



James McKinney Newsletter

News From the Eagle's Nest!

Ms. Susan Roy Principal
Mr. Harley Rollins Vice-Principal
Mr. Eric Yung School Assigned Trustee
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Ms. Kathryn D'Angelo Area Assistant Superintendent

Date: February 10, 2017

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Important Dates Coming Up at McKinney

- Feb. 13 Family Day (**no school in session**)
Feb. 15 Grade 7 Parent Info. Meeting at
Steveston-London Secondary
Feb. 16 Richmond Children's Arts Festival
Feb. 22 P.A.C. Hot Lunch Day
Feb. 22 Pink Day Assembly 2:00 p.m.
Feb. 23 Early Dismissal for Conferences
at 12:20 p.m.
Feb. 24 Pro D Day (**no school in session**)
Mar. 3 SOAR Activity/Assembly 9:00 a.m.
Mar. 8 Term Two Report Cards Sent Home
Mar. 13-26 Spring Break (**no school in session**)

Administrators Message

Happy Snowy February! It's so hard to believe that we are still getting snow. It has been quite a winter. The students have been enjoying playing in the snow and are working hard to show responsible behaviour when doing so.

We have started our month with a focus on Kindness. Thanks to Mrs. Simpson and Division 4 for creating a Kindness Challenge display in the front entrance. Each day we have been including the challenge for the day in our morning announcements. This has been a great way to set the tone as we lead up to Pink Shirt Day on Feb.22nd. These challenges remind us of the simple things we can do each day to demonstrate kindness and compassion towards others.

Thank you for your ongoing support of your children and our school.

S. Roy & H. Rollins



Pink Shirt Day Assembly

On February 22nd McKinney invites staff, students, and parents to wear pink shirts to help us celebrate Pink Shirt Day. Pink Shirt Day is recognized across Canada and throughout the world as a way to spreading the message of kindness and acceptance of others.

We will be holding a special Pink Shirt Day Assembly on Feb.22nd at 2:00 p.m. Several classes will be making presentations to help us celebrate this special day. Parents are welcome to join us!

Pink T-Shirts for Sale

On Tuesday, February 14th our Me to We leadership group will begin selling pink t-shirts. This year we are excited to have a new design. You can check out some samples in the front entrance next week. T-shirts will be sold for \$10.00 with profits going to charity.

Shirts will be on sale before school and after school each day leading up to Pink Day or while supplies last.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

This month teachers will be holding conferences to communicate with parents about student learning. These may involve meetings between the teacher and parents or may be in the format of a student-led conference. Teachers will be connecting with parents soon to make arrangements for this.

Please note that on Thursday, February 23rd we will have an early dismissal at 12:20 p.m. to help accommodate conferences.

Drop Off and Pick Up at McKinney

We ask parents to please pay close attention to no stopping signs along Lassam Road when doing daily drop off and pick up. We also ask that you not block neighbour's driveways. This helps us to ensure that our students are safe and that we keep positive connections in the neighborhood.

We also remind you that for safety reasons our parking lot is for staff use only. If you are able to walk to school, we highly encourage this. If you live further away and need to drive, please take care to park or do drop off in appropriate areas.

You may have noticed the RCMP and the volunteer speed patrol having more of a presence in front of our school. We appreciate them coming when they are able to help raise awareness about safe driving in a school zone.

Foundation Skills Assessments

This month grade 4 and 7 students completed the B.C. Foundation Skills Assessments. These assessments took place over several sessions and focused on literacy (reading and writing) and numeracy.

The completed assessments will be collected by the school district and marked by Richmond educators. Parents should receive the results just before spring break. These results provide one piece of information about a student's learning. Ongoing classroom assessments, work samples, conferences and report cards are important sources of information about student progress.

Notice of Intent to Attend 2017-18 School Year

Recently we sent home a yellow form for parents to complete and return indicating whether their child(ren) will continue to attend McKinney for the next school year. In the early spring we will begin planning for next year and it is important that we try to have an accurate count of students. We ask that the form be completed and brought to the office as soon as possible if you have not done so already.

If your plans for attendance for the next school year change, please let us know in the office.

Professional Day—February 24th

Friday, February 24th will be a district wide Professional Development Day. **There will be no school in session.** Our staff will be involved in a variety of learning opportunities with colleagues across the district at a conference at McMath Secondary School.

Pro-Day Day Camps—Feb. 24th & May 1st

If you are looking for something for your child to do on upcoming Pro D days, consider registering him or her for the District Pro-D Camps. These camps are being offered for children 5-11 years old at Rideau Park Adult Learning Centre Campus. They offer a variety of fun activities. Please call 604-668-6532 for more information.

Babysitting Courses

Richmond Continuing Education is offering babysitting courses for students in Gr.6 or higher. These courses focus on the business of babysitting, creating safe environments, safely caring for 0-12 year olds and First Aid skills. Courses are offered on February 24th at Brighthouse School and May 1st at Walter Lee School from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. The cost is \$69. Please call 604-668-6123 or check our school website for more information.