



Birchland Elementary School

E-News

1331 Fraser Avenue, Port Coquitlam, BC V3B 1M5

Phone: 604-941-3428 Fax: 604-941-7952

www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/birchland

birchland@sd43.bc.ca

Mr. Frank Pearse, *Principal*

Around Birchland

I would like to start off by thanking the Birchland Community (Staff, Students and Parents) for being so welcoming during my first week as Principal. The work that has gone into developing a rich learning atmosphere is apparent through the conversations I have had and purposeful lessons / learning opportunities I have witnessed and been a part of in my first week. I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to become immersed in “The Birchland Way” and look forward to working with you all in the coming years.

Just as I was welcomed into our community this past week, one of my first duties as Principal of Birchland is to welcome our newest Kindergarten families into the fold with Kindergarten registration this Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. If you know of any families in the area with children that will be 5 years old by Dec 31, 2012, please ask them to contact the school to learn about our Kindergarten registration process, or [click here](#) for additional information available on our website.

This coming Friday we are hosting our Jump Rope for Heart Kick-Off Assembly at 9 A.M. Not only is the Jump Rope for Heart Campaign a great way to ensure our students get their minimum of 60 minutes of exercise daily it also helps raise money to fund research done by the [Heart and Stroke Foundation](#). Several members of BPAC have been working hard to organize this event, please watch for information coming home with your child.

I would also like to thank all of our parents who took some extra care when picking up their children Friday afternoon. Just before 2:00 on Friday we noticed water rising out of the road in front of the school and slowly lifting the asphalt from the roadway. By the time we dismissed just before 3:00 we had 4 city trucks, a dump truck and a backhoe digging up the broken water main. Remembering how exciting it is to see a backhoe in action I can understand why many students needed to come by to take a look, but really appreciate that everyone gave the city crews their distance and remained safe! [Click here](#) or [here](#) if you want to see a picture of the damage.

Two Weeks at a Glance ([Click for the full Birchland Calendar](#))

FEBRUARY 2012						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

Feb 6 – Fruit and Veggie Delivery (Mixed Organic Apples)

Feb 7 – Lunch Lady (optional)

Feb 7 – Beyond the Bell @ 2:55 – 4:15

Feb 7 – Feb 9 – Kindergarten Registration (9-3) ([click for more info](#))

Feb 9 – Grade 5 Basketball Practice (Lunch)

Feb 10 – Jump Rope for Heart Kick-off Assembly (9:00 AM)

Feb 10 – Aboriginal Cultural Support (1PM)

Feb 10 – Feb 15 – Birchland Book Fair

Feb 13 – Grade 5 Basketball Practice (2:55 – 4:00)

Feb 14 – Lunch Lady (optional)

Feb 14 – Beyond the Bell (2:55 – 4:15). To register, please visit Poco’s Park and Rec [website](#)

Feb 15 – Birchland PAC Meeting @ 6:30 in the Library

Feb 16 – Grade 5 Basketball Practice (Lunch)

Feb 17 – District-Wide Professional Development Day (School not in session)

Calendar continued....

Feb 20 – Birchland E-News Vol. 2012-2 Published

Feb 20 - and Veggie Delivery (sliced Apples)

Feb 20 – Grade 5 Basketball Practice (2:55 – 4:00)

New Newsletter Format

As with any transition you will find that a few things are going to be done differently by “The New Guy”...read me! One of these things is our school newsletter, which will now be sent out every second Monday. We are also going to try to work towards having our newsletter e-mailed directly to families rather than asking you to visit our website to view it (although it will still be posted on our website). Paper copies of our newsletter will still be available by request, although some content that is ‘hyperlinked’ to the newsletter may not be accessible without internet access.

To help facilitate this process I ask that you either fill out and return the form at the end of this newsletter (paper version), or e-mail birchland@sd43.bc.ca (electronic version), with the same information prior to Friday, February 10th, 2012.

Birchland Birthday Club

Last Wednesday marked the first ever Birchland Birthday Club. In celebration of all the students who had Birthdays in January we had cake, sang Happy Birthday and talked about how great it was to be born in the first month of the year. During the month of February we will continue with the Birthday Club having three separate celebrations for February, August, and September. Click [here](#) to view a picture of the January Birthday Club!

Grade 5 Basketball

The grade 5 basketball team had our first practice last Thursday. It is great to see so many students involved. We will continue practicing until early March when we will participate in the grade 5 Basketball Tournament at Minnehada Middle School.

Cross Catchment Process (for September 2012)

Information on the process for applying to attend a school outside of your catchment for the 2012-2013 school year can be found by visiting the [School District 43 Website](#).

Late French Immersion (Grade 6 for Sept 2012)

Information regarding the Late French immersion programs at Banting and Pitt River Middle School (for students who will be in Grade 6 in September 2012) is now available. A flyer can be found [here](#) and the details of the registration process can be found [here](#).

Community Information

The following groups have requested that we distribute information regarding their community events / activities. Although some of these activities may take place in School District 43 Schools we do not organize or endorse these groups or organizations, we simply pass along the information.

The next Learn and Play Event will focus on “Marvelous Math” and take place at Coquitlam Centre on Wednesday, February, 29th from 5:30 – 7:30. For more information click [here](#).

TCYBA Basketball Registration – For more information please click [here](#).

