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“Learning and growing together”

November 12th, 2009

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE – DARREN FREEMAN

This has probably never happened to you, but here is a recent conversation at the Freeman household:

“Dad, can you help me study? I have a science test.”

“Okay. When is the test?”

“Tomorrow.” (Which is actually only 12 hours away).

After the blood pressure dropped to marginally acceptable levels, I asked to see the text book so I could help from that resource.

“I left it at school.”

It took a little longer for the blood pressure to return this time. However, I was working on my laptop at the time so I decided to Google the title and publisher of the *missing* textbook. Much to my delight (and someone else’s disappointment), an incredibly easy-to-navigate website popped up. The link that attracted my attention was the one that led to an on-line student quiz. It was sectioned into chapters that paralleled the classroom textbook. This gave us a solid way to review for the test, to discuss topics, and to work together to solve questions that were not readily at hand.

This little study session reminded me that no matter what form it takes, parental support at home creates many opportunities to find out what is going on with your child, both at school and in their other worlds. Take the time to study with your child. I came across this website earlier this year:

http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/Reports/LessonsInLearning/LinL20080206_Homework.htm

It is well-written and based in Canadian content. There is also a link for parent tips towards the end of the article that, although American in nature, gives clear and valuable advice. Good luck with your studies. We are now working on time-management issues at the Freeman household.

QBMS BAND INFORMATION

1. Bottle Depot - The QBMS Band Program now has accounts set up at the Qualicum and Parksville bottle depots. Please support our program by returning your bottles and cans to either location and donating the money to the QBMS Band Program!

2. Band 7/8 Field Trip - The grade 7/8 band students are going to KSS on Wednesday, November 18th to hear the Humber College Jazz Band perform. Students must have their permission forms signed and handed in to Mr. Kellas by Monday, November 16th.

3. Christmas Concert - The QBMS Christmas Concert will take place on Tuesday, December 15th at 7pm in the gym. All band students must have black dress pants, black dress shoes, black socks, and a white dress shirt for our performances. More information will be coming soon, but please mark this date on your calendars!

4. Kelowna Trip - The QBMS Concert Band may be going on a trip to Kelowna in April of 2010. A letter of intent has been sent home and must be returned to Mr. Kellas by Monday, November 16th.

5. Music Parents' Group: Our next meeting will be on Monday, November 16th at 7pm in the band room.

Heritage Country Fair Night, Divisions 6-1 and 6-3

As part of Social Studies this term, we are planning to hold our Heritage Fair Thursday December 3rd, 6:30-8:00 in the Multi-Purpose Room at QBMS. It is really important that families try to rearrange their busy schedules to fit in this important event in your child’s education. All family members are invited to come, including siblings and grandparents! More information will be coming home with the students. See you there!

GUATEMALA KIDS CLUB

Popcorn will be on sale Friday for \$0.75 and \$1.00. Money is being raised to sponsor Dorcas, a 7 year old Guatemalan girl to go to school. We need \$160 to pay for school supplies, school fees, 2 pair of shoes, and a backpack. Buy some yummy popcorn and help us make a difference. Amazing Christmas Cards designed by District 69 students are for sale at Home Expressions in Qualicum. These cards enable us to buy life saving water filters and much more. They make an amazing gift.

IMPORTANT DATES

November 23-26 - Scholastic Book Fair (library)
Friday, November 27 - School Based Pro-D Day (no students in session)

QBMS SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Thank-you to those parents who have volunteered for our Scholastic Book Fair, November 23rd to the 26th. We are still looking for parents for the afternoons from 12:30 - 3:00. Please phone Ms. Cameron at the school if you are able to help out.

SD 69 Transportation Committee participants needed!!

District 69 School Board is seeking parents to participate in a **Transportation Committee** comprised of staff from the Transportation Dept., Board staff, parents, and principals for discussion and inquiry on transportation of students in cases of emergency - especially during inclement weather when buses cannot complete their runs and are unable to return students home such as happened last winter. This is a very important issue for our District during the winter months and parents are needed to share their concerns and suggestions with us. Please contact Leona Matte (QBMS D-Pac rep) at lmatte@shaw.ca or phone her 752-7404 if you would like to participate.

H1N1 UPDATE

As is the case in most communities across our province, it continues to be reported that we have different strains of the flu virus present in District 69, including the H1N1 virus. Schools are an integral part of our community and as such it can be assumed we have cases of these flu strains, including H1N1 in our schools. Individuals who have reason to be concerned about exposure to H1N1, or any other seasonal flu, should consult their physician. Vancouver Island Health Authority reports that most of the confirmed cases of the H1N1 in our community have been mild to moderate in severity.

Reporting illness within our schools has been by way of information shared by parents to the school. It has been reported some students, displaying flu symptoms, have had a form of a swab test while others are simply being treated as though it is H1N1. Schools do not communicate directly with doctors.

Since this is a community concern, we need to continue to follow the following recommendations:

- Wash hands frequently and teach children to wash their hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds.
- Cough and sneeze into a tissue or into the inside of your elbow.
- Staff and children who are sick with flu like symptoms should stay home from school or work sites and stay away from other people until they are feeling better and able to fully participate in normal activities.
- Practice other good health habits. Get plenty of sleep; be physically active; manage stress; drink plenty of fluids.

The H1N1 flu vaccine has been approved and is available in our community. The vaccine is available through public health during one of the H1N1 vaccination clinics. Clinics are located at Wembley Mall information about hours of operation can be found at <http://www.viha.ca/h1n1/public/vaccine.htm>. Currently the Health Unit is vaccinating those individuals who have been identified to have underlying health issues, children between the ages of six months and five years, as well as, pregnant women.

POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER

We are selling poinsettias until November 27, 2009. You have your choice of Red, White, or Pink. The poinsettias are only \$12 each, with the proceeds going to QBMS. The plants can be ordered from <http://qbms.plants4nonprofit.com>. We also have paper order forms available in the office, and cheques are payable to Qualicum Beach Middle School. Once we have placed our final order, delivery is anticipated to be the first week of December. Plants will be delivered to the school and can either be sent home with your child, or picked up from the office. Our goal is to sell 200 plants, and we know we can do it! We thank-you for supporting your school.



QBMS SPIRIT WEAR



Mr. Worthen

There is still some QBMS spirit wear clothes left for those parents who wish to purchase it as a Christmas gift. Garments will include adult size sweat pants, blue or white running shirts, golf shirts, shorts and the popular hoodie. All clothes are navy in colour and will have QBMS or the QBMS logo on them. Prices range from \$23 to \$30.

Please contact Mr. Worthen at bworthen@sd69.bc.ca if you are interested.

Congratulations to this week's Gotcha Winner....Rebecca of division 8-4!!!



EMAIL ADDRESS FOR QBMS NEWSLETTER

NAME: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Student Name: _____

Division: _____

Thank-you for your support!



