

Port Kells Elementary

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December 2021 Newsletter

Mrs. Stubbings' Message

I cannot believe we only have 10 days before winter break. It is hard to believe Term One is finished and we are a third of the way through the year. Our first term reports will go home Friday, December 10th. The students have worked hard. Review the report with your child. We all learn differently, so celebrate the all successes (big and little). Please continue to support your child's learning at home by talking to your child about his/her day, have him/her read nightly for a minimum 15 minutes, and review numeracy and literacy concepts taught. If you have questions about your child's learning, please feel free to contact your child's teacher.

Our school is abuzz with energy and our holiday displays and hallways are looking very festive. The kids have had so much fun decorating our office tree and school.

We will start off and end our December Spirit Days with PJ Days on Monday, December 6th and Friday, December 17th. We invite all of our staff and students to come to school dressed in their comfy pajamas. The week of December 13 – 17 will be Christmas/Holiday Spirit Week. This week we are encouraging all of our students and staff to show Christmas spirit each day (hats, headbands, sweaters, necklaces, etc.). We will hold our Christmas Sing-Along on December 14th. Unfortunately, we will not be able to invite families in to the event due to safety guidelines and capacity limits in our gym. December 15th we will also have a special visitor to our school and on the 17th we will be providing the students with pancake breakfast supplied to us by the Willoughby McDonalds.

Mrs. Stubbings' Message Cont.

I would like to acknowledge our amazing staff. They have all worked hard and put in countless hours and dedication into their work, classrooms, our students learning and our school to ensure that our students time at school continued to be smooth, safe, and fun. We are so lucky at Port Kells to have the team we have and I am truly grateful to work with each one of them.

As we head into the holiday season, we know it will still be a bit different. As I drive through our community, I see the holiday spirit. I have noticed more homes and businesses decorated and lit up with holiday displays. Even downtown Cloverdale is aglow with lights that brings on an extra cheeriness and festive feel to our community. We hope that everyone takes the time this holiday to reflect on all we are grateful for, the positives we have in our lives, and enjoy all the simple pleasures life has to offer us.

Happy Holidays!

Good-Bye and Welcome

As many of you know we had to say goodbye to Mr. Morgan last Friday. Mr. Morgan accepted a teaching position with the Chilliwack School District, which is where he lives. While we are very sad to see him go, we wish him all the best as he starts this next chapter in his life. He was only with us for a short time, but left such an impact on our school community. He will be missed.

Please welcome Ms. Samborsky, who will be taking over in Division 1 for the remainder of the school year. Ms. Samborsky comes to us with a wealth of experience and we are so excited to have her join our Port Kells family and community. The students had the opportunity to meet her last week. Please join me in giving her a warm Port Kells welcome.

Cloverdale Food and Toy Drive....

A reminder to our families that our school Food and Toy Drive for the Cloverdale Community Kitchen is still on.

The last day to drop off items is Wednesday, December 8th. We are noticing that many of our boxes are still a little empty – every little bit helps. Let's show our community how generous we can be.

You may also make a cash donation online directly to Cloverdale Community Kitchen.



Weather

The days are getting darker, colder and icier as winter approaches. Please remember to remind your child(ren) to dress appropriately for the weather as students will continue to be outside at recess and lunch, with the exception of severe weather patterns. Students need to have jackets, boots, gloves, and hats in order to be comfortable outside. Your child is also encouraged to bring an extra set of clothes for the times they may get wet and/or need a change.

Lost and Found

There are a number of items in our lost and found box. We will have these items on display for our students to check. Please feel free to take a look for any articles that may belong to your child(ren). Any unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity before the winter break.

Young Entrepreneurs

Students in Divisions 1 and 2 participated in The Young Entrepreneurs Fair last week. This activity was part of the Financial Literacy Curriculum. The students created a project or item to sell, did market research on their items, created an advertising board/display and placed advertisements around our school. Each student was required to put together a business plan with their projects. The students needed to look at the money aspect of the plan, and be sure to cover the cost of their materials/supplies, and as well set aside a portion of their sales for a charity of their choosing before enjoying the profits. Some students got a little excited about the money coming in on the day of the sale, and unfortunately did not have anything left at the end. Each of the students should be so proud of their finished projects. Projects ranged from stress balls, pencil toppers, jewelry, candles, decorations and many others. The fair was a success and we had so many happy customers.

Important Dates

**There will be additional dates to add to the master calendar as scheduled throughout the year.
Please check our School website often for updates.

December Dates:

Dec 6	PJ Day
Dec 10	Term 1 Report Home PAC Purdy's/Coffee Pickup
Dec 13-17	Holiday/Christmas Spirit Week
Dec 14	Holiday Sing-Along
Dec 15	Santa Visit
Dec 17	PJ Day Student Pancake Breakfast
Dec 20 -31, 2021	Winter Break



2022 Dates:

January 3, 2022	Schools Reopen
February 8, 2022	Early Dismissal – 1:35
February 21, 2022	Family Day – No School
February 25, 2022	Non-instructional Day
March 10, 2022	Term 2 Report Home
March 14 – 25, 2022	Spring Break
April 15 – 18, 2022	Easter Break
May 6, 2022	Non-instructional Day
May 23, 2022	Victoria Day
May 30, 2022	Non-instructional Day
June 7, 2022	Early Dismissal – 1:35
June 23, 2022	Last Day of School
June 24, 2022	Final Reports Home Administrative Day/Schools Close for Summer

First Snow Day...

The first snowfall of the school year arrived Monday
December 6th along with PJ Day.
Can you say energy in our building?
Our students had so much fun playing and building in
the snow.



PAC News

Thank you to everyone who supported
our Purdy's and Coffee Fundraisers.

Orders will be ready for pick up on

Friday, December 10

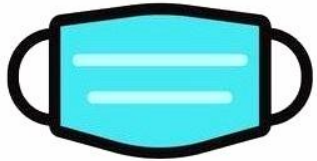
2pm -2:45pm

Where: **Gym @ back door**

Please arrange for pick up of your items
on this day.

Health and Safety

*Please
Wear a mask*



*Thank you and
stay safe!*

As a reminder to our school community masks have been mandated in our schools for all students in Kindergarten to grade 12. This is an added measure to keep our students, staff and community safe. We have been noticing an increase in the number of students coming to the office each day asking for masks. We are encouraging our students to bring their own masks from home, as we are running low on disposable masks. Masks are to be worn inside classrooms and in all common areas of the school. Students do not need to wear masks outside while playing. We are also reminding all visitors to our school to also please ensure that you are wearing a mask when you enter our school buildings.

Health and Safety Continued ...

Daily Health Checks

We are asking our families to continue to use and complete the daily health check at home prior to coming to school each day. The form does not need to be completed and returned to school, but is a tool for you to check. By sending your child to school, you are verifying that your child does not have any of the symptoms listed and is well enough to be at school. If your child becomes ill at school or exhibits any of the symptoms on the form, we will be calling home as continued procedure.

When you call to let us know that your child will not be at school, we may ask you for your child's symptoms. This is not to pass judgement, but rather for us to keep track for cleaning and tracking purposes should it be required. Confidentiality is our utmost importance. There may be occasions where we as a school are required to report symptoms to our District Facilities and Health and Safety Departments.