



# École Nestor News

Phone: 604-464-9422

Fax: 604-464-8257

Email: [www.sd43.bc.ca/nestor](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/nestor)

Dear Parents:

March 4, 2011



## Principal's Message

Have you ever missed the first ten minutes of a movie and then tried to watch the rest? Missing out on the introduction to the plot line or characters can make it really hard to figure out what and who the movie is about. An Adam Sandler classic might be a little easier to figure out compared to a more complex, sophisticated movie. I think each day at school is a lot like watching a movie. Missing the first few minutes of the day, a student is potentially missing the daily schedule review, handing in forms and paperwork, announcements and sometimes the beginning of a lesson. Missing the beginning of the day or a number of days in Elementary school may not seem like a huge problem, but missing school can have serious consequences.

- **Some research on attendance:**

A 2004 study conducted by the Coquitlam School District and the Ministry of Children and Family Development identified school dropout as a developmental process that often begins in elementary school with chronic absenteeism. This study, compiled by Dr. Marlene Moretti, states that "early identification and intervention with children showing pronounced absenteeism represents an ideal early intervention strategy" (Moretti, 2004).

- **Some data:**

Although most of our students arrive at school on time and ready for learning each day, there are a number of students and/or families that seem to struggle with being at school and on time. In reviewing our attendance for the week of February 7 to 11, **80 students were late**. This represents over 25% of our school population. Imagine if you were trying to watch a movie with a quarter of the viewers walking past you to find their seats (a little distracting!).

My goal in discussing attendance is only to let you know that there is help available. It can be challenging helping students keep up their school commitments, but if you need help, we are here to assist. There are no Oscars or Golden Globe Awards for good attendance, but the reward of feeling connected to a learning community will surpass any shimmering statuettes!

**Please note: Students are reminded that the warning bell rings at 8:50 a.m. Students are to remain outside until this time.**

## Parent Friendly Events

I recently had a request to highlight parent friendly events. Parents/guardians are welcome at many and most school activities, but I thought it was a good idea to emphasize those events that are especially open to our families.

Sun Run Training – Tuesdays and Fridays at 12:00

Family Photo Night – March 15

Good Stuff Awards – March 18



# Canadian Citizenship Ceremony and Heritage Fair

The staff and students at Nestor worked really hard to host two fantastic events earlier in the month: The Official Canadian Citizenship Ceremony and The Heritage Fair. Both events were outstanding and won praise from all who attended. Any time big events happen so successfully it is due to the contributions of many. Here are some people we wanted to recognize:



- Mrs. Leah Donnelly, the coordinator of the events as well as the Nestor Intermediate teachers, students and staff for their extra efforts, time and commitment
- Nestor Primary teachers, students and staff for their support, cooperation and sharing their amazing artwork
- Mr. Walton and Mr. Nacauli for the many extras they did in preparing our site for these events
- Ms. Dorrepaal and the Nestor Choir for their fantastic performance at the ceremony
- Parents Morven Young and Cindy Faruki for organizing and hosting the reception
- Nestor Parent Group President, Robynn Wyle for her help with event supplies
- Local businesses: Cobbs Bread, Starbucks Coffee and Blooming Buds Florists for their donations
- All the judges from our school community, the Coquitlam Heritage Society, Mrs. Vedova (retired teacher), Mr. Trask (principal Maple Creek) and Mr. Miller (former student teacher)
- MP James Moore for donating Canada Pins for many of our students
- The Hung Family: Lucas, Iris and Louise for their musical entertainment prior to the ceremony
- Emily Onodi, Sean Jones and Harold Teodocio who represented our school and Scouts and Guides of Canada by participating in the ceremony
- The Nestor Leadership Team of students who did countless extra jobs and hosting roles for both events

## Website

Recently, some parents indicated that they had accessed an old version of the Nestor website assuming that it was our current site. Our internet address is: [www.sd43.bc.ca/nestor](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/nestor). Mrs. Boekhout is our site master and regularly keeps this informative tool up to date.

## Translation

I am looking for assistance with translating our newsletters into other languages. If you would be able to help with this, please contact me at [sdellavedova@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:sdellavedova@sd43.bc.ca)

## Class Photographs

All of our students will be saying "Cheese" on **Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**. Class photographs of all our students will be taken on this day. There is no charge for the classroom pictures. An entire school panorama picture will be taken weather permitting.



## Report Cards

A quick reminder that second term report cards will be sent to parents on **Thursday, March 17, 2011**.

  
**SPRING  
BREAK**  
Mar. 21 to Apr. 1

## Dates at a Glance

Mar. 7	Classroom Photographs & Panorama Photograph
Mar. 9	Maple Creek Middle School staff visits Grade 5 classes
Mar. 15	Family Photo Night
Mar. 17	2 <sup>nd</sup> Term Report Cards go home
Mar. 18	Good Stuff Awards Assembly
Mar. 18	Last day prior to Spring Break – <b>Early Dismissal @ 2:00</b>
Mar. 21 - Apr. 1	Spring Break
Apr. 4	Return to school from Spring Break
Apr. 5	Running Club starts (Grade 3 to 5)
Apr. 7	Divisions 2 & 3 to Fort Langley
Apr. 21	Pro-D Day (students do not attend school)
Apr. 22	Good Friday Stat Holiday
Apr. 25	Easter Monday Stat Holiday
Apr. 26	Track Attack Starts
Apr. 27	PAC Parent Night – Focus on Anxiety (6:30-8:30)
Apr. 27	Choir to Music Jamboree
Apr. 28	Jeans Day
Apr. 29	Good Stuff Award Assembly



## Community News

- **City Centre Aquatic Complex - Low Cost Program Opportunity!**

### **\$5.00 Swim Lessons at City Centre Aquatic Complex**

Monday - Friday, March 28 – April 1, 2011

Swim instructors in-training will be teaching these lessons.

Please register in the last level taken.

Participants will **NOT** be evaluated at the end of these lessons.

Ways to register:

By phone 604.927.4FUN(4386)

Internet <http://signmeup.coquitlam.ca/signmeup>

In person: At any Coquitlam Parks, Recreation & Culture Services facilities



Sincerely,

Mr. Sean Della Vedova  
Principal



**Day Light Savings**  
**Turn your clock ahead one hour @ 2:00 a.m.**  
**on Sunday March 13**