



Cedar Elementary News

December

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Well, the day is finally here - our Kindergarten rooms are ready and we will be together as a school family on Dec. 5! The rooms look great and we are excited to get to know our Kindergarten students better. We will be having a welcome celebration on Monday if you would like to join us. The Kindergarten students will start at Woodbank so they can come over as a group on the bus. The rest of the Cedar Elementary students will line the outside of the school to greet the bus, give a low five or a wave as they come in and walk all the way around the blacktop and into their hall. The teachers will cut the ribbons to officially open their classrooms and we will be together at last! It will be a busy week as we will be practicing for Christmas concert and then performing for our families on Dec. 8. Please make sure you have tickets - see the notice later in this newsletter but everyone who wishes to attend **must** have a ticket. Requests for additional tickets will be accepted starting tomorrow. As we approach this busy season, I would like to wish all our families the happiest of holidays and look forward to continued success in the new year.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Here are some dates to remember:

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| Dec 2 | Request additional tickets |
| Dec 5 | Kindergarten at Cedar! |
| Dec 7 | PAC meeting |
| Dec 8 | Christmas Concert |
| Dec 9 | Hot lunch |
| Dec 15 | PAC Christmas Craft Fair |
| Dec 16 | Dilly Bar - grade 7 fundraiser |
| Dec 19-23 | Carols in the gym |
| Dec 20 | Div 12 field trip |
| Dec 22 | Div 13/14 field trip
Hot lunch - pizza |
| Dec 23 | Last day |
| Dec 24-Jan 8 | Christmas Vacation |
| Jan 9 | School starts again |
| Jan 13 | Hot lunch - hot dog |

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

We will have 2 showings of our Christmas Concert this year due to the increased number of students. Because of this we will need to issue tickets that will be collected at the door. Fire regulations set the number of people allowed in the gym at one time as 525 people; with 350 students, we are unable to have only one show with each student inviting 2 guests. Instead we will have 2 shows. Performances will be on Dec. 8th at 12:45 and 6:30 PM. Ticket request forms were sent home in November. If you have not filled out this form (it was given to the youngest child in the family) please check the backpack or give the school a call. We realize more than 2 people may want to see these performances so additional requests for more tickets can be made Dec 2. Please send it in writing so the tickets can be attached to the request. I am sure we will be able to meet all requests and I appreciate your support as we try this new approach. Everyone who wishes to attend **MUST** have a ticket - these are not just extras. The afternoon and evening show are the same - the dress rehearsal is in the morning. We have quiet a few afternoon tickets left so we should not have any disappointed families.

It looks like a spectacular show!



HELP FOR THE CONCERT!

We are looking for a large number of battery operated tea lights to be used for the Christmas concert - I don't want to give it away but it will be beautiful if we get enough lights. If you wish to have them returned, please put your child's name on them. If you wish to donate, thank you in advance!

Here are some dress code ideas from Ms. Lenz for the concert

- no sports attire
- must be clean
- the fancier the better, but please don't go out and buy something just for the concert.
- Santa hats are ok as long as they don't hide your eyes

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CAROLS IN THE GYM

Do you love to sing? Do you love to see children sing Christmas songs or love to see children sing every day as we lead up to Christmas? Then join us daily at **8:45** as we carol in the gym. We will be singing from **December 19-23** so come once or every day. All voices and singing abilities welcome.



COMMUNITY SCHOOLS UPDATE

Our **Food Drive** has started in the main hall. Please put your donations of non-perishable food items in the sleigh outside the office. Other things people use such toilet paper, dish soap, toothpaste, shampoo and conditioner, cookies and Christmas delights are also nice to put in the boxes. All of our donations stay in our community and all donations, big or small, are appreciated.

CHANGES TO ASSESSMENT & REPORTING

As shared through email and the recent parent meeting, the Province of British Columbia and Nanaimo-Ladysmith Public Schools are changing the way we assess learning and reporting to parents. This means there will not be a report card coming out at the beginning of December as usual. Teachers will be doing two written reports, February and June, and letter grades will not be given. There will be three other communications of learning. One of these ongoing communication pieces was the parent teacher interview. Please watch for other communications to come home. It may be a sample of your child's work or a picture or email and will include the learning outcomes, teacher comments and student comments on learning. It is a year of exploration for reporting in our district and there are exciting changes.

TRIPLE BALL



We have 4 teams playing triple ball this year. Thanks to Mr. Middleton, Ms. Poulin, Ms. Skill and Ms. Larsson for coaching and Mr. Vincent for helping us keep on track with scheduling! We appreciate all the parent drivers and fans.

GRADE 7 FUNDRAISING

Thanks to all who supported Crazy Day by wearing crazy hair, colours and clothes and purchasing Crazy Bread. The next grade 7 fundraiser is a Dilly Bar sale - watch for notices coming home.



SCHOOL CLOSURES

If schools are closed due to snow, or any other weather-related problems, announcements will be made on local radio stations (WOLF 106.9 FM, WAVE 102.3 FM, and 91.7 COAST FM) by 7 a.m. on the day of the closure. Please do not call the radio station - tune in and listen for the announcements, which will be made on a regular basis.

In addition, the district will post the information on the district's website, Twitter, Facebook, and mobile app. Please keep in mind, however, that there may be situations where this is not always possible, for example, power outages or technical problems. The most reliable method is to listen to the local radio stations.

PAC NEWS

The next PAC meeting is set for Wednesday, **December 7th at 6:30 pm** in the learning commons (library). Please join us as we finish up our Christmas craft fair planning. All parents welcome.

Christmas Craft Fair is coming up on the evening of **December 15th from 5-7:30**. For those who have not attended before it is a great family event that is one of our largest fundraisers! This is a great evening out for the whole family. There will be approximately 12-14 craft tables where children can purchase and assemble pre-prepped Christmas crafts for as low as one dollar. We also have a cupcake walk, bake sale, silent auction, a fun Photo Booth, and a concession with yummy food for adults and kids alike! The concession is open at 5:00. Thanks to all who have volunteered and come up with craft ideas!

Silent auction - If you or someone you know has a business or may be interested in donating an item or service to our silent auction please bring items to the school by Dec 13.

Basket raffle - each class is preparing a gift basket that will be raffled off on the night of the Christmas Craft Fair. They will be on display before that time in the hall outside the office. Thank you for sending in items with your child for these fun baskets and supporting this fundraiser!

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