

DECEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

Queneesh Elementary

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<https://www.sd71.bc.ca/School/queneesh>

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are excited to present this year's Holiday Revue called, 'North Pole Musical'. The children and staff have been working hard and enthusiastically to prepare for this entertaining event. 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. All children are expected to participate in both shows unless a note has been sent to Ms. Lehton well in advance of performance day. We are challenging our guests to fill the sleigh in the foyer with donations to the food bank.

With your help, we will be making an incredible donation to the EDAS project. This district initiative to bring joy to the homeless has been embraced once again by the Queneesh community. Donations can be made in the school foyer. Until December 7th, we are collecting toques for men and women as well as toothbrushes and toothpaste. The children (and many of our families) have been involved with making cookies, personalized cards and decorated gift bags.

The 'Sharing the Christmas Spirit' hamper program is also underway. Our school has adopted 10 families. All donation to this need to be in our school by Dec. 14th so that we are ready for pick-up.

It is once again hard to believe how quickly the year is counting down. We would like to wish all our Queneesh families a wonderful Christmas Season and all the best for 2016

Mrs. VanderRee and Mr. Burdett



UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 8 TREASURE SALE

DECEMBER 9 REPORT CARDS
HOME FOR CLASSES NOT
DOING PORTFOLIOS

DECEMBER 15 CHRISTMAS
PRODUCTION – 1 PM AND
6:30 PM

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Christmas Treasures

The children are very excited about our Treasure Sale scheduled on Dec. 8th. They will have an opportunity to purchase treasures for loved one for Christmas. We are still collecting donations of small gifts as well as wrap. If you are willing to help with this event, please contact the office and we'll schedule you in.

UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL CLOSURES

Temporary / Emergency School Closures From time-to-time, schools are temporarily closed for emergency reasons. The superintendent may make the decision to temporarily close any or all district schools when the safety of students and staff may be compromised. Parents, students and school district staff will be informed over the local media (98.9FM, 97.3FM). Every attempt will be made to post school closure announcements on the school district website, but it cannot be guaranteed. If there is no announcement on this website, please be sure to listen to the local radio stations.

WATER BOTTLES, SPOONS AND ...

Please do what you can to provide your child with a labelled water bottle. Our quantity of cups is limited. We have also been providing children with spoons for their lunches when they ask. If you send something requiring a spoon, please tuck one in your child's lunch bag.

MORE IMPORTANT NEWSPAC MEETING

The next PAC meeting is on **Wednesday, December 14th at 6 pm** in the library. If you require childcare, please contact the office by Tuesday December 13th.

There will not be a Montessori meeting this month.

NOVEMBER FUN AT THE Q SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY NOV. 18TH



Q DRAW

Congratulations to Teagan who won the last Q draw. He and Jessica dined at McD's as their fine dining pick for lunch out with the principal.



COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING

Parents should already be aware of the reporting format used by their child's teacher. It will either be the paper report, referred to as MyEd report, an e-portfolio or a paper portfolio.

MyEd reports will be sent home on Dec. 9th. Please sign and return the envelope so that we know you have received the report and so that we may use it again in March.

Portfolios are updated regularly. Your viewing and comments on the reports are appreciated by both the teachers and the students.

A GREAT VOLLEYBALL SEASON



Our grade 6/7 volleyball team had a great season. Their skill development was impressive as was their excellent Queneesh attitude. Thank you to our coaches, Ms. Anderson and Mr. Mann as well as the many volunteer drivers who helped our team get to events.

Next up for this athletic group is Basketball!

EDAS 2016

Please have your contributions in to our school bins by Dec. 5th. The latest tally has us in need of 287 Men's toques and 279 Women's toques. Another huge thanks for your support with donations of toques, toothpaste and toothbrushes as well as your help with the cookies.



CAFÉ FRANCAIS

A French Club - 'Cafe Francais' - for grades 6/7 will start on Wednesday January 11th for 8 weeks in the mornings from 8:00 - 8:35. Limit of 8 students, first come first serve. Sign up sheets will go home with students next week. This will be a fun-filled chance for children to practice vocabulary and explore different subjects in French with our French-speaking EA, Ms. Chestnut.



ANOTHER PARKING AND PICK UP REMINDER – PLEASE HELP



Our school staff have changed our parking patterns and are trying to fill the lot near the school gym first thing before filling the spots at the front of the school. That will leave more spaces at the east end of the school – Veteran's Memorial Parkway side. The in/out access is easier and traffic flow is much safer. If you use the drop off lane – please move as far forward in the lane as possible and don't leave your vehicle unattended. If you have an intermediate child, please consider picking up slightly later than the bell in an attempt to minimize traffic flow. We have supervision on duty until 2:45 and by then the traffic has eased immensely.

AN ENGAGING READY SET LEARN EVENT HELD AT QUENEESH NOV. 21ST.

THANKS TO OUR STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR HELPING OUT!





Update on B.C.'s New Curriculum from Education Minister Mike Bernier

November 29, 2016

Dear Parent,

The world is changing and B.C.'s new curriculum is critical in making sure your child is connected with the skills he or she needs to succeed in this changing world. We have just announced important updates on B.C.'s new curriculum – on how it will be implemented in grades 10-12, and on the Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA) written in grades 4 and 7.

Grade 10-12 curriculum implementation

Teachers, principals and trustees asked for more time to work hands-on with the redesigned draft curriculum in grades 10-12 – and we agree. The extra time means teachers can try out the draft curriculum and provide feedback before it is fully implemented in the 2018/19 school year. The new curriculum is already fully in place in the earlier grades.

The extra year makes sense because the graduation years are more complex than the K-9 years. They are tied to provincial exams. They are connected to post-secondary choices. We are making sure that we get the Grade 10-12 redesigned curriculum right for students, ensuring their future success in post-secondary and the workforce.

When it comes to provincial exams, we have mapped out which old exams and new exams will be written and when. The most important thing is that new or old, our standards remain high, testing remains rigorous, and combined with in-class exams we will be thoroughly testing student knowledge. Detailed exam information can be found at: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/graduation-info>

Foundation Skills Assessments

Along with our new curriculum, we are enhancing our Foundation Skills Assessment that students in Grades 4 and 7 are required to write under B.C.'s *School Act*. The FSA measures reading, writing and math problem-solving skills that students have gained over several years of learning and provides critical information for parents, for teachers, and for the education system.

Starting next year, students in grades 4 and 7 will complete their FSAs in the fall instead of the spring. This means you and your child's teacher will get results earlier – and that means any necessary actions can be taken sooner. More information on the new FSA can be found at: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/assessment-reporting/new-foundation-skills-assessment>

Additionally, we will be giving parents like you a snapshot of the FSA results in broader school reports. You deserve to know how your child's school is succeeding on a variety of fronts – and we will include that information to provide a complete picture.

Together with teachers, our new curriculum is making sure that your child learns the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic, while also engaging the collaboration, critical thinking and communications skills they'll need to succeed in college, university, and the workforce.

Thank you,

Mike Bernier
Minister of Education

DECEMBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Swimming Div. 4 and 5 1-2pm	2 Field Trip Div. 4 Crown Isle 9:30	3
4	5	6 Div 15 Strongheart-gym	7 Divisions 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, strongstart plus guests Christmas Lights Walk @Hobson Park 6 pm Div 1—Doveside Tree	8 Treasure Sale Swimming Div. 4 and 5 1-2pm	9 Full Christmas Concert run through 9-10:30 <i>Report Cards home</i>	10
11	12	13 Field Trip Div 8 Crown Isle 12:30-2:30	14 PAC/CVMS meeting 6- 8pm draw.	15 Christmas Concert 1pm and 6:30 Candy cane sale 2:30	16 Filed Trips: Div5 (9:30- 11:15)/16/17 (10:15-12) Crown Isle	17
18	19 Aquatic Ctr Div 8,9,10,17	20 <i>Last day of school before break</i>	21 Winter Break	22 Winter Break	23 Winter Break	24
25	26 Winter Break	27 Winter Break	28 Winter Break	29 Winter Break	30 Winter Break	31 Winter Break

Happy New Year ... School Opens Wednesday Jan. 4th