
COOK COUGARSFebruary 27th, 2017**NEWSLETTER**Issue #10

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

We had a great week of conferences! Thank you to all the parents who took the time to meet with their children's teachers. It was a busy time for teachers, but they really appreciate the opportunity to speak with you about your child's learning. If you were not able to meet with your child's teacher last week, please feel free to phone and make an appointment.

TWO WEEK SPRING BREAK

This is a quick reminder that our two-week Spring Break begins on Monday, March 13th and continues until the final day Friday, March 24th. The first day back to school is Monday, March 27th. Have a wonderful holiday with friends and family. Please ensure you let the school know if you are extending your Spring Break in any way so we can record your child's absence.

SCHOOL BREAK ACTIVITIES

City Centre Community Association is running a number of Spring Break activities for students. Flyers have gone home to families. Registration is ongoing and can be completed online.

In addition, there are a number of low cost activities around Richmond that families could enjoy. For more information, check out the brochure the city of Richmond has published called "Low Cost, No Cost brochure" at

<http://www.richmond.ca/parksrec/about/access/roar.htm>

WELCOME TO EDUCATION WEEK!

Next week is Education Week in Richmond. It runs from Sunday, February 26th to Sunday, March 5th.

Education Week is an annual celebration hosted by the Richmond School District. It is a time for students, teachers and parents to celebrate teaching excellence and student achievement.

Students and teachers will display themes of science, math, art, music and physical education while highlighting individual, classroom, school and district accomplishments.

We hope that you come out to a few of the events during Education Week and take part in the excitement! For more information, please visit our website at <http://edweek.sd38.bc.ca/>

Cook School will have five bulletin boards filled with student work displayed at Aberdeen Centre throughout Education Week. There are a number of divisions that have contributed to the art displays this year. Please stop by Aberdeen Mall to see our wonderful displays. Div. 2 will also be participating in Science Jam which will also take place at Aberdeen on Tuesday, February 28th from 4-6 pm.

PAC NEWS

Our next PAC meeting will be Tuesday, April 4th at 8:45am in Room 3. Please join us for good conversation. Your opinion means a great deal to us so we hope you will drop by.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT FORM

If you have not returned your Student Enrollment form (on yellow paper). Please return this form by Friday, March 3rd. This is very important information for our school planning for September.

PINK DAY ACTIVITIES WERE GREAT!

On February 22th we celebrated 'Pink Shirt Day' with Social Responsibility and Mindfulness activities and a short assembly. The stations were organized in family teams.

During the afternoon stations, students listened to stories about kindness and wrote messages of kindness and inclusion on colourful banners. You will see these banners displayed around the school. Our Pink Shirt Day event ended with all of us learning and participating in a Friendship dance, taught to us by Mrs. Loat. It was a wonderful afternoon, enjoyed by all.

GRADE 7 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

MacNeill will hold their Feeder School Tournament once again this year, after school on March 1st and 2nd. We wish our teams luck and hope that they demonstrate both skill and sportsmanship! Thank you to the coaches, Ms. Kay, Ms. Fournier, Mr. Hawke and Ms. Underwood for giving your time to the teams!

EARTH HOUR – MARCH 25

Earth Hour is a world-wide event held each year around the end of March. Individuals, families, businesses, communities, cities and countries are encouraged to turn off their lights and



electronic devices for 1 hour (8:30 – 9:30pm) on March 25th as a symbol of our commitment to the planet. The website has more information (<http://www.earthhour.org/>).

LIBRARY NEWS

Students and parents are encouraged to visit Cook's library before Spring Break to borrow reading materials for the two week break. Additionally, be sure to visit any branch of the Richmond Public Library as they are offering special programming during the last weeks of March. Check out their website (yourlibrary.ca) for further details.



We'll be announcing the book winners of our Readers' Choice promotion on Thursday, March 9. Hundreds of Cook students have taken part in this exciting reading program and look forward to finding out which books have been chosen as this year's favorites.

BC CURRICULUM UPDATE

Teachers at Cook School have been using the new curriculum content and design in most curricular areas this year. The focus of the new curriculum is on learning processes rather than product, on inquiry rather than direct instruction and on the core competencies of Communication, Creative and Critical Thinking, and Personal and Social Development. The Core Competencies along with literacy and numeracy foundations and essential content and concepts are at the center of the new BC curriculum. Core competencies are sets of intellectual, personal, and social and

emotional proficiencies that all students need to develop in order to engage in deep learning and life-long learning. The three Core Competencies are:

Communication -The communication competency encompasses the set of abilities that students use to impart and exchange information, experiences and ideas, to explore the world around them, and to understand and effectively engage in the use of digital media. of mind, and metacognitive awareness.

Thinking – The thinking competency encompasses the knowledge, skills and processes we associate with intellectual development. It is through their competency as thinkers that students take subject-specific concepts and content and transform them into a new understanding. Thinking competence includes specific thinking skills as well as habits of mind, and metacognitive awareness.

Personal and Social - Personal and social competency is the set of abilities that relate to students' identity in the world, both as individuals and as members of their community and society. Personal and social competency encompasses the abilities students need to thrive as individuals, to understand and care about themselves and others, and to find and achieve their purposes in the world.

Teachers and administrators will support students' self-awareness of themselves as communicators, thinkers, and personally and socially responsible citizens through consistently noticing, naming, and nurturing the Core Competencies and their connection to the Curricular Competencies.

Website:

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/sites/curriculum.gov.bc.ca/files/pdf/faq.pdf>.

I encourage you to go to the website to view more about this new and exciting curriculum shift.

