



## Hillcrest Middle School HAPPENINGS

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**Mission Statement:**

*The Hillcrest School Community is committed to providing educational opportunities in a safe and respectful environment that encourages students to become responsible lifelong learners, both individually and cooperatively.*

# December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

Happy Holidays!

**SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED FOR WINTER BREAK**  
**from December 25<sup>th</sup> until January 7<sup>th</sup>.**  
**School re-opens January 8<sup>th</sup>.**



### Tambellini Talks

Hillcrest Staff, Mr. Romano and I wish you and your family a very Happy Holiday over the break.

What a fantastic way to end the school year- many classes participated in gift exchanges, finishing up some fantastic dance units and of course all the fabulous work on the Community Gift Hampers. One of the best things I love about our community is the 'giving component'. The spirit of the holiday season definitely lives here.

We are asking for your help in supporting your children over the break in the area of technology during this unstructured time. Sometimes after the winter breaks, we spent a week or so dealing with poor choices in words sent over texts, Instagram and Snap Chat and - sometimes situations even require the assistance of police. Our message to students has been to "be kind to each other and think before they send messages"; "don't respond if someone has sent you something naughty- report it to an adult"; and "your digital footprint can follow you around for lifetime!"

I would also like to thank Mrs. Gallelo and Ms. Yeates for their work with their choirs, advanced and beginner bands. We heard the 'magic' on December 19<sup>th</sup> as we saw the talents of our fabulous grade 6, 7 and 8 performers.

As the year has almost reached the midpoint, I encourage parents to touch base with your child's teachers, especially if you have any concerns or questions about report cards early on in January. We want to make sure that your children off to a good start after the winter break.

Best wishes for a wonderful season. See you in the NEW YEAR.

**Miss Tambellini**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December	Dec 25 to Jan 7		Winter break
January			Random Acts of Kindness month
	8		First day of school after Winter break
	11	Blk F	Earthquake Drill
	12	11:00am–7:00pm	Ski & snowboard – Cypress
	15		Expo term 2 reports go home
	15	3:15 pm	Staff meeting – NO HOMEWORK CLUB
	19	11:00am–7:00pm	Ski & snowboard – Cypress
	26	11:00am–7:00pm	Ski & snowboard – Cypress
	26	afternoon	Grade 8 tours
	29		School-based Pro D day (Focus Day)
	29 to Feb. 23 <sup>d</sup>		Canned Food Drive begins

## DISTRICT NEWS

### **Winter Weather Ahead!**

Schools are not routinely closed due to snow or other inclement weather conditions. All schools in School District 43 (Coquitlam) will remain OPEN, if at all possible, during winter weather, including snowfall.

However, on occasion, a district-wide or partial-district closure is required due to extreme weather. Partial-district closures affecting individual schools may occur due to the very different geography within our school district. If there is a partial-district closure affected schools will be identified.

The decision on schools remaining open or needing to be closed, because of extreme weather, occurs **before 6:30 a.m.** so that families can plan and make alternate arrangements.

**Any district-wide or partial-district closure will be decided and communicated by 6:30 a.m. via the School District 43 website [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) and CKNW AM 980 radio, CKWX 1130 radio and CBC (690) radio.**

Extreme weather can also impact transit. Transit schedules may face significant changes or cancellations due to the weather conditions. Parents seeking information on transit schedules need to consult the Translink website: <http://www.translink.ca/> We encourage families to continuously check the School District 43 website for updates and changes: [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) Learn more about SD43's process for emergency and inclement weather status updates at:

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/NewsEvents/Pages/EmergencyInformation.aspx>

### **Dr. Charles Best - EVENING OF THE ARTS**

Will you be coming to Best? Are you interested in Art, Music Drama?

On Tuesday, January 16th the Dr. Charles Best Fine and Performing Arts Department will be holding our annual Fine Arts Night. This special evening will be a celebration of ALL the arts at Charles Best. Presented in our Gallerasium (our small gymnasium) we transform the space into an art gallery/theatre so that students, their families and friends can enjoy drama, jazz band, ceramics, painting, drawing, animation, graphic arts and photography presentations. It's sure to be a great evening so come and check out this fantastic event. Whether your son or daughter is involved in these electives or wants to be in the future, be sure to save the date. The fun starts at 7:00 pm and seating will be cabaret/coffee house style. Coffee and tea will be available by donation.

## TEAM NEWS

### **Red Team New:**

It's been a busy couple of months for Red Team. We thoroughly enjoyed meeting most of our student's parents and conferencing to be ready for report cards. Thank you so much to everyone who could come in. We were also lucky enough to have to amazing guest speakers join us and share their experiences. Mr. Campbell was here to share his expertise on Early Man, which tied in perfectly with the Social Studies curriculum. We also had Mrs. Hubbs come and share her amazing collection of Inuit carvings which linked to our soapstone carving activity. A big thanks to both of you for giving up your free time. We really enjoyed our school-wide assembly with Leah Pells. Her grit and determination are something we can all strive to achieve. Of course, we will also be celebrating the holidays with various class activities. Finally, our team has worked very hard to collect items to support our hamper families. Thanks to all students and parents for their generous donations. Wishing everyone a very restful and relaxing holiday!

## PAC NEWS

### **Hillcrest Middle School Christmas Hamper Program**

As we head into the Christmas break, I wanted to thank everyone who helped make our Hamper Program a huge success this year.

Having run programs like this for several years, I am always touched by the outpouring of support from the entire community. From the Hillcrest families who made over \$4000 in donations, to the Hillcrest students who raised over \$950 in a few days from a school-wide bake sales, we delivered amazing hampers to our ten sponsored families, with enough left over to support local toy and food bank drives.

From the teachers who co-ordinated the classroom drop-offs every day, to Principal Tambellini who supported the program from the start, and the many admin and PAC members who helped with communications and collections, this program couldn't run without your support.

And of course thanks to our group of student volunteers who helped us wrap dozens of presents Monday night so that we could get everything out to the families in time for Christmas. You are all amazing!

Thank-you to everyone for your time and support, and the Hillcrest PAC hopes all of you have an equally magical holidays!

Sam Focak Hillcrest PAC Chair