



Bowser Elementary School

"Building Educational Success Together"

Newsletter 12 February 2, 2010

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Mission Statement

Bowser Elementary School is committed to providing a nurturing environment wherein children participate in learning experiences, which enable and empower them to develop their individual potential and become lifelong learners.

School Goals

Literacy

Goal: To improve student achievement in the area of literacy by focusing on increasing reading comprehension levels.

Objective: To develop and implement a cross-curricular learning framework (based on Reading Power and Smart Learning) to increase literacy competency in all subject areas.

No school for students on Friday, February 19th and Monday, February 22nd.

Principal's Comments

The PJ party was another success. There were approximately 125 students playing Pictionary and charades, running relays, doing crafts, running through an obstacle course and dancing or enjoying a quiet movie. It was 5 hours of fun! I would like to thank the PAC and the many parent volunteers for their support of this event. The volunteers did an awesome job. Thank you.

On Monday, February 8th, we will be hosting a cultural performance. We welcome Theatre Sports from Vancouver, to perform Winter Sports. Everyone is buzzing with Olympic fever - and so can you with the comedy improvisational show that transports you to the world of winter sports. Student's suggestions provide the inspiration, and Theatre Sports provide the laughs with hilarious improvised scenes. Imagine bizarre competitive winter sports and see them instantly transformed into reality. What could be more competitive than *Xtreme Snow Angels* or maybe *Ice Break Dancing* - both certain to become the next Winter Sports trends!

On Wednesday, Feb. 10th, we will be having Jump Rope for Heart. Students have been given pledge forms. We are hoping to raise \$1000. Students will be demonstrating their jump rope skills in the gym during the morning of Wednesday, February 10th.

We continue to collect loonie donations for the people of Haiti. We have challenged each student to bring in a loonie to help with earthquake relief for the citizens of Haiti. Please continue to bring in loonie to the donation container by the office.

Red/White/Pink Day

On Friday, February 12th, we will have a red/white/pink day. Be sure to encourage your children to wear Valentine colours on this day.

Face family-school challenges with confidence, common sense.

Throughout your child's education, you may disagree with school staff about minor-and occasionally serious-issues. Although this can feel pretty uncomfortable, remember that conflicts are a natural part of relationships. What's important is how they are resolved. When serious issues need to be discussed: **Listen to your child.** Kids are often the first to mention school concerns. Take your child's feelings to heart, and use intuition and common sense to guide your actions. You might ask yourself, "Do my child's worries make sense to me?" "Has my child raised this concern more than once?" "Is it important to step in now?"

Listen to the teacher. There are two or more sides to every story. It's valuable to keep an open mind and reserve judgment until all the facts (and opinions) are in.

Stay positive. If you don't like a teacher, working together can be a challenge. Focus on your shared goal: a successful classroom experience for your child. By maintaining a calm, respectful attitude, you'll be the best advocate for your student.

Ask for help. Sometimes, despite your hard work, a problem persists. Consider meeting with the guidance counselor or principal for help. Be confident that together, you'll find a solution. Source: "Addressing Problems," PBS Parents, www.pbs.org/parents/going_to_school/address_pro.html.

Helix and Friends Hearts for Haiti

With the support of School District 69 Qualicum, Ballenas Secondary School, and the Mulberry Bush Bookstore the new Helix Dance and Theatre Company invites you and your friends to join them on Friday, February 5th, BSS Theatre, at 7:30 pm, for an evening of music, dance, and singing to help the people of Haiti. Admission is \$20.00. Please make cheques out to The Canadian Red Cross. If you are paying cash and wish to have a tax receipt, please leave your name and mailing address on a small piece of paper at one of the following locations when you purchase your ticket: PASS/WW Alternate School, Mulberry Bush Bookstore (Parksville and Qualicum), and the Parksville Ballet School. Helix is a new youth dance company based in Parksville comprised of 9 incredible young dancers, 15 - 19 years old. The majority of the dancers are from the Parksville area, where they have danced for the better part of their lives. The other dancers come all the way from Saltspring Island to Courtenay. Helix will be joined by Friends: Musicians: Rosalee Sullivan, Ask Alice Band, Rocky Boschman, Eric Harper, Marjorie Cullerne and musical partner Peter, for a wonderful evening of performing arts for Haiti.

SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET PRESENTATION TO PAC

As part of the development of the 2010-2011 Preliminary Operating Budget, a trustee from the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum), as well as a Senior Administrator, will be attending a meeting with each school's Parent Advisory Council during the month of February. It is hoped that parents in each school community would take the opportunity to attend. If parents are unable to attend the scheduled meeting with PAC at their school, they are welcome to attend at another school. Please see the district web-site for the complete schedule.

At this meeting information about the budget process and preliminary indications of fiscal challenges the Board is anticipating will be provided, and participants will be invited to provide the Board with their ideas about priorities for district budget planning. **The BES PAC meeting will be held on February 17th at 6:30 pm in the Library.** Budget deliberations will continue in a series of Public Budget Board meetings to be held on March 30, April 14, 21 and 27. These meetings will be held at the Forum in the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre at 7:00 pm.

PAC News

Hi everyone, the PJ Party was a huge success. I would like to thank Gonda for her great organization of the party, and all the volunteers who made this party a fantastic night. Thanks also to Mr. Saremba for doing double duty that day!!!

PJ Party 50/50 Draw - This was won by Madison Hagarty and family and they took home **\$148.00**. Well done and congrats!!!!

Pancake Breakfast - This is happening on Sunday February 14th - it will be a busy one so looking for some people who would be able to volunteer for this event....

Workshop - Effective Strategies for Parenting Girls!!!! This will be on Tuesday February 9th, 2010 at 11:30am - 1:30pm or 6:30pm - 8:30pm. You will learn strategies to support girls to grow up independent and secure. Help girls challenge girl culture, stereotypes and social rules. Help girls analyze media and social aggression, promote positive communication and promoting success at home, school and life. Tickets are \$5.00 each and are available from the Office (we have only 40 for the day event and 40 for the evening event). This will be held at the Parkville Community Centre. Hope to see you there.

PAC Meeting - Wednesday February 17, 2010 @ 6:30pm in the library. We switched nights so please mark your calendar.....

February 50/50 Draw - We have a license which we purchased to do 50/50 draws on the last day of school each month to help raise funds. Good luck to everyone who purchases tickets.

Bulb Fundraiser - the order forms will be sent home end of February / beginning of March.

If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns please email or call Marnie Burden 250-757-2317 mburden@shaw.ca or Gonda Lekx 250-752-3943 rglekx@shaw.ca

Community News

BLAST!!! Program is held every Wednesday, after school until 4:00. Drop in is welcome. For more info call Lynda at 947-5736 or lyndahearn@shaw.ca

RDN Recreation and Parks Programs - Register online and view program details at www.rdn.bc.ca. Or call 250-248-3252 or 250-752-5014.

Oceanside Minor Lacrosse - Registration for the 2010 box lacrosse season has begun! The next opportunities to register are February 4th and 18th at Oceanside Place, beginning at 7pm. New and returning players (boys and girls aged 4-16 years) are encouraged to sign up for another exciting season. Registration forms are also available at Sports Traders in Parksville. For more information call Debbie at 250 752-0565.

BC Spirit/Olympic Skate and Swim The local Spirit of BC committee in conjunction with the RDN are offering special skates and swims on the opening weekend of the 2010 Olympics.

Spirit of BC Skate - Saturday, Feb. 13 from 2:00 to 3:30 pm - Oceanside Place

Spirit of BC Swim - Sunday, February 14th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm - Ravensong Aquatic Center

Both the swim and skate will have Olympic type activities for children/youth to enjoy. Prizes including as Olympic memorabilia will be given out! Regular admission applies to both events. Come on out and celebrate the start of the Vancouver Olympic Games with some healthy exercise!

Oceanside Minor Baseball Registration will take place for Oceanside Baseball on February 6/7th and February 20/21st just next to Save-on-Foods in Wembley Mall from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. New players are requested to bring their birth certificate. For age group divisions, fees, and contact info please see attached.

Dates to Remember

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| Every Tuesday | WOW Bus - open 9:30-11:30 am |
| Every Tuesday | Mother Goose - 10:30 - 11 am in the library |
| Every Tuesday | Chess Club - lunch recess in the library |
| Feb. 1-5 | Primary Math Playground |
| Feb. 4 | Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition |
| Feb. 5 | Gr. 3, 4 and 5 students attend "1001 Arabian Nights" @ QBMS |
| Feb. 8 | Theatre Sports presentation @ 2 pm |
| Feb. 10 | Dental screening for Kindergarten students |
| Feb. 10 | Jump Rope for Heart |
| Feb. 12 | Wear Valentine colors - Red, pink and/or white |
| Feb. 19 | Reporting Day - Students do not attend school |
| Feb. 22 | Professional Development Day - Students do not attend school |
| March 1 | Second term report cards go home |
| March 5 | Last day before Spring Break |
| March 6-21 | Spring Break |
| March 22 | School re-opens |

Entry Form: Please complete this form and return it to the school by Monday, February 9th, 2010.

Name of student

Parent/Guardian signature