



## Forest Grove Elementary Newsletter

December 2020

### No Christmas Concert this year



Unfortunately, due to our COVID-19 restrictions we will not be putting on a school Christmas Concert this year. Instead, we have chosen to celebrate Christmas at the school in other ways. Our classes will be doing a variety of things to celebrate Christmas this year such as performing songs at our school assembly, writing letters to Santa, reading Christmas stories, creating pieces of art, and writing cards for seniors. All of our classes will have individual parties to celebrate with their classmates in the afternoon. Rumour has it that there may also be some outdoor activities including sledding!

Another unfortunate circumstance, due to COVID-19, is that Santa will not be stopping by our school this year to hear your child's Christmas wish list. However, we have been notified that Santa will find a way to drop off candy canes for us to give to all of our students.

### CPAC News

- 1) Our **C**ommunity **P**arent **A**dvisory **C**ommittee would like to thank everyone for their Purdys chocolate orders as we have raised \$1229.16 total. This is the most we have ever raised through this fundraiser!!
- 2) Our last hot lunch (Mac'n cheese / Spaghetti) was a big hit with the students. Our next Hot Lunch will be on Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.
- 3) CPAC will be also providing classroom snacks for the afternoon of Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.

*Mr. Doolan and the staff would like to thank the CPAC committee for your hard work and commitment to our school. Your efforts truly make a difference and are sincerely appreciated.*

### Friday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> is School Spirit Day (PJ Day)

We will be celebrating Christmas throughout the day, but we have chosen our traditional theme of wearing Pyjamas on the last day of school before Christmas. Our PAC committee is providing snacks for the afternoon to support our classroom celebrations. Classes will celebrate in their classrooms and, depending on the weather, some may choose to spend part of the afternoon outside playing games or on our sledding hill.



### Report Cards



Report cards are scheduled to go home on **Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**.

#### No More Letter Grades

We recently sent home a memo describing our new reporting scale. Here is a quick recap of that memo: When report cards are sent home next week, you will notice that we are now using a new grading scale for all students grade K through 7. We will be following the education Ministry of Education's new four-point scale as show in the image below.



This scale aligns closely with teaching practice and current literacy and numeracy assessments and we believe it will allow our teachers to provide a more accurate and authentic reflection of your child's progress through these grade levels. As always, please contact the classroom teacher if you have any questions about your student's report card.

**Noon hour clubs are back in operation**

We have begun our noon hour clubs again and each grade will have one day of the week where they can stay in our library instead of going outside. The rationale behind our “noon hour club days” is to provide our students social and emotional support and to promote new friendships. During the noon hour, students will have the opportunity to participate in artwork, games, gratitude journals and other indoor activities. Our current noon hour schedule is as follows: Tuesday – Ms. Reed’s class, Wednesday – Ms. Dahl’s class, Thursday – Ms. Babicky’s class and Friday – Mr. Kass’ class. We have had to separate into individual days because of the large student turnout on our initial days. If the numbers begin to lessen for each session, we will move to two days per week for each cohort.

**Christmas Break**

Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup> will be the last day of school for 2020. School will be back in session starting Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The staff at Forest Grove Elementary would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

**Bus Students and extreme winter weather**

For students new to our area, school buses run every day unless the road conditions make it unsafe to operate and transport students. In addition, buses have traditionally been cancelled when the temperature reaches -32° Celsius (at the school bus garage.) When temperatures drop to extreme lows, or when we have unusually drastic weather changes, it is a good idea to listen to the local radio station or check the **school district website** at [www.sd27.bc.ca](http://www.sd27.bc.ca) for bus cancellations. Urgent notices will always appear on the school district home page in a large, coloured box. The district works hard to ensure that these notices appear on the website between 6:00 and 7:00 a.m.

Best wishes for a happy December and a wonderful Christmas holiday season!

Sincerely,



Mark Doolan (Principal)

**Important Upcoming Dates**

December 2020	
Mon December 7 <sup>th</sup>	CPAC Meeting (5:00 PM)
Wed December 9 <sup>th</sup>	Report Cards to be sent home
Wed December 9 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 6 Immunizations
Wed December 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Hot Lunch</b> (Special Christmas Dinner version)
Fri December 18 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of School before Christmas Break School Spirit Day - PJ Day School Assembly and Classroom Christmas Parties in the afternoon
January 2021	
Mon January 4 <sup>th</sup>	School Re-Opens <i>(first day back to school after Christmas)</i>
Mon January 4 <sup>th</sup>	CPAC Meeting (5:00 PM)
<b>Wed January 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Early Dismissal Day</b> (dismissal at 1:15 PM)
Wed January 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Hot Lunch</b>
<i>Parents, please note that we have two additional early dismissal days this school year On each of these days school will close (and buses will pick students up) one hour earlier than usual.</i>	
Wed March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Early Dismissal Day</b> (dismissal at 1:15 PM)
Wed May 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Early Dismissal Day</b> (dismissal at 1:15 PM)



**Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!**

