
COOK COUGARS



NEWSLETTER

January 26th, 2018

Issue #8

MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION



Gung Hey Fat Choy! Next month brings Chinese New Year and we know we will see the excitement on the faces of our students who celebrate this special time.

Chinese New Year is the main Chinese festival of the year and is not a religious event. In China, the holiday is called the Spring Festival. The date of this festival changes each year because it's based on a lunar calendar. The date corresponds to the first new moon in January or February. This year Chinese New Year starts on February 16th. It is traditionally celebrated for 15 days ending on the date of the next full moon. In China, the celebration is 3 days long. The Chinese lunar calendar is made up of a cycle of twelve years and each year corresponds to one of 12 animals. This year is the Year of the Dog. Family is at the centre of Chinese New Year involving visiting and shared meals with loved ones. Red is the colour that honours this holiday and we see it decorating many families' homes and businesses around Richmond. Children often receive gifts and money from friends and relatives and everyone is wished much luck and happiness for the coming year.

February will bring many exciting activities to the school. Over the next few weeks, classes will be celebrating Chinese New Year, Valentines Day, 100 Day and Pink Shirt Day.



BASKETBALL SEASON STARTS

Our grade 6 and 7 students have been invited to join the basketball teams at Cook.

There is a Grade 6/7 Girls team, and Grade 6 & Grade 7 Boys teams. The teams practice at recess, at lunch time and occasionally after school. There are scheduled games between other schools that are held after school. If your child is on the basketball team, a note will have gone home outlining the practice times and game dates.

A big thank you goes to Ms. Kay and Ms. Fournier for coaching the Girl's team, and to Ms. Storey and Ms. Tennant for coaching the Boy's Gr. 7 team. Mr. Hawke is coaching the Grade 6 Boys team. We appreciate you volunteering your time to support our students!

GRADE 7 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHTS

It's that time of year again when schools are preparing for their new students for September. Please check out the school and date of the parent information night that pertains to your child:

Steveston/London	Wednesday, January 31 st 7:00 pm
J. N. Burnett	Thursday, February 1 st 6:15 pm
Richmond	Wednesday, February 7 th 6:30 pm

STUDENT ENROLMENT FORM

Attached to this newsletter is a form called 'Student Enrolment'. This form asks whether families are planning to remain at Cook School next year. Please return this form by **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9th** so we can have a clear idea of the number of students we will enroll for the next school year.

HOMEWORK CLUB BEGINS

Homework Club starts on Monday, January 29th at Cook Elementary! Homework Club is an afterschool program for Cook students grades 4 – 7 where students can get help with homework plus play sports and games, try arts and crafts and enjoy a healthy snack. Dedicated volunteers work with students to provide academic and recreation opportunities. City Centre Community Centre offers two days of Homework Club at Cook:

Monday, Jan 29 – March 12

Barcode: 2228446 (Grade 4/5)

Barcode: 2228448 (Grade 6/7)

Cost: \$60 / 6 sessions

Wednesday, Jan 24 – Mar 14

Barcode: 2228447 (Grade 4/5)

Barcode: 2228449 (Grade 6/7)

Cost: \$80 / 8 sessions

If you are interested in registering your child for the program, you can register online (www.richmond.ca/register), call the Registration Call Centre (604-276-4300), or come to City Centre Community Centre to register in person (5900 Minoru Blvd).

GOING ON AN EXTENDED HOLIDAY?

We understand that many families like to keep in touch with extended families in other countries. We always encourage families to make those visits on school breaks such as during summer holidays, winter break or spring break. Did you know that if you were to take one month's

holiday during school time each year, by the time your child graduates, he/she would have missed more than 1 year of instruction. If you plan on being away for more than 1 week during the school year, you must fill in an 'Extended Leave Form' at the office. It allows us to document your child's absence and avoid calling you each morning as part of our early warning system. ***Any child absent for more than 20 instructional days will be removed from our school. The parent will need to re-register the child at the School Board Office and placement back in the same school and class is not guaranteed.***

FAMILY DAY HOLIDAY IN FEBRUARY

School will be closed on Monday, February 12th, 2018 for BC's Family Day.

PAC MEETING – FEBRUARY 6th

Please join us for the next PAC meeting on Tuesday, February 6th at 8:45am in the Multipurpose Room



READERS CHOICE IS BACK!

Readers Choice has started at Cook School! This annual event, organized and run by Mr. Rosell, is a competition to select the best book of 2017-2018 in both picture book and novel genres. The Richmond Teacher Librarians have short-listed a number of excellent books and Mr. Rosell has purchased several copies of each title. Thank you to the PAC for providing funds for the purchase of the books. Intermediate students sign the books out from the library, read them and then vote for their favourites. Primary students will have the books read to them by their teachers and they vote for their favourites as well. This is a much-anticipated event for students and a great deal of reading goes on! Thank you to Mr. Rosell for organizing this event. At the end of the event, names are drawn for our Cook winners.



READY SET LEARN!

Cook School would like to welcome all 3 and 4 year old children in our neighbourhood to come to a special event during the afternoon of Wednesday, February 7th, 2018. Join us for a musical concert with Will Stroet and participate in some fun activity stations. If you plan to attend this event with your child, please contact our school at 604-668-6454 as soon as possible. If you have friends or neighbours with young children, please share this information with them and urge them to attend this valuable session.

BUNDLE UP RICHMOND!

Our Eco-Team, sponsored by Ms. Verkade, Ms. Rollo and Mrs. Wong are organizing our 'Bundle Up Richmond' day on **Wednesday, January 31st**. The team members will visit classrooms and make announcements to encourage students and staff to lower the temperature in classrooms and wear sweaters to keep warm for the day. The event gives attention to energy conservation and simple ways individuals can save energy. Thank you, Eco Team, for reminding us of the simple ways we can help our planet.



EARLY DISMISSAL – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15th

We have our second term early dismissal day on **Thursday, February 15th**. School will dismiss at **12:00** on that day to allow teachers to meet with parents. Please note that the time is earlier than our usual 12:20pm lunch break. Some teachers will be meeting with all parents and others will meet face to face with a few parents. If you would like to meet with your child(ren)'s teacher(s), please contact them directly to arrange a time.