



PITT RIVER NEWS

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

To say that I have enjoyed my start at Pitt River would be a huge understatement it has truly been awesome!!! The staff is absolutely amazing. They care about kids and are committed to making the school the best it can be. The students? Well let's just say that I have never felt more welcomed at a school. Their kindness and enthusiasm has made it a joy to come to work each day. I am so thrilled to be back at Middle school; it is where I have spent the majority of my career and where I have always wanted to be. I look forward to getting to know as many parents as possible so please come and introduce yourself!

REMEMBER TOMORROW IS A PRO D DAY – NO SCHOOL IN SESSION

Todd Clerkson.

MAY DAY, MAY DAY, TWO PITT RIVER STUDENTS NEEDED!!!

The May Day festival runs from April 30 – May 9th and each year the organizers look for two representatives from each middle and elementary school. We are to select a male and a female student to take part in the festivities. Please see the descriptions below and if your child is interested have them submit their name to the office by Monday, Feb 15th. We will do a random draw if multiple students are interested.

PRINCESS (one to be chosen)

Open to all girls in grades 5, 6, or 7. The Princesses are an intricate part of the May Day Celebrations. Partnered with the Lancers, all princesses take part in the "May Day Salute" a dance routine choreographed especially for the Opening Ceremonies. An evening tea will be held in April at which time names will be drawn for the 2009 May Queen and First Princess. All the girls are included in the Royal Party and officially take part in the Opening Ceremonies, Parade and Reception.

Note: Cost of Princess's attire to be born by parents and/or internal school association.

LANCER (one to be chosen)

Open to all boys in grades 5, 6 or 7. The Lancers are an important part of the Royal Party. They have the role of escorting the Princesses and are actively involved in the traditional "May Day Salute", a dance routine performed at the Opening Ceremonies. A Selection Tea will be held in April at which time names will be drawn for the 2009 May Day Ambassador and Record Bearer. All the boys are included in the Royal Party and actively take part in the Opening Ceremonies, Parade and Reception.

Note: Lancers will need white shirts, black pants, black shoes (please no runners). Cost to be born by parents and/or internal school association.

ATTENDANCE AT ALL DANCE PRACTICES AND REHEARSALS IS MANDATORY

DATE: February 11, 2010

CALENDAR 2009-10

(Reminder to check your Fridge Magnet regularly)

WELCOME MR. CLERKSON

- Feb. 11 - Early Dismissal 1:20
Student-Led Conf.
- Feb. 12 - PRO D DAY - No School
- Feb. 19 - "I" Letters Home
- Feb. 23 - Late French Immersion Meeting, 7pm
- Feb. 26 - "I" Day
- Feb. 26 - Book Fair Opens

In this edition....

Dates to Remember

Principal's Message

Other School News

- **Gr. 8 Parent Meeting Riverside**
- **Community After School Programs**

Neighbourhood Happenings

PARENT INFORMATION MEETING

On Wednesday, February 17, at 7:00 pm, Riverside Secondary will be holding a Middle School Parent information meeting. All Grade 8 parents are encouraged to attend.

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS - EXPLORATIONS

PERFORMING ARTS

(Music and Drama)

This term in gr. 6/7 one set of students are starting out with writing "songs that make a difference" for Haiti. They will perform these in class. The other 6/7 class is writing Happy Blues songs in the blues genre. Skills learned are music language based, teamwork, presentation and problem solving. The Grade 8s are doing short one act drama plays, followed by an original drama about Helping Haiti.

Band & Choir

Band 6 continues to prepare for the District Band 6 Festival on the morning of Wednesday, April 14th, at Moody Middle. The Band 7/8 class is hosting the District Band 7/8 Festival which is being held here at Pitt River during the day on Wednesday, April 28th, in our gym. All the Middle schools in the District are invited to attend. All Choir students will perform outdoors at the school on Music Monday, May 3rd, as part of the celebration of Canadian school music across our country.

Final Band Concert

Please mark your calendar for Thursday, June 10th, as this will be our final Band and choir concert for the school year featuring some special surprise guests. Plans are in the works to present this concert outdoors, weather permitting.

HOME ARTS

As Term 3 begins for Home Arts students will soon be starting their sewing projects. Students in Grades 6 & 7 will be making gym bags while learning simple straight and zigzag stitching, measuring and pressing techniques. Grade 8s are making aprons which will come in handy when they move to the Foods Room in a few weeks. They are encouraged to come to class with a willingness to learn something new, and to work hard and be proud of their finished products.

2010 Olympic Torchbearer uniform FAQ

Did you know.....*The torchbearer uniform was designed and made by the Hudson's Bay Company for 12,000 torchbearers who will run 45,000 km over 106 days.*



TECH ED

In light of the looming rebuilding of our school and the inevitability of Tech Ed being taught out of a portable during the construction, I am enjoying my spacious Wood Shop. This year I am doing a progression of projects. First, we start with perspective drawing with paper and pencil. Where all design begins. Then we move on to designing castles and kingdoms with Google's Sketch Up program (it can be downloaded for free). Finally, we head into most of the students' favourite place - the Wood Shop. This year we decided to stick to a simple project - the bottle balancer. It gives the students the opportunity to learn how to use the drill press, band-saw and disc sander. They hand-sand to their heart's content and surprise themselves with the abilities they've learned in such a short time.

LIBRARY

The second Book Fair is opening on Feb 26th. This is an "I" day and while the Book Fair will be open on that day, it will only be open to teachers, adults and students who are already at school for "I" day. The Regular hours are 10:30-3:30pm. The late night is March 9th. This is a good time to buy books to read during the break.

The Library is missing 8 copies of the very popular Bone series - #2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. These are not signed out but are missing. We would like to have them back so that others can enjoy them. If you notice any at your house could you please have them brought back to the school.

We had a successful Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) day. The students enjoyed coming to the Library to read. They also enjoyed the privilege of eating cupcakes and cookies and drinking milk and water in the Library. We only had time for one contest and Danika was the lucky winner of a book.

Thanks to all who sent in the Campbell's labels. Slowly we are building up our points to buy extra books and equipment for the school. See www.labelsforeducation.ca for full details.

OTHER SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



Pitt River is registered for Mathematica Centrum's Euler (Grade 7) and Lagrange (Grade 8) math contests to be written on April 14th and University of Waterloo's Gauss math contest (grade 7 & 8) to be written on May 12th. Thank you to those students who signed up to participate.

World Maths Day is March 3rd, 2010. Once again, Pitt River will be joining over a million students from around the world to beat the current world record of correctly answering over 452 681 681 questions.

Several classes are already signed up for the exciting event and parents are also invited to participate this year. Please see Ms. Gawehns for more information or visit www.worldmathsday.com.

So far the school leader in solving practise questions is Kajol Verma in Ms. Gawehns' class, solving over 3300 questions. Well done!!



NO ENERGY DRINKS PLEASE!!!

Please remind your kids that we do not permit energy drinks (Red Bull, Monster, etc.) at the school.

**Many of these drinks contain double or even triple the caffeine of a caffeinated pop, and can have serious effects on children. Effects can include headaches, muscle twitching and increased heart rate and blood pressure. It can also lead to increased feelings of anxiety and nervousness, and insomnia. High doses of caffeine in adolescents have been reported to cause severe heart palpitations and even seizures. A drink laced with caffeine can also cause diarrhea, nausea and aggressive behaviour. Obviously, in addition to being unhealthy, none of these effects are conducive to learning.

LATE FRENCH IMMERSION (Grade 6) MEETING

Why choose French Immersion for your child?

This is an invitation to parents: If you or someone you know is considering LATE FRENCH IMMERSION in September 2010 you are invited to attend an information meeting to learn about the program. Meetings will take place at:

PITT RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL:
2070 Tyner Street, Port Coquitlam
February 23 at 7:00pm

BANTING MIDDLE SCHOOL
820 Banting Driver, Coquitlam
February 24 at 7:00pm

Registration forms will be handed out at that meeting. After that it will be on a first come first served basis.

For further information please visit the district website at www.sd43.bc.ca or contact Sophie Bergeron at 604-937-6392.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HAPPENINGS

TRICITIES HELPING HAITI'S BABIES

Help fill a shipping container with diapers and formula for Haiti's babies! on **Feb 20** from 9:30 – 6:00 and **Feb 21** from 11:00 – 6:00 at **Coquitlam Centre** at the tents beside the container in the south east corner of the parking lot and inside the mall near the Gap.

With the assistance of Heart to Heart Ministries, the Tri-City community is shipping a full 40 foot container of baby goods to Haiti. Cash donations will also happily be accepted and receipted.

You can find out more about Heart to Heart at <http://www.hearttohearthaiti.com/index.html>. One of the orphanages is <http://www.glahaiti.org/home>

What we need: Disposable Diapers, Powdered formula, Dry infant cereal, Infant and children's Tylenol, Children's vitamins, Powdered Milk, Diaper rash cream, Cream of Wheat cereal, Bar soap (Baby or Dove)

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Julie Rogers or Jacqueline Goring at helpinghaitisbabies@gmail.com or 604-468-3044(messags).

KIDSPORT—TRI-CITIES

KidSport Tri-Cities is holding their **Spring Used Sporting Goods Sale from Mar 7 from 10am until 3pm at the Port Coquitlam Rec Centre, 2150 Wilson Avenue.**

To make this event a huge success we need equipment! **Families are encouraged to donate and drop off their used sporting goods of any kind at the following locations:**

Poco Rec Centre - any time between 9:00-9:00pm or Cyclone Taylor Sports - 562J Clarke Road


If you have used equipment taking up space in your garage or basement, this is a great opportunity to free up some space, donate the equipment and make a great contribution to our community. This event will only be a success if we have a good selection of equipment, and we need the community's help to ensure we have that equipment.

For more information please contact: Chris Wilson, KidSport Tri-Cities


Phone: 604-341-0241

Email: Chris.Wilson@shaw.ca

www.kidsporttricitie.ca



COQUITLAM
CONTINUING Education


Face-to-face	Self-paced	Online
		

You can learn tuition free*

Most graduated and non graduated adults (17+) can sign up for tuition free high school credit courses with Continuing Education and Coquitlam Open Learning. Face-to-face classes start Feb 10th through to Feb 23rd. Self paced learning starts anytime.

*International students are not tuition free.

Visit www.ce43.com and get started today with online registration!
<http://online.sd43.bc.ca> and sign up for online learning options!



Learning for a Lifetime

For more information call or visit our web site
604.936.4261 | www.ce43.com

BEYOND THE BELL FLOOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

Is your child interested in playing floor hockey after school? See the flyer on the last page of the Newsletter outlining a new after school program here at Pitt River.

Sign up now for the free session.

PITT RIVER COMMUNITY SCHOOL AFTERSHOOL PROGRAM
ANNOUNCES A NEW PROGRAM -
BEYOND THE BELL FLOOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

FREE SAMPLE CLASS
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 19TH
LARGE GYM
3:00 PM TO 4:30 PM

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR THE FREE SESSION
IN THE TRADING POST OR AT THE MAIN OFFICE
OR BY EMAILING hroemer@sd43.bc.ca

Session 1 - March 12th to March 26th 3:00 to 4:30 pm \$19.14
Session 2 - April 9th to April 23rd 3:00 to 4:30 pm \$19.14

The Pitt River Community After school Program has partnered with Port Coquitlam Parks and Rec to come in and deliver this great program. Get your friends together and form your own 3 on 3 or 4 on 4 league and play against each other. Think up a great name. 90 minutes of fast paced fun and action.

To register Please call (604) 927-7946
Questions call (604) 927- 7930 or email delaneyr@portcoquitlam.ca

Financial Assistance is available through Canadian Tire Jump Start Funding
To apply for assistance please call or email
Heather Roemer Pitt River Community School Coordinator
604-464-0207 hroemer@sd43.bc.ca

If you need help registering Heather is available to help