



école intermédiaire Kwayhquitlum Middle School

3280 Flint Street
Port Coquitlam, B.C.
V3B 4J2

Telephone: 604-942-1835

Fax: 604-942-6701

Principal: Mr. Graham

Vice-Principal: Mrs. Potter-Smith

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/middle/Kwayhquitlum/Pages/default.aspx>

November 7, 2011

Mission Statement: To provide a safe, caring community that values and pursues learning, respect, and responsibility.

Énoncé de mission: L'école s'engage à créer un environnement sécurisant permettant de favoriser l'apprentissage, le respect et la responsabilité.

IMPORTANT DATES

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| November 10 | Remembrance Day Assembly - 11:00 am |
| November 11 | School Closed Remembrance Day |
| November 14 th | School Closed Non-Instructional day |
| November 15 th | Term 2 Explorations Begin |
| November 18 th | Pep Rally vs Masked Marauder |
| November 21-23 | Scholastic Book Fair In our Library |
| December 9 th | Les Corbeaux field trip Skating |
| December 14 th | Christmas Concert 7:00 p.m. |
| December 15 th | School Christmas Concert - 11:00 a.m. |
| December 16 th | School closed for Winter Vacation |

Please be sure to check our calendar on the school website for further updates to the events and activities taking place at Kway!

"My heroes are and were my parents. I can't see having anyone else as my heroes".

Michael Jordan

Dear Parents:

The short days of fall are well upon us and so is the end of the first term for Explorations and the end of term for core subjects will come to an end in early December. This time of year affords all of us an opportunity to reflect on the successes that the students have had since the beginning of the school year. For one, the Grade 6 students have made a big step in their academic lives by adjusting to the new routines and expectations of middle school. It is great to have these new students at our school as they provide a new energy that is always refreshing. The Grade 7 students know the ropes and are growing physically, emotionally and intellectually as they enter into their teen years. They need to be congratulated for providing support with the transition of our Grade 6 students. The Grade 8 students are experiencing a secondary curriculum for the first time (yes, the Grade 8 curriculum is considered a high school curriculum). The academic expectations for Grade 8 students is to synthesize their learning from the past and extend their knowledge by applying previously learned concepts to more complex concepts found in the Grade 8 curriculum. Our Grade 8 students have provided the leadership and role modeling that we would expect from them. Bravo!!

Now a word on parents. From time to time, parents ask me for advice on how to deal with their pre-teen and teenage children. Most often I am at a loss as to what to say because as a parent myself, I find parenting to be the toughest job of all. My work at Kway is easy compared to my role as a parent. I believe this is because of the enormous responsibility we have as parents in shaping our children into respectful and responsible young people. For myself, I always feel that I fall short as a parent, but my two wonderful daughters teach me many valuable lessons about care, respect and love. Your role as parents far outweighs the influence we have over your children. We can make a difference, but the reality is that our influence at Kway only lasts for 6 -7 hours during the week for 10 months of the year and for three years. In contrast, a parent's influence begins from birth and lasts for many years thereafter. You are their role models and their first educators. We, as their teachers, humbly accept the responsibility of carrying on the education that you have already started and look forward to continuing our partnership with you to help your children become productive and happy members of society.

It is a great privilege for all of us at Kway to work with your children. It is a job that we take very seriously and one that provides us with much joy and satisfaction. We appreciate the efforts that you make at home to support, help and encourage your children with their education.

If you have any questions regarding your child's progress to date, please do not hesitate at any time to contact your child's teacher.

Mr. A. Graham
Principal

Ms. C. Potter-Smith
Vice-Principal

Newsletter Delivery

As per previous practice, newsletters this year will not be sent home with every student as we attempt to be a bit more environmentally conscious at Kway. Parents will be able to access the newsletter on our school website and there will still be limited paper copies available at our school office. Students (and parents) can pick these up at any time. As well, we will be sending the newsletter via email according to the addresses supplied on the student verification sheets. If you would like your name or additional addresses added to these distribution lists, please let Mr. Graham know. ☺

Weather Advisory ☺

Although it is a nice brisk afternoon as this unpredictable - except that it will most In the event of heavy snowfall, ice or high



is being typed, we know that our weather can be somewhat definitely rain again in the near future!

wind, please listen to CBC 690 AM, CKNW 980 AM, or CKWX 1130 AM radio stations for possible school closure information. In addition, on inclement weather days, school closure information will be posted on the school district website at www.sd43.bc.ca.

Please note that unless you hear about school closures through these media outlets, school will be open as usual. We appreciate your cooperation in trying not to phone the school and asking "is school open" unless necessary ☺

Lost and Found



It may be hard to believe, but after just two and a half months of school, our two large lost and found bins are overflowing with sweaters, pants, gym strip, etc.. Although our local charities are always appreciative of our donations, it might be less costly to families if the owners of these items took them home ☺. Please encourage your children to check the lost and found bins outside the office whenever they leave articles of clothing behind. All items are currently on display and will be removed on November 18th.

Attendance

Just a reminder that it helps our office staff tremendously when parents call the school to let us know if their children are going to be absent or late. After hours, a message can be left on our answering machine or you can fill out the attendance form on our school website. If the office is not notified, parents (or an emergency contact) can expect a call to confirm the absence as a measure to ensure the safety of your children, our students.



School/Athletic and Yearbook Fees/PAC Fees

A very enthusiastic thank you goes out to parent(s) and guardian(s) for sending in your fees so promptly. We very much appreciate your attending to this in such a timely manner. Those who have not sent in your fees please do so at your earliest convenience.

Student fees \$35.00, Yearbook \$40.00 Engraving \$5.00, & Athletic fees \$15.00. We do accept post-dated cheques and "payment plans". Please call Mr. Graham if you have any questions or concerns.

Sensory Room/Skill Development Room

We are currently trying to assemble some specialty rooms at the school, but we are in need of a few additional resources. If you have any of the following items that are no longer needed in your home we would be grateful if they could be donated to the school. If possible can you make sure all are in working order and are not missing pieces.

- board games (educational)
- puzzles (age 5-8)
- interactive toys/learning toys (leapfrog)
- early literacy toys/discovery toys
- counting/money toys
- blocks
- marbles/dice
- cards
- lego/k'nex/building toys
- musical toys
- old books (4-8yrs old)
- scrapbooking supplies
- old scrapbook supplies (art supplies)
- electric kettle

Thank you for your support we really appreciate all the donations we have received so far this year. Ms. Edwards

Swim Team

The Kway Swim Team made an 7th. Our group included competitive we had only fourteen kids, we amassed excellent job done by all. Our forces to be reckoned with, setting the achieve success. Special thanks to Mr. Robertson, Ms. Kooner, Ms. Boonzaayer and the many parents who came and helped out at the meet - it couldn't have been done without you! We are really proud to have worked with the Kway Swim Team this year! Ms. Bauder & Ms. Charles.



impressive showing at this year's District Swim Meet on October swimmers as well as non-competitive swimmers, and even though enough points to come first overall in the district for all middle team was supportive and sportsmanlike, and our swimmers were bar high with their amazing race times and working together to

Volleyball - The Cougar Volleyball teams have all been experiencing successful seasons. On October 28 the grade 6 team travelled to Gleneagle to participate in the district play-night. Skill, enthusiasm, and fun highlighted the evening. All grade 6 volleyball players should be proud of their efforts. Our grade 7 and teams are gearing up for their respective play-off runs. The grade 7 play-offs are November 7 and 8, while the grade 8 teams conclude their season on November 15 and 16. Best of luck to all teams!



Cross Country at Kway - Kway's cross country season concluded last Thursday with the district championship meet at Mundy Park. Our Grade 6 girls' team of Lauren Watson, Anika Morokhovich, Anne Yolland and Mikayla Faria received the second place aggregate. Lauren Watson also placed first overall in the Grade 6 girls' division. Olivia Willett not only won her Grade 7 girls race, but also finished ahead of all of the Grade 7 boys. There was a huge improvement in the performances of all of our athletes throughout the season. Many thanks to our parent drivers who drove students to and from our events!

Field Hockey - It has been a while since Kway has had a field hockey team and this year we were fortunate to have many enthusiastic girls and boys make the commitment to practice and play outdoors, sometimes in nasty weather. Congratulations to our team who were undefeated in the district finals and came away with the "B" Division Championship. A special thanks goes to Bree-Anna Weir who coached the team as well as to the parents who drove students to the games.

Kway Wear!

Kway Wear order forms were made available on Monday, Nov. 7th and orders are due on Friday, Nov. 18th. Sample sizes and logo designs are available in the office. T-shirts are \$10.00 and Hooded Sweat Tops and Zipped Sweat Tops are \$25.00. Four new logo styles to choose from - check them out!!!!
Mr. Skerratt, Mrs. Andrews



Hallowe'en Dance

The spooky day has come and gone but it was a terrific day here at Kway. On these special days, the incredible level of enthusiasm, participation, and general sense of community shown by staff and students alike is truly inspiring. Our first dance of the year went flawlessly - a huge thanks to Ms. Penk, Ms. Morgan, Ms. Glen and Mr. Staniforth and all the Community Events leadership students who worked so hard to make it a success.

PAC Meeting featuring Internet safety expert Jesse Miller!

Our next PAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 1st. As always, the meetings are informative and entertaining. For this month, we are having a guest speaker, Jesse Miller, who is an expert in the area of Internet safety who will speak about and demonstrate the importance of children having a safe online presence. ALL PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

Scholastic Book Fair – Nov 21-23

If you're trying to find that perfect Christmas gift, then look no further - Kway will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair from November 21-23. Our Book Fairs connect students to books they really want to read. By purchasing books and supporting our Book Fair, you enable our school to obtain new resources for our school and classroom libraries.

The fair will be taking place on the following dates:

November 21nd 12:00-12:45; 2:50-4:00 pm
November 22nd 12:00-12:45; 2:50-4:00 pm and 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
November 23rd 12:00-12:45; 2:50-4:00 pm

We will be hosting a **Family Event** on November 22th (6:00-7:30 pm) where your family can shop together and enter our Family Event Draw. You can pay by cash, cheque, Visa, Mastercard, and American Express. Happy holiday shopping!

PS - If any parents would like to volunteer to help out at the fair, please contact Stacey Plesko at stacey@plesko.ca



Movie Night

A big thanks goes out to our Parent Advisory Council for organizing the first Movie Night of the year. The event was well attended as about 175 people watched the final Harry Potter Movie while enjoying popcorn, snacks and pop. A special thanks to all the parents who volunteered their time to make this family event so successful.

We Team

Kway's We Team is off to a wonderful start again this year. Recently, the We Team attended "We Day Vancouver 2011" Highlights included Mikail Gorbachev, Rick Hansen, Shawn Desman, Down with Webster, Nelly Furtado, Shaquille O'Neal, Spencer West, Hedley and the founders Craig and Marc Kielburger; too many presenters to name! Overall, the experience was amazing! We took batteries for zinc and donated to relieve hunger in Africa. Rogers Arena was filled with 18,000 kids motivated to be the change - what an amazing feeling!

The We Team has recently completed our Halloween for Hunger campaign, for which we collected a terrific amount of canned food donations. We will be doing more things as the year goes along like "Kwayzee Sock Day" and "Vow of Silence" and of course we will still be heading up the concession stand at our dances for our sponsor child. A big thanks to all of our teachers and parents who make these events around our school possible. Be the change everyday!



Share Christmas Hamper - We will soon be collecting non-perishable food items for the Share food bank. As in past years, we are counting on our school community to support needy families in our neighbourhood. Please look for an e-mail in the near future with more details.

Art Club

On Friday afternoons from 3-4:15 p.m., have been meeting each week to work on our completing these creations and showcasing Ms. Wong / Mr. Inkster/ Ms. Wall



Kway's art room is buzzing! Over 60 art lovers and enthusiasts latest creations: Salt dough sculptures. We look forward to them in our school's library once they are finished.

Computer Lab

We are looking for parent volunteers to run Open Lab in the Computer Room (room D7) at lunch. Parents would be responsible for opening the room for students that need to finish school work, and supervise until the lunch break is over. Interested parents would need to complete a criminal record application. Please call the school if you are interested.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION



Edcamp Coquitlam - January 14, 2012

Jan 14, 2012 9:00 am - 3:00 pm | Saturday

[Please register to attend edcamp 43 in Port Coquitlam on January 14, 2012! Edcamp Coquitlam: January 14, 2012 0.00](#)

Edcamp Coquitlam is an "unconference" that will be held on January 14, 2012. Join us for collaborative, engaging and relevant conversations! Educators, parents, and anyone else interested in education are more than welcomed to join us at Kwayhquitlum Middle School in Port Coquitlam, BC on this day!
<http://www.subproximus.ca/edcamp43/>

Upcoming Events at Place des Arts

1120 Brunette Avenue, Coquitlam | 604.664.1636 | www.placedesarts.ca

Family Day at PdA!

Sunday, November 20, 1:30-3:30PM

Gather up the family and tour Place des Arts annual *Positively Petite* miniature exhibition. Then participate in a variety of all-ages, drop-in style workshops that celebrate *small* and create your very own lantern in preparation for *Light up the Square a Lantern Affair* on December 3. Don't be intimidated by art, get engaged in it! Admission by donation. **Reserve your spot by calling 604.664.1636 before Tuesday, November 15.**

Light up the Square: A Lantern Affair

Saturday, December 3, 4:30-7:30PM

Welcome in the light during Light up the Square's lantern affair! Discover the Japanese taiko drumming tradition that lures the sun; drop in on a variety of arts and crafts activities for all ages; get into the spirit of the season with live music and song and be entranced by a musical performance of *A Child's Christmas in Wales* staged by RA Productions. This is a free community event.

Workshops for Kids at Place des Arts

1120 Brunette Avenue, Coquitlam | 604.664.1636 | www.placedesarts.ca

Place des Arts has some great workshops for children and youth coming up in November and December. Register by phone at 604.664.1636, online at www.placedesarts.ca or at the Place des Arts reception/registration desk.

Claymation Filmmaking (11-17 years)

Create your own stop-motion animated film! Plan a story, make a storyboard, design and build your own characters and sets, and then shoot and edit your film, practicing techniques in shot composition, movement and timing. Add voices and music and upload it to YouTube! A digital camera with removable card is recommended for this class.

9139 • W • Nov 23-Nov 30 • 3:30 - 6:00 PM • \$46.50

Graphic Novel Workshop (11-17 years)

Dive into the world of comic book making! Whether your interest is Japanese manga, humour comics or superheroes, you'll learn to design your own cast of characters, plot and lay out scenes across eye-catching pages, and share your story in an inventive and engaging way.

9140 • W • Nov 30 - Dec 7 • 6:15 - 8:45 PM • \$43.50

Felted Christmas Ornaments (8-14 years)

Create beautiful felted ornaments such as bejewelled Christmas balls or a garland of felted stars. Explore different wet felting techniques and acquire the skills necessary to create finished pieces. Felting is quick, fun and a great way to make gifts. Materials kits provided.

9043 • TH • Dec 1 • 6:00 - 9:00 PM • \$29.50