

Marion Schilling Elementary School
FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

February 3rd, 2017

**‘Home of the
Mavericks’**



Year of the Rooster...

I am alert, Ready to take action, The first on the scene, The last to leave, I take chances, But I am precise, I know where things belong, I am orderly and fastidious, Nothing escapes me, I am always prepared, I never give up or in, I AM THE ROOSTER.

Chinese New Year is a vibrant and festive occasion for many people in Canada. This event

can last for many days and often includes various festivities such as street parades and festivals featuring dancing, traditional Chinese costumes, firework displays, food stalls, and arts and crafts.

We here at Marion Schilling will bring some aspects of the Year of the Rooster into our lives through curriculum. I encourage everyone to take some of the strong aspects of the Rooster and engage them into your daily routines during the 2017 year.

During the month of February I encourage parents to focus in on how they are building a strong family connection. Remember, how parents act, react, and behave sets the tone for the family. Body language, facial expression and tone of voice all help children learn to communicate. Laughing and having fun creates positive memories and builds family togetherness.

As part of our Family Community the adults at Marion Schilling Elementary will be doing our best to build strong connections with our students by setting a positive, encouraging tone through various curricular and daily activities.

Gung Hay Fat Choy...

Mr. G. Cumming ~ Principal

Monthly Calendar of Events

February 8th	Booster Juice Day
February 9th	Young Peoples' Concert Series
February 13th	Family Day - NO SCHOOL
Feb 14th-20th	Kindergarten Registration (9am-12pm & 1pm-3pm)
February 16th	Early Closure - 12:30pm Dismissal *NO BUSES
February 21st	Leadership Assembly @10:45 am in the Gym
February 22nd	PINK Shirt Day
February 24th	Inservice Day - NO SCHOOL

SAFE ARRIVAL

Marion Schilling Elementary introduced a new Format and Process for Safe Arrival back in November. The staff is now all trained and the Program is up and running. ***Please use the new toll free number 1-844-350-2647 to report your child's absence or lateness.***

ATTENDANCE IS STILL AND ALWAYS WILL BE, IMPORTANT

It is your responsibility to inform the school if your child is going to be late or absent. We have a "safe arrival" program at Marion Schilling and if your child is absent and we have not received a call from you, we will call your home and all other contact numbers. ***Please use the new toll free number 1-844-350-2647 to report your child's absence or lateness.*** Also, if your child is going to be arriving late, please remind them that they must check in at the office. Thank you!

In addition, be sure your child knows what the family plan is for their after school care before they go to school. If the after school care is different from the norm be sure to write a reminder for your child in their agenda book. If your child will be riding on a bus they don't normally ride or will be getting off at a different bus stop, write a dated consent note for the bus driver. Thank you.

ADDITIONAL GRADE 5/6

Marion Schilling Elementary has been allocated 1.0 FTE funding from the Priorities Measures Fund to assign a Grade 5/6 Teacher to alleviate class size / composition issues. Once the new teacher has been hired there will a 'Meet the Teacher' opportunity for parents of students assigned to the new class.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration dates are: February 14 - 20 (9:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm)

We strongly encourage parents to register children for Kindergarten on these dates. Please bring your child's birth certificate, BC CareCard and Proof of Address at the time of registration.

For parents interested there is a **Kindergarten Information Night** Thursday, February 9th, at the Henry Grube Education Centre at 6:30 pm

PAC

The next meeting is Wednesday, February 15th @ 6:00 pm in the Library

We encourage you to be involved in your children's education. Our aim is to make our children's educational experience the best that it can be. Come and meet other parents and share your ideas and concerns. We need your support.

STROLLERS IN THE HALLWAYS

Due to Fire Regulations and keeping our hallways clear at all times I need to request that strollers be kept outside the school. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

PARKING LOT

Student safety in our South Driveway/Parking lot is a concern. I appreciate and have noticed an improvement in dropping and picking up students in the appropriate locations (Valleyview Community Centre and the Valleyview Bible Church Parking lot), however there are still a few parents who feel this expectation does not apply to them.

Please respect students' safety... We do not want to see a child injured because someone is disobeying the expectations.

ENCOURAGING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

At our January Assembly we welcomed back our students and reminded them that Marion Schilling Elementary is a PBIS school that promotes students to act appropriately and deal with conflict in a non-aggressive manner.

At MSES we are focusing on: Safe, Responsible, and Respectful behaviour.

Indoor expectations for cold days, expected behaviour, and acceptance of others were also addressed at the assembly.

WINTER WEATHER

January and February are known for their cold temperatures. It is very important that students come prepared for this cold weather. If the weather is deemed to be too cold to safely be outside for an extended period of time, Marion Schilling Elementary will have all the students stay in during Recess and Lunch breaks.

Please have your student wear the proper winter wear; boots, pants, jacket, hat, and gloves to ensure they are prepared for the cold weather.

STRONG START

Our Strong Start Program is back in full swing again after the winter break. Thank you to all who have come out to enjoy this wonderful program for families of toddlers to age 5. Our qualified ECE instructor, Deanie Stevens is there to assist you and answer your questions while you enjoy this time interacting and helping your child make some new friends and explore new play centres. Drop in times are between 8:30am - 11:30am, Monday to Friday.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The Code of Conduct is intended to encourage acceptable student behaviour in order to establish and maintain a safe, respectful and caring learning environment. This code will clarify expectations for student behaviour while at school, while going to and from school, while attending any school function or activity at any location, or in other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact on the school environment. The Code of Conduct prohibits discrimination on the basis of an individual's or a group's race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, family and marital status, age, physical or mental disability, sex or sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression.

Students who contravene this Code of Conduct will be subject to progressive discipline, reflective of the age and maturity of the student, any special needs, and the severity and frequency of the unacceptable conduct. The discipline will be fair, consistent, and meaningful, for the purpose of making restitution and enhancing student responsibility and self-discipline. Special considerations may apply to students with special needs if these students are unable to comply with a Code of Conduct due to having a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature. The Board will take all reasonable steps to prevent retaliation by a person against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of a Code of Conduct.

School officials will notify parents, school district officials, and other agencies as deemed appropriate for any particular incident.

REGULATIONS

Schools must:

- a) Ensure Codes of Conduct are available to the public and are displayed in a prominent area in the school;
- b) Ensure Codes of Conduct are provided each year to all employees and students, and are provided to parents when students start attending the school;
- c) Communicate Codes of Conduct to students in an age appropriate manner.

Schools must review the Codes of Conduct annually with Parent Advisory Councils, employees, and students to assess the effectiveness of the Codes of Conduct in addressing current school safety issues.

SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD NOTES

School District No. 73 Board Notes can be found at www.sd73.bc.ca.