

Queneesh Elementary

Volume 8 Issue 4 December 2015



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Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are excited to present this year's Holiday Revue called, 'North Pole Exposure'. The children and staff have been working hard to get it ready for two performances on Thursday, Dec. 17th. The afternoon show starts at 1 o'clock and the evening one at 6:30. Doors open at 12:30 and 6:00. Please have your children at the school by 6:15. We encourage you to attend the afternoon production as it is typically quieter. Our PAC is having a 'Frozen Turkey Draw' at each concert with tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5. We will also be taking food bank donations.

With your help, we made an incredible donation to the EDAS project – initiative to bring joy to the homeless this season. Our school Hampers are almost complete as well, with our school community providing eleven hampers for the Sharing the Christmas Spirit program. Final donation to this are needed on Wednesday, Dec. 16th.

As we count down to the final days of 2015, we would like to wish all of our Queneesh families a wonderful Christmas Season and all the best for 2016.

Mrs. VanderRee & Mrs. Pederson



Fundraisers

Thank you to everyone who participated in the poinsettia & magazine fundraisers.

Everybody Deserves A Smile!

Thank you to everyone who donated toques, mittens, socks and scarves for E.D.A.S.

Volleyball

Our boys & girls volleyball team had a great season. They continually worked hard during practices and games and displayed a lot of skill development. We were so impressed with their school spirit, good sportsmanship and enthusiasm too! Way to go! A big thank you to parent volunteer coaches Kelly & Jamie Barnie.

Mr. Tobacca & Mr. Mann
Coaches

Christmas Hampers

We are sponsoring 11 families as part of the Coast Realty Groups' Hamper Drive. Your child's teacher will have asked you to bring a food item. Donations of cash and food items need to be brought in by December 16th. Thanks for your support.



Q Draw

Congratulations to Mia B. who enjoyed lunch with a friend and with Mrs. VanderRee at Triple-O's for our October Draw. May S. was the lucky November winner.

PAC Meeting

There will be no PAC meeting for December.

TOGETHER WE CAN *Healing through Culture*

**Tansi
tawaw**

Please join us for our latest workshop
6 WEEK LANGUAGE SERIES

in honour of the Metis & Cree Nations
learn to speak

Cree & Michif

**Tawnshi
Peetigway
mioshin**

Facilitated by: *Sheila Buchanan & Phil Umpherville*

This program is free of charge to people of Aboriginal heritage.
We invite you to come together with your community and enjoy an evening of learning a language and connecting with Elders.

Dinner and child minding will be provided at no cost.

Maximum number of participants is 30.

Weekly workshops will be held at

Ecole au Coeur de l'Ile

566 Linshart Rd (behind fire hall), Comox

TUESDAY EVENINGS

5:00-7:30pm Jan 12 – Feb 16

REGISTER NOW:

phone: 250 331 4040

or email:

healingthroughculture@hotmail.com



Funding for the
TOGETHER WE CAN: HEALING THROUGH CULTURE
Is provided by the **Community Action Initiative** and is Administered by the
Mik'isiw Metis Association

Mik'isiw Metis Association
PO Box 3282
Courtenay BC
V9N 5N4



Understanding Bus Schedules and Power/Snow School Closures

As the snow season is upon us, it is helpful for parents and the community to understand how we come to make calls on the closure of schools and how those calls are related to bus schedules.

Each day, we have over 1000 students who travel by bus to attend school. The departures of those buses and the picking up of students in the morning are major goalposts for us. Buses in the morning begin routes at about 6:45 am and begin picking children up by about 7:00 am. In the afternoon, most buses are on the road by 2:00 pm.

If there is snowfall overnight and accumulating in the morning, we make every attempt to make a call about school closures prior to the morning pickup of children by the buses. If we do not make the call by this time (again about 7:00 am), then students are on their way to school and we need to be prepared to receive and care for them. It is extremely difficult for us to make a call on school closures as late as 8:00 am. It is long past the time buses have left and we have approximately 1000 children on their way to school.

If there is snowfall accumulation during the day, we need to ensure the safe return of children home to parents. Many parents are working and cannot pick up their children or the children are too young to be at home alone if we run buses early. We would need to then contact all parents to let them know that their children are returning home early. For these reasons we believe that it is better to keep students safely with us in our schools rather than to dismiss early from the school day. We would, in these cases, dismiss at our regular times and bus students home as safely as possible.

We hope this gives parents some information and understanding about our routines that we consider when there is snow or a power outage and we need to close schools. We care about the safety of your children and always want to make the most prudent decision given the conditions. We make these calls with great thought and care, recognizing that weather patterns throughout the Valley can be very different within the school day.

Finally, once again, if there are any concerns and we do make a call to close schools, our local FM radio stations (***The Eagle, 97.3, (250) 703-2200*** and ***98.9 Goat FM, (250) 703-2538***) are the first point of contact. Parents and staff should regard these stations, as well as the district website (**www.sd71.bc.ca**) as the source of communications for school closures due to power outage and snow.

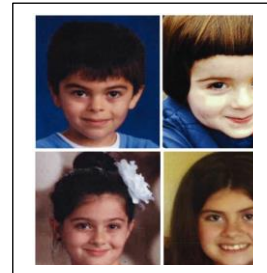
Respectfully,

Sherry Elwood
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Claire Visits Queneesh

As part of the Health and Career Education curriculum, we are required to cover content regarding scientific terms for private parts, pubertal changes, as well as hygiene and abuse prevention. With PAC and school district support Dr. Claire is being brought into all of our classrooms to present this curriculum

We are hosting a parent workshop session with Dr. Claire on Tuesday, Dec. 15th from 6:00 – 7:30 in the school library. We know this is a busy time of year but this hour and a half is an excellent time investment in supporting your family. Please register at the office. Child care is available too! just let us know if you require it.



Yellow Bracelet Campaign

A big thank you to everyone who bought yellow bracelets in support of Ms. Azer and the safe return of Dersim, Rojevahn, Sharvahn & Meitan. We raised \$1,319.25. Our Quest drumming team held a bake sale fund-raiser on Parent/teacher conference day, and donated half of their money raised to the Azer Fund. For more information go to findazerkidsnow.com

The children have been located in Northern Iraq but have not yet been released. Please consider joining the letter writing campaign requesting action from our government. Letters are available on our school website.

Christmas Treasures

Donations were incredible for our Christmas Treasures Sale. The gently used items were sold on Friday to students during our Christmas Treasures Sale. Gift wrapping was a hit and most children went home with two gifts or more for family members. Though this was a PAC fundraiser, the goal was to give all children an opportunity to select gifts for the special people in their lives. This goal was thoroughly met.

Thanks for supporting this event. We hope to have one again in 2016 so please consider saving your teachers and gifts bags for next year.





December 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 PLC Day Early Dismissal @ 12:20 pm	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Poinsettia Delivery	10	11 Report Cards Home Christmas Treasures Sale	12
13	14	15 Dr. Claire parent workshop 6:00 – 7:30	16	17 Christmas Concert 1 pm & 6:30 pm	18 PJ Day Last Day Of School	19
20	21 Winter Break Dec 19 – Jan 3	22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas 	26 Boxing Day
27	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve		

**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**

Winter Break Dec 19 – Jan 3rd
School re-opens on Monday, January 4th, 2016



January 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Years Day	2
3	4 School Re-opens	5	6	7 Div 11 Vision Screening	8 Hot Lunch	9
10	11	12	13 PLC Day 12:20 Dismissal	14 Div 2 & 12 Vision Screening	15 Hot Lunch	16
17	18 Grade 7 Try A Trade	19	20	21 Crazy Hair Day	22 Hot Lunch	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Hot Lunch	30
31						