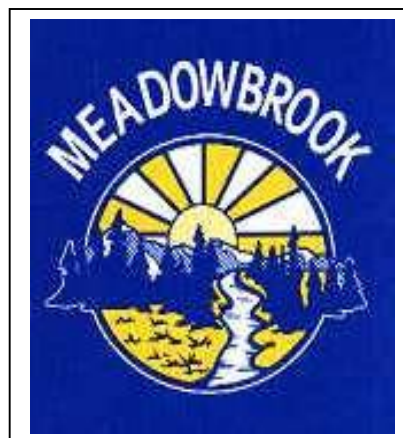


Meadowbrook News

NOVEMBER 2013



Principal's Message

Dear Meadowbrook Families

I hope everyone is enjoying this clear, sunny weather – I know I much prefer this to the usual November rain! On these cold days, please send your child to school with a warm coat, mitts and a hat to ensure that their time outside is enjoyable, not uncomfortable.

Our Remembrance Day Assembly was well attended and it was so interesting to hear about the D-Day invasion from someone who had actually been there. Mr. Foulds was a medic and shared with us a bit about the noise, confusion and fear that he experienced, allowing students a glimpse of what the soldiers went through. Mrs. Foulds was a Dutch citizen who spoke with our students about the hardships she lived through in an enemy occupied country – the general shortages, the hunger and constant fear. Each class made a wreath and presented it at our cenotaph and our student hosts led us through the assembly.

The Meadowbrook Charter

Mrs. Esmail worked with the class ambassadors to present an assembly on one of our school charter words "Happy". Her class presented their musical productions - songs, drums and dance and the ambassadors performed as well. Well done, everyone! On December 13, there will be another assembly to discuss the next word – Safe!

Our school charter was created last year by asking all students how they wanted to feel when they came to school. We brainstormed all sorts of words and came up with eight words that everyone could agree on. The words were:

- Happy
- Safe
- Proud
- Respected
- Compassionate
- Helpful
- Determined
- Peaceful

In each classroom, everyone then discussed what we could do to ensure that everyone felt that way; here are some of our ideas. What do we do to promote these feelings?

- Share
- Follow the rules
- Laugh
- Tell funny jokes
- Say "hi" to everyone
- Include everyone in our games
- Help others
- Be positive
- Walk in the hallways
- Be patient
- Give 'high fives'
- Smile
- Practice to improve
- Congratulate others
- Talk about our feelings
- Listen
- Don't interrupt
- Say please and thank you
- Compliment others
- Use kind words
- Treat others the way that we want to be treated
- Keep our hands and feet to ourselves
- Respect personal space
- Solve problems with words
- Tell ourselves "you can do it!"
- Focus on our goals
- Pick up litter
- Try to fix what we have broken
- Listen to instructions the first time
- Clean up after ourselves
- Carry something for someone

- Open doors for others
- Offer to help
- Tell someone we understand how they feel
- Come to school every day
- Arrive at school on time

I encourage you to have a discussion with your child and see if you can add to the list. Please feel free to write it down and I will add it to the bulletin board outside the office where the words are all listed.

Student Led Conferences

Our student led conferences were held on November 20 – it was so great to see so many students sharing their work with their families. If further discussion is needed with the classroom teacher, please ensure that you have contacted her to set up a meeting time. Your input about your child's strengths and challenges is an important part of our formal reporting process. Reports will go out to families on December 6th.

Winter concert: On December 19th at 7:00 pm we will be holding our Winter concert – each class make a short presentation and Mr. McMitchell is teaching a song to the entire school. There will be a dress rehearsal at 1:30 that day for those who can't make the evening performance.

Photos with Santa On November 29th, the photo club at Charles Best Secondary will be coming to our school to take pictures of students with Santa. They will develop the photos and each child will get one to take home. If you do not wish your child to participate, please let his/her teacher know.

Tennis BC: On December 3, we are fortunate to have Tennis BC visit our school and introduce every student to this sport. Tennis BC will also be offering after school programming for students in grades k-2 on Tuesdays and for students in grades 3-5 on Thursdays starting in January. Watch for more info to come!

The Nutcracker Suite Students in Divisions 1, 2, 3, & 4 will be attending the classic Christmas performance on December 5, while divisions 5, 6 & 7 will be going on December 6.

Musical Theatre: Places des Arts will be offering a Musical Theatre program after school on Wednesdays starting in January. Please see the attached brochure to find out how to register.

Reggio Development Committee

Please join us at the next Reggio Influenced Development Committee on November 26, 2013 at 3:15pm. We will be meeting in Mrs. Esmail's class (across from the office).

Art Jam Have a look at the bulletin board that shows off the wonderful art work our students have done Friday afternoons under the direction of the Art Jam committee. So far, students have looked at the paintings of Georges Seurat and Jackson Pollack and created their own masterpieces based on the artists' style. Volunteers are always welcome to help out on Friday afternoons in the atelier. Please contact Uzma at ukardar@yahoo.com.

Upcoming events to mark on your calendar

November 29	Santa photos
December 3	Tennis instruction (during the day, all classes will receive a lesson from Tennis BC)
December 5	Divisions 1,2,3,4 to the Nutcracker
December 6	Divisions 5,6,7 to the Nutcracker Reports home
December 12	Hot lunch - hotdogs
December 13	'safety' assembly 11:00
December 17	Turkey dinner at Charles Best (details to follow)
December 18	Treat day - afterschool in the undercover area
December 19	Winter concert - 7 pm
December 20	Last day of school for students - pajama day

Winter Weather Ahead!

Schools are not routinely closed due to snow or other weather conditions. All schools in the Coquitlam School District will remain OPEN, if at all possible, during winter weather, including snowfall. Some of our schools are in very different climate zones from one another and there may be the need for select closings within the district. If there is a partial closure of schools within the district, these individual schools will be identified.

On occasion, full district or partial district closure is required.

Extreme weather can also impact student bussing. School bus schedules may face significant changes or cancellations due to the weather conditions. Change and or cancellations of bus routes will be reported as we receive updated information from the school busing companies. On some occasions, school bus runs will need to be cancelled but the nearby schools will remain open. Any district-wide or partial closure will be decided by 6:30 a.m. at the latest and will be announced via School District 43: website www.sd43.bc.ca and CKNW AM 980 radio, CKWX 1130 radio and CBC (690) radio. For school bus route cancellation and changes, information will be updated on the School District website as it becomes available. We encourage families to continuously check the School District 43 website for updates and changes. Parents seeking information on transit bus schedules need to consult the Translink website: <http://www.translink.ca/>

The **Coquitlam Christmas Market** will take place on December 7th from 11am-4pm at Centennial Secondary. We have a variety of crafters and vendors selling homemade crafts, art, decor, textiles, food, and much more. Admission by donation with proceeds going to Presidential Girl, a non-profit organization aiming to empower girls in Africa. Organized by the Centennial Business club.

A great way to kick off the holiday season!