Red
Bookshelf**



I trust families are all participating in Unplug and Play and spending time engaging in a variety of activities (board games, skating, sledding, cooking, storytelling, etc) that don't include electronics this week!

If the office has your email address you were sent out earlier this week an email asking you to share your thoughts in a number of questions about our school and district. This survey and information is being gathered by Thoughtexchange on behalf of our School District. If you didn't receive the email and would like to participate in the survey, please contact Mrs. Dickens at the school office. Your partnership is always appreciated!



Sincerely,

Mrs. Wood
Principal



BASKETBALL SEASON

Basketball season is well under way! This year we are fortunate to have 4 teams playing in our School District's League. This wouldn't be possible without our students, staff and parents. Special thanks to Mr. Bell, Mr. Hine, Mr.

Dell, Ms. McKenna, Mrs. Cattermole, as well as our parent coaches, Mr. Young and Mrs. Barrow and parent drivers! We always have some great student volunteers who love to run the score clock! GO COOL CATS!!



PLANNING FOR 2015/16 SCHOOL YEAR HAS STARTED

Even though we are just finishing the first month of the calendar year and have half of our current school year left, some plans for the 2015/16 school year are starting to occur!

Course selection for our Grade 7 students entering HS will take place the second week of March. Staff from VSS will visit MSES on March 10 and courses will need to be selected by March 13th. A parent meeting is organized for March 11th at 6:00 in the Library at VSS!

Kindergarten Registration for 2016 will occur March 2 – 6th. If you have a child who is or will be 5 years of age by December 31, 2015 they are eligible to start Kindergarten this September. Please bring your child's birth certificate, care card and proof of address (utility bill, etc) when you come to register your child. The office will be accepting registrations from 8:30 – 12:00 and 12:30 – 3:00 the first week of March! It is important to register your child during this week of March, as our invitations to our Kindergarten Orientation will be handed out.

Grade 7 Year End: Soon our Grade 7 students will be moving on to High School and will begin a new chapter in their lives. Grade 7 year end activities are parent driven and are not planned by the school. If you are a parent/guardian of a Grade 7 student and would like to help organize an event for their year end, please contact the school office.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Students at MSES are always encouraged and taught to behave and solve problems with peers in a pro-social manner. Marion Schilling Elementary School has expected behaviours for various settings in the school, as well as for students riding the school bus. As a school we have many supervisors on the playground to not only ensure students are safe, but also to assist them in solving conflicts. Every February students and staff are encouraged to wear an article of pink clothing in support of anti-bullying. Pink Day this year is February 25th! Often we are uncertain if a behaviour really is bullying or if it is something else. The Vancouver School Board has written a great little article differentiating between peer conflict, mean behaviour and bullying. You may access this article on our school's website or by clicking on the following link:

<http://mschilling.sd73.bc.ca/mod/resource/view.php?id=226>



FOUNDATION SKILLS ASSESSMENT (FSA)

Our Grade 4 & 7 students have been participating in the provincial Foundation Skills Assessment. Our district plans on marking them mid February. Once the FSAs are marked and the data entered, they will be returned to the school. At this time your child's classroom teacher will have an opportunity to preview them prior to them being sent home to you.

SATISFACTION SURVEYS

All Grade 4 & 7 students, along with staff and parents will be given an opportunity to participate in a School Satisfaction Survey. Students will participate in the survey at school. Information and an access code will be sent home to parents during the month of February. Participation in the Satisfaction Survey is voluntary.

HEAD LICE

Please continue to do your part and help stop the spread of head lice at school. It is important that families do weekly head checks, treat as needed and notify the school if your child has lice. Confidentiality of families will always be maintained. The management of head lice is the primary responsibility of each family.

OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE POSTED ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2015



Board Notes

From the Board Meeting of: JANUARY 26, 2015

1. The Board recognized the leadership Development Program Graduates.
2. The Board received an update on the MyEducationBC Student Information System from District Principal Brar.
3. The Board approved an out-of-province Field Trip request from Valleyview Secondary for students to travel to Drumheller, Alberta.
4. The Board received *Notice of Motion* on Policy 900.1 Anti-Discrimination and Human Rights.
5. The next regular public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, February 2nd, 2015 at the School Board Office, 1383 – 9th Avenue, Kamloops, BC.

KIDSPORT KAMLOOPS

Kidsport Kamloops helps ensure children have an opportunity to participate in sports that they may otherwise not be able to due to financial barriers. Scott Andruschak is the chair for KidSport Kamloops which is a local chapter of KidSport Canada. Please visit their website for more details. Click on the link below for frequently asked questions about Kidsport. <http://www.kidsportcanada.ca/british-columbia/kamloops/about-kidsport-kamloops/faq-frequently-asked-questions/>

The goal of KidsSport, which is locally fundraised, is to ensure there are no barriers to sport participation.

