



Arthur Stevenson Elementary

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Principal: Mr. Grant Reilly

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Principal's Message

I am so very fortunate to serve your wonderful students at Arthur Stevenson! Our students have had an amazing first term of learning. In the midst of the current change in educational curriculum, the one constant to working with kids is the importance of adult driven relationships with students. Whether at home or at school, adults dictate the effectiveness of relationships with kids, with the onus on adults to be Bigger, Stronger, Wiser, and Kinder. The teachers and support staff that work at Arthur Stevenson embody this idea, as they make it their passion to develop positive relationships with all kids.

As I mentioned last year, often the days leading up to the holiday season/Winter Break can be very stressful for families and students. Some students experience anxiety about upcoming changes in routines or participation in extra events. As always, please don't hesitate to let myself, or your child's teacher know if you are noticing any concerning change in your child at home.

Respectfully,



Grant Reilly

Winter Concert

This year's Winter Concert, *The Best Gift Ever*, will be performed on Wednesday, December 14th. There are two performances. The afternoon performance will begin at 1:00 pm. The evening performance starts at 6:00 pm. **We are asking our audience members to each bring in an item for the Kamloops Food Bank.**

In Desperate Need of Skates...

Many classes have started going skating this year already. Unfortunately we have realized very quickly that many of our students are without skates. This is something that we didn't expect, as we usually have a few students who don't own skates, and the school has a supply of used skates on hand. However, this year we have found that we don't have enough extra skates to meet the demand for students needing skates. As a result, we are asking any families who have old skates that are no longer used to donate them to the school. Thanks in advance for your generosity.

Cardboard Design Challenge

During the week of January 30 to February 3 our school will be participating in a Cardboard Design Challenge as part of our commitment to Maker Day. All students will be given the opportunity to design and build creative pieces out of cardboard and other recycled materials. Some classes will work in small groups and some will participate as a whole class. Students will be given several building periods and the week will culminate with a showcase where everyone will get a chance to see what has been created. We will need help from our families with this. We will need to collect a lot of cardboard boxes between now and the end of January. If you are able to contribute cardboard materials to our school starting after the winter break it would be much appreciated.

PAC News

Raffle Baskets

Arthur Stevenson PAC winter raffle basket fundraiser has started. Students from each class have been bringing in donation items for their classroom basket. Today, Tuesday December 6th, students will take home raffle tickets to sell. The draws for the baskets will be held after the evening Winter Concert performance on Wednesday, December 14th. If you have items for the classroom baskets, please be sure to send them in as soon as possible, so that the baskets can be organized to be displayed at the school leading up to the Winter Concert.

Winter Concert Raffle Ticket Sales

The PAC is looking for support to sell raffle tickets before the afternoon and evening performances of this year's Winter Concert. If you are available to lend your help please contact Mr. Reilly at the school, 250.579.9284 or greilly@sd73.bc.ca.

Report Cards/Parent Teacher Interviews

Please take the opportunity to read over your child's report card with your child. All of our students possess wonderful strengths, and, just like all of us, each student has areas in which they can advance their learning. The report card is meant to give parents information about the strengths of their child's learning and areas or skills they can improve to further their learning. If you have questions or concerns about your child's report, or just want to know how to best support your child's learning, please arrange a meeting time with your child's teacher. The afternoon of Thursday, December 8th has been set aside to accommodate these meetings. A reminder, that students will be dismissed at 12:30 on Thursday.

Cold Weather

That cold weather is upon us this week and looks to continue into next week as well. Please be advised that students will be expected to go outside unless the weather is extremely cold. Generally, we have an inside day when the temperature dips below -12 degrees celsius. As always, adults at the school monitor the temperature and the conditions outside and if we believe it too cold for the kids to be outside, we will have them inside. Please ensure your child dresses appropriately for cold weather when necessary.

Newsletter Format

This is the last paper copy of the newsletter that will be sent home. Starting in January, all school newsletters will be sent out via email. If you receive the Weekly Update on Sundays, the newsletters will be sent to that email address. If you haven't been receiving the Weekly Updates please phone Mrs. Scharien at the school to confirm we have your correct email address.

Upcoming Events

December 7 - Mrs. Bertocini and Ms. Kovacs' Open House @ 6:30 - 7:30 pm

December 8 - Early Closure @ 12:30

December 8 - Parent/Teacher Interviews

December 9 - Skating (Day/Styles/Scott)

December 12 - ArtStarts Performance at ASES (1:30 pm)

December 14 - Winter Concert (1:00 pm and 6:00 pm performances)

December 16 - Skating (Day/Styles/Scott)

December 16 - Last day before Winter Break

January 3 - School resumes after Winter Break (This is a Tuesday!)

Board of Education Notes

From the Board Meeting of: NOVEMBER 21, 2016

1. The Board approved the Consent Agenda which contained the following reports/information:
 1. Finance and Planning Committee Report;
 2. Policy Committee Report;
 3. Notice of Motion – Policy 600.1 Code of Conduct;
 4. Notice of Motion – Policy 612.1 Student Dress Code.
2. The Board enjoyed '*Presentations of Learning in Elementary Math Classrooms*' by District Numeracy Coordinator Amanda Russett, Teacher Lisa Carr, and two grade 3 students from David Thompson Elementary School.
3. The Board received an Anti-Racism/Anti-Discrimination presentation from Graham Specht, Diversity Outreach Coordinator for Kamloops Immigrant Services. The Board signed an Anti-Racism/Anti-Discrimination Declaration to show support for programs and initiatives promoting diversity and inclusivity in our communities.
4. The Board approved the District's 2016-2017 Interim School Learning Plan process and the school staff development focus areas for all schools.
5. The Board received and reviewed a report on the 2016-2017 graduation ceremony schedule.
6. Superintendent Sidow provided the Board with the 2015-2016 CommunityLINK Funding and Information Report;
7. Superintendent Sidow provided the Board with the Enrolment Comparison Report for their information.
8. The Board received an update from Secretary-Treasurer Stretch on Ministry of Education Rural Education Strategies.

The next regular Board Meeting will occur on Monday December 12, 2016 at the School Board Office, 1383 Ninth Avenue, Kamloops, BC.