

A School for Everyone



ÉCOLE PUNTLIDGE PARK ELEMENTARY

401 Willemar Avenue, Courtenay, B.C. V9N 3L3

Phone & Whereabouts Line: (250) 334-4495 Fax: (250) 897-0487

School Website: <http://sd71.bc.ca/sd71/school/puntledge/school/index.htm>

Principal: Mr. Allan Douglas

Vice-Principal: Mrs. Andrea Rowland

December 1, 2004

Dear Parents,

I didn't realize the number of young children that are frightened by the presence of "dogs" on our school grounds (especially ones that are not on a leash). In the past month, I have had several parents come up to me and ask that the school become a 'dog free' zone. Although this is difficult to enforce, in light of the large number of children who are scared of dogs, we ask that you keep your dog on a leash or if possible leave it at home or in the car. Thank you.

With the Christmas season just around the corner, many classes have adopted a family for the hamper program. Please do your best to help with both the food and the money contribution (we are hoping to collect a loonie from each child) which helps pay for the fresh vegetables, turkey and milk. Thank you.

We have two wonderful music teachers at École Puntledge Park Elementary ...Jen Brown and Susan Archibald. For Christmas, Ms. Brown's classes will do a musical and parents are welcome to attend (details to follow). Mrs. Archibald's classes will be performing a Spring musical (sometime in late March or early April). In addition to the concert, we have Teddy Bear Story Night on December 2. This is a family oriented event where students get to come in their PJ's, listen to stories and have a sing-along in the courtyard.

The lost and found is on display in the main hallway. Please check it out, as we do not have the storage space to keep it for the school year. After two weeks on display, we donate it to the local Kids Store (where it is washed and resold) with the school receiving part of the proceeds.

On behalf of the staff, I would like to wish you a safe and relaxing Christmas vacation. Our last day of school is December 17 and we come back on January 3, 2005. **Happy holidays!**

Yours truly,

Allan Douglas
Principal

TEDDY BEAR STORY NIGHT ~ is December 2nd at 6:30 p.m. and wear your pajamas. Join our dramatic storytellers for some seasonal fun. This is a primary student event, but intermediate students are welcome provided they attend stories with their parents. An old-fashioned carol sing in the courtyard will follow.



LIBRARY NEWS ~ Well done again Mrs. Potts and your wonderful team of volunteers of parents and staff. The library received \$480. worth of new books to add to the library. Congratulations to Darleen Parker who won



the family draw prize of \$25.00 worth of books for her family and another \$25.00 worth of books will go to Mrs. Denny's class. Thank you to everyone who supported the fair and a huge thank you to all the volunteers who helped things to run so smoothly. **THANK YOU!!**

FRENCH SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR ~ The library will be open **Monday to Friday, December 6 to 10th from 8:15-9:00 a.m.** and again from **2:30-3:30 p.m.** 'Venez voir, lire et achetez les nouveautés dans les livres françaises!'

DISTRICT SNOW POLICY ~ Heavy snowfall may cause hazardous road conditions that may jeopardize the safety of students going to and from school. Listen to local radio stations for information about bus service and school closures.

When snowfalls occur after the start of the school day, it may be judged prudent to return children to their homes before roads become impassable.

Students who normally walk to school will stay at school until the end of the regular day unless circumstances are judged to be most severe. Remember that conditions vary widely across the district. Parents have the choice of retaining their children at home even though schools may be open.

Parents have the responsibility to make provisions for the care of their children who cannot attend school because of closures or because the children have been sent home early. If these arrangements cannot be made, please advise the school in writing.

ART COMMITTEE ~ It is time to start organizing this year's art celebration. Mrs. Rowland is looking for a committee of interested people to help in the organization. Our first two meetings will be December 9th and December 16th from 1:30-2:30 in the staff room. If you are interested in helping but unable to attend the meetings, please leave a message in the office.



**SCHOOL GOALS: LITERACY -
NUMERACY - STUDENT WELLNESS**

Parents play an important role in their children's education. We were so pleased to see so many of you at parent teacher interviews. Remember the next term is a long one and that if any questions about your child's learning or progress come up in that time, make a connection with the teacher.

HOT LUNCH

Dec. 10 –Little Caesars Pizza
Pepperoni, ham & pineapple,
plain cheese or veggie \$2.75
Fruit-to-go- .50¢ & juice - .50¢

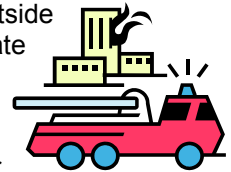
INTERVIEW DATA

- 84% of all parents attended parent/teacher conferences.
- 86% of aboriginal parents attended the parent/teacher conferences.

READY, SET, LEARN ~ What a wonderful turn-out of parents and pre-schoolers to our first *Ready, Set, Learn* afternoon. We had 30 families come and establish a relationship with our school. The early years are the precious years. Key learning takes place in a child's first six years. This learning sets the stage for success in school and in life. We look forward to building our futures together.

FIRE DRILL - CONGRATULATIONS

STUDENTS ~ We had a fire drill during lunch-time while the students were outside playing. We would like to celebrate the fact that the students knew what to do. They all ran to the field and lined up in their class groups, and waited for their teachers to take attendance. We usually can do a drill in about 4-5 minutes. This only took us one minute longer.



ACTIVE SCHOOLS ~ Tuesday, November 23rd the staff participated in a workshop about Active Schools. We were presented with data that



outlined the growing obesity problem among children and the health risks involved. Much of the problem can be attributed to a lack of physical activity. As a school we are committed to teaching our students how to lead active and healthy lives and have

developed a committee to work on this objective. We learned tips like: bell jumps, body breaks, and the importance of daily physical activity.

Parents, we invite you to work with us. Recreational family time can instill healthy habits and healthy kids. Lets try to turn off the television, computer and video games and get those kids playing outside.

SUMMARY OF PAC MEETING – NOVEMBER 15, 2004
NEXT PAC JANUARY 10, 2005 @ 7:00 P.M. IN THE SCHOOL LIBRARY.
ALL PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

Treasurer's Report – Jan Katerberg

The final amount of money raised through our magazine sales drive has not yet been confirmed by QSP but should be coming soon. We were informed about the generous IODE donation of \$1500 to the PAC.

District PAC – Ron Amos

Terri Hughes has been elected as the new chair of DPAC. The next meeting is November 22 at 7:30 pm in room 210 at Vanier Secondary School (meetings are always on the 3rd Monday of every month in the same place).

School Planning Council – Mark Steven

Next meeting November 30th at 1:30 at the school. A reminder of our school's three goals: literacy, numeracy and wellness.

Teacher's Report – Debbie Nelson

On December 2nd from 6:30-7:15 there will be a Teddy Bear Story Night, which includes a book reading, a performance by the school hand bell choir, and carol singing in the courtyard. Pyjamas are optional but encouraged.

Principal's Report – Allan Douglas

- The grade 4 trip to the Symphony inn Vancouver as huge success
- Vandalism in the school has been down
- Elementary Focus was a great success. The Lake Trail students will return next semester
- The Ready-Set-Learn program will be started on November 24 at 1:00 for 3 to 4-year olds
- Puntledge has adopted 15 families for Christmas food hampers

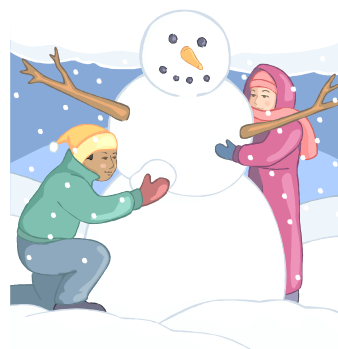
Vice-Principal's Report – Andrea Rowland

- The most recent fire drill at the school was conducted at lunchtime so that the kids could distinguish between the sound of the alarm bell and the sound of the buzzer-calling students back to class. The response was excellent, within five minutes all the classes were lined up on the field and all adults were out of the building
- A few concepts are being discussed and investigated regarding the Art Show for next year



New Business – Our Lice Coordinator, Gaylene Rehwald, reports that the Magic Comb purchased by the PAC has been very useful. The issue now arises as to whether or not we should lend out this comb as an at-home lice-combating tool, or whether its use should be restricted to the school. The PAC will ask Gaylene to recommend a policy on this issue, and it will be discussed at our next meeting. Gaylene is also interested in bringing a Public Health Nurse to the school for a lice information session, and the idea was raised to post websites on lice in our school newsletter.

If you wish to volunteer for or need to contact any of the programs undertaken by the PAC please call one of the people listed here or drop your name off at the office.

PAC Chair	Tome Nakashima	897-3137
Treasurer	Jan Katerberg	338-9190
Secretary	Lisa Taylor	338-4275
Hot Lunches	Anne Koke	336-8773
Nutrition	Laura Murray – 338-0315 / Eva Saxton -	334-8445
Fun Fair	Julie Kochanuk	338-4532
Whereabouts	Anna Leevers	338-9486
Lice Checks	Gaylene Rehwald	338-2973
Newsletter	Linda Graceffo	338-9172
DPAC	Ron Amos	338-7923
Magazine Sales	Colleen Holden	334-3676
School Planning	Mark Steven	703-2070
Council	Tome Nakashima 897-3137 /Lisa/Dave Taylor 338-4275	



DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 ~ Teddy Bear Story Night 6:30pm	3 ~ Gr. 6 Hep B Shots ~ Hearing screening French Kindergarten	4
5 FRENCH BOOK FAIR	6 FRENCH BOOK FAIR	7 FRENCH BOOK FAIR	8 FRENCH BOOK FAIR	9 FRENCH BOOK FAIR	10 ~ Hot lunch- Little Caesars Pizza	11
12	13	14	15	16 ~ Christmas Concert 11am	17 ~ Last day of school before Christmas	18
19 	20	21	22 First day of winter	23	24	25 ~ Christmas Day
26 ~ Boxing Day	27	28	29	30	31	1 JANUARY NEW YEAR'S DAY
2	3	4 ~ Schools reopen	5	6	7	8

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER DRAW ~ Congratulations to Cameron Sim of division 15 for being our monthly newsletter draw winner for November. Cameron wins a \$5.00 gift certificate, compliments of White Spot.

The monthly newsletter is our way of communicating with the parents and guardians of our students. It will normally go home with the youngest member in the family or you can get it on-line by going to our website:

<http://sd71.bc.ca/sd71/school/puntledge/school/news/news.htm>

To enter the draw for December, please complete the tear off and return it to the school.

Student's Name _____ Division _____

Parent's Signature _____

