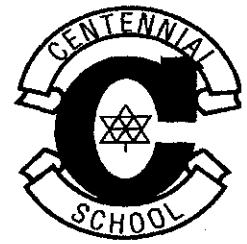


# CENTENNIAL SCHOOL



## NEWSLETTER

570 Poirier Street, Coquitlam, B.C. V3J 6A8 Telephone: 604.936.7205 Fax: 604.937.5933

Read our daily newsletter "Centennial Today" at <http://cent.sd43.bc.ca>

February, 2012

### Principal's Message

#### Reflecting on the Past 4 years and Looking Towards the Future

As of February 1, 2012, I will have been Principal at Centennial for 4 years. The research in Educational Leadership circles overwhelmingly indicates that substantive impact by Principals really only starts to occur in years 4 – 6 of a Principal (presumably a good one) being in the building. So, in as much as I feel that Centennial is a different place than when I first began here, apparently we still have some work to do.

I have been happy with the school and on our incremental progress over the last few years. In particular, I am pleased with how the staff, student and parent community have worked together and as a result, we have seen the following changes:

- Centennial has increased its student leadership, community connectedness, school pride and school identity.
- Centennial has significantly improved the tone, climate and feeling of safety at school, and reduced incidents of violence dramatically.
- Centennial has developed a more focused and deliberate protocol in supporting at risk students.
- Centennial is developing a more collaborative, professionally focused culture among its staff members, focusing their improvement on aspects of Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment and Technology.
- Centennial's PAC is a large and vibrant support structure for the school and its students.
- Centennial's graduation rate for students identified as ESL, or Special Education has been increasing, and the transition of these students to other district programs, if required, is greatly enhanced.
- Centennial's failure rate in core academic junior level courses is decreasing.

There have been significant contributions by all in the community to have made the above mentioned observations come true in the last few years, and these conclusions can be supported by empirical and anecdotal evidence. However, to think that our job is complete, or perfect, would be an absolute mistake. There still is much work to do.

Most importantly, and I have already challenged your children on this, we have greater expectations for the academic achievement of our students. In the next while, we need to continue to hold high academic expectations for all students, but also find better ways to get all students to reach those expectations. "Raising the Bar" alone can have some positive impact on student academics, but what will make the greatest difference, is for all adults in the community to be better: be better teachers, better parents and better aware of how adolescents learn and how we help them own their learning. If the adults in the community do not change their own behaviour, then we will continue to get what we have always gotten. It is that simple.

So as we look on the horizon, we see a brand new, shiny, flashy school with many bells and whistles. Will what happens within those walls, however, be more of the same? I certainly hope not.

The new school has been designed to enhance collaboration, build community, integrate technology, model environmental sustainability, and potentially, transform schooling. If we identify in our current practice what is working well; consider systems and structures that enhance creativity and innovation; discover effective ways to work with families, and improve our ability to utilize technology in a meaningful, relevant way, then indeed, we will have the seeds to grow a school from something that is "good", to something that is "great". It is exciting, it will be difficult, but it will be the most worthwhile journey of my career as an educator.

I look forward to many more years at Centennial and a continuation of this exciting journey.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and I wish you all the best for the remainder of the year.

*Robert Zambrano, Principal*

# Counsellors'

## **O** GRADE 12 STUDENTS

**r** Post-Secondary Applications - now is the time for Grade 12 students to finalize post-secondary plans and prepare post-secondary applications. Applications to community colleges, newer universities and BCIT applications should already have been completed. Students who have not yet completed college or BCIT applications should do so immediately since registration priority for many programs will be based on the day the institute receives the application.

**n** Marks transfer - most university and university transfer programs do not require an interim transcript. The post-secondary institutions will access marks from a Ministry of Education tape in late April – as long as students have completed the on-line Post-Secondary Institutions Choices Form (PSI) that is available now on the Ministry of Education provincial exam site's "Student Secure Web" at [www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/). Students must give their consent to release marks (via PEN number) to institutions. Information was given to Grade 12 students in October but extra instruction hand-outs are available in the Counselling area.

**e** Throughout the month of November students have had opportunities to meet with advisors from BC universities and colleges, as well as from post-secondary institutions elsewhere in Canada.

**r** The Counselling Department presented application workshops for local universities on November 16. Students who are planning to attend university should be applying now. On-line registration and self-reporting of grades is available through each university's website. The deadline for early admission consideration for UBC is **January 31, 2012**; all other BC universities have a registration deadline of **February 28, 2012**.

*Some certificate, diploma, and limited enrolment programs in college and all BCIT programs will require an interim transcript with the application. Students should see their counsellors for interim transcripts.*

Those students who are interested in attending eastern universities should be aware that these universities are also accepting applications now. See Mr. Ma in the Career Resource Centre if you are planning to apply to universities in the east and have not yet done so. An interim transcript will also be required for these applications – see your counsellor.

Students who anticipate a need for on-campus housing at university should also be contacting university housing offices now. See Mr. Ma in the Career Resource Centre for more information.

Students planning to attend college or university in the United States should be registering for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). See Mr. Miller if you require more information about the SAT.

Scholarships and Financial Aid - students seeking scholarships and financial aid should see the Counselling page of the Centennial website if they missed the October information sessions. Our financial aid information, which includes external awards and bursaries, is posted on this page as well as links to major scholarship sites. Students should be researching potential awards and working on their personal essays. Please note the application deadlines for the various awards.

Parents and students are asked to check the Counselling page of the Centennial website. Information on post-secondary applications, course planning, information sessions, events, and scholarships have been posted. Students will also find useful links to post-secondary admission requirements, career planning and information, provincial exam samples and results, and scholarships.

LPI Exam – as a convenience to Centennial students, one sitting of the LPI exam will be offered at Centennial School on April 19, 2012. There is room for 150 students. Students planning to attend UBC, SFU, Douglas College, UVic, or Capilano University may be required to write the LPI unless they meet the exemption criteria (see post-secondary websites for the English language requirements). To register, students should go to the LPI website at <http://www.lpitest.ca/>. Deadline for registration is midnight on April 10. The registration fee of \$109 + HST is payable by credit card, money order or personalized cheque. See Ms. Morissette if you require more information.



## COURSE PROGRAMMING FOR 2012 - 2013

Programming for the 2012-2013 school year will begin in February. All students who plan to return to Centennial next year should start discussing course selections now with parents and counsellors. Students should ensure that they choose courses which meet graduation and post-secondary entrance requirements. *There will be very limited opportunities to change courses next year – students are advised to select courses with care.*

Programming sheets for students entering Grades 10 and 11 are due on February 24.

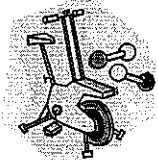
Programming sheets for students entering Grade 12 are due on March 9.

**Programming Information Evening for Parents of Current Grades 9, 10 and 11 Students;**

Wednesday, February 15 @ 7:00 pm in the Courtyard

## KIDSPORT TRI-CITIES SPRING USED EQUIPMENT SALE

KidSport Tri-Cities is holding their much anticipated Annual Spring Used Sporting Goods Sale, Presented by Westminster Savings:



**Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> from 10am until 2pm**  
Riverside Secondary School,  
2215 Reeve Street, Port Coquitlam

If you or your family is into sports, we will save you money. There is a huge variety of quality used sporting goods at incredible prices. Everything from bikes and hockey gear, to fitness equipment and wetsuits, and everything in between.

To make this event a huge success, KidSport needs equipment! Families are encouraged to donate and drop off their used sporting goods of any kind from Feb 1-17 at the following locations:

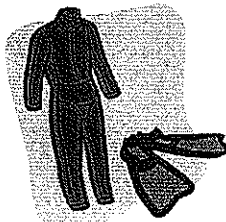
Port Coquitlam Rec. Centre  
Port Moody Rec. Centre  
Poirier Sport and Leisure Complex  
Cyclone Taylor Sports  
Corner Sports - 2276 Elgin Ave. Port Coquitlam  
Thriftopolis - D-2579 Lougheed Hwy, Port Coquitlam



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 (including bikes) and make a great contribution to our community. Please remember to also come by the sale for some amazing deals.

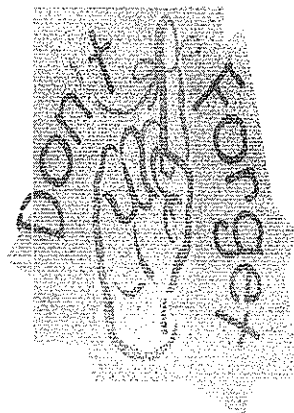
### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Chris Wilson, KidSport Tri-Cities  
Phone: 604-341-0241  
Email: [cwilson630@gmail.com](mailto:cwilson630@gmail.com)  
[www.kidsporttricitie.ca](http://www.kidsporttricitie.ca)



## IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, February 8 <sup>th</sup>	Report Cards Issued (semester one final)
Wednesday, February 15 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 9, 10, & 11 Parent Info Night
Friday, February 17 <sup>th</sup>	Non-Instructional Day
Friday, March 9 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day before Spring Vacation
March 12 <sup>th</sup> to March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Spring Vacation
Monday, March 26 <sup>th</sup>	School Reopens
Thursday, April 5 <sup>th</sup>	Report Cards Issued (term four)
Friday, April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday
Monday, April 9 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Monday



## DISTRICT-WIDE NETWORK AND INTERNET APPROPRIATE USE

### Background

School District No.43 (Coquitlam's) District-wide network provides data communication links among all District sites and a high-speed connection to sites outside the District including the "Internet". Internet services and technologies offer valuable learning experiences for students and sources of information for teachers. At the same time, there are potential hazards. Students may receive offensive communications and may access material which is not appropriate. As with other methods of communication, there are opportunities with computer networks for students to create and distribute inappropriate materials and to conduct themselves in ways that are unacceptable. Therefore, the District is obliged to inform parents of potential risks and benefits, and impose rules on what students see and do.

Our primary business purpose is the education of our students; therefore, business and administrative use of District computers is intended for the direct support of the District's operation.

Access to the Internet is available through the use of electronic mail and the World-Wide Web (WWW) and is provided to staff members to assist in the performance of their work.

The District does not permit the use of its computers and networks to create, distribute, or access any material which would not be considered suitable for any sector of our clientele, particularly students. Inappropriate use of District computers has the potential to cause severe public embarrassment and damage the trust relationship we have with our public. Users must avoid accessing sites that might bring the District into disrepute. Internet usage must be able to survive public scrutiny and/or disclosure. Users must comply with all applicable laws and regulations and must respect the legal protection provided by copyright and licenses with respect to both programs and data.

In providing Internet access for students, the District also affirms that it will not permit the creating, distributing, or accessing of any material which is not suitable for classroom learning.

### THE ENCHANTMENT PROJECT

The Enchantment Project is still accepting gently used Grad dresses and accessories for Grad 2012.

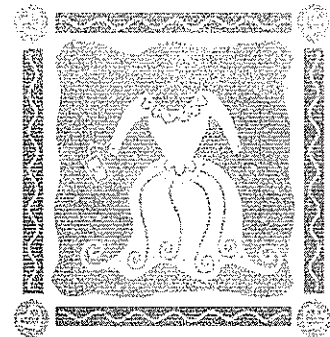
These items will be donated to the Project which supports students throughout District 43 who would otherwise not attend Grad due to financial difficulties.

If you have donations or questions about the Enchantment Project please contact:

Emilie Clare, Youth Worker

604-936-7205 local 209

604-317-7505



### LOST AND FOUND

There are several items in the lost and found room. Coats, binders, etc... (no textbooks, though). If you would like to look for your lost item please come to the Youth Worker's Office.

Please note: If it was left in the gym area, there is a lost and found in the P.E. Office.

## THE SEAFORTH ARMY CADETS

2893 Seaforth Army Cadets meet at the Legion in Port Coquitlam on Monday and Thursday nights from 6:30 to 9:30 pm. We also have band practice for bagpipes and drums on Tuesday nights at 6:30. Instruments and lessons are free of charge.

We are open to all youth ages 12-19. There is no membership fee. Uniforms are provided free of charge. We offer a chance for youth to have free activities, learn about the Cadet Program, and earn up to 12 high school credits. We also offer summer camp options.

For more information, come and check us out any Monday or Thursday night at 6:30. See you there.



## CENTENNIAL MUSICAL THEATRE INVITES YOU TO:

**"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee"** - A Tony Award winning musical comedy about 6 unusual contestants all vying for the W-I-N. There are still tickets available for the February 9, 10 and 11 show!

\$15 for adults

\$12 for students

Tickets available at the main office



## VISUAL ARTS NEWS

The Art Department teachers have been actively involved in recent months in the planning of art rooms for the new Centennial construction project. This has been a very interesting process, working with the architects to specify amenities within the spaces, and we look forward to seeing and working in our new environment. In the meantime, through art club "art sales", and other efforts, we have been trying to prepare for the transition by clearing out shelves and storage areas of previous student work. Former students, teachers and parents are encouraged to come by the art area and claim projects left behind prior to a much more thorough purge which will happen in 2013, before our move to the new building.

In terms of recent achievements, the Art Department would like to congratulate Ashley Madeiros and Georgia Carr, graduating students who have had art work accepted into "Emerging Talent 2012", an annual art show that took place at Evergreen Cultural Centre. The show opened with an extensive festival event on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4 pm until 7 pm, and was free to the public. We hope you were able to see the work of District 43's talented graduating artists. Congratulations were also in order for Sarah Choi, Hye Rim Lee, and Emily Kang, who have all been accepted into various post-secondary Art programs within the last couple months.

We wish these talented artists all the best in the future!



## WINTER 2012 AT PLACE MAILLARDVILLE - LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Our **adult fitness & dance** programs need child care providers. The children will always be in sight of their parents, so volunteers are never left on their own. Child care has been cited as the #1 reason adults cannot participate in our evening programs, so volunteers would be doing their community an amazing service.

Our **French language** classes for children and adults could always use an extra sounding board. In fact our **French Conversation Club** is looking for French speaking "mentors", to work with the participants on proper pronunciation and local idioms.

If you're available Monday through Friday from 9:15 to 11:15am, our **Pre-School** teachers would be glad to have you join in the fun. They need help with set up, take down, bathroom breaks, and generally helping to keep the kids attentive and involved. Some knowledge of French would be helpful but is not necessary.

We run programs for 3 to 5 year olds immediately after our French Pre-School. These are Let's Make Music, Move It, Mini Chefs, Story Time, Junk Art and Soccer Tots.

We have several family programs that need as many qualified volunteers as we can get. Family Drop-In runs Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:15 to 11:15am, and Saturdays from 10am to 12 noon. Baby's First Year takes place every Friday between 1:45 and 3:15pm. Children's Birthday Parties happen every Sunday, either from 10am to 12:30pm or from 1pm to 3:30pm. These are our most popular programs.

**Youth Drop-In** runs Monday to Friday between 3 and 5pm, and Saturdays from 1 to 4pm. Under the supervision of staff, volunteers hang out, play pool, foosball, air hockey, cards, board games and generally interact with the drop-in kids.

Have talent in arts, science, dance and/or sports? Consider helping during our **After-School programs**. Activities run Monday to Friday from 2:30pm to 4:35pm and sometimes 12 noon to 1pm, at five local schools: Maillard Middle, Lord Baden Powell, Rochester, Alderson and Cape Horn.

Between March 12 and 23 we are running a Children & Youth **Spring Break Camp**, Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm. We will also be running a mini camp for our French Pre-School students, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 12pm during this same two week period.

### To volunteer at Place Maillardville you need to:

- Be 13 years or older
- Meet with the Coordinator of Community Programs & Volunteers
- Provide a copy of a photo I.D.
- Complete a Waiver Form
- Complete a Criminal Records Check (for volunteers 16 years and older) - or -
- Provide two references who are non-family or friends (for volunteers 13 to 15 years old)

### Benefits of Volunteering

Aside from practicing your French, volunteering has a meaningful, positive impact on your community. But did you know that it can have many benefits for you too? Here are some reasons to volunteer:

- Learn or develop a new skill
- Motivation and sense of achievement
- Develop new interests and hobbies
- Meet a diverse range of people
- Send a signal to your employer, teachers, friends and family...
- Be part of your community
- Boost your career options
- Have new experiences

Thank you so much for being such fabulous supporters of your community and this centre!

## CENTENNIAL CLOTHING



The long awaited Centennial Spirit Wear is on sale this season! From Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, until Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, Centennial will be selling hoodies, crewneck sweaters, and sweatpants.

There are new and improved designs for the clothing this year; the hoodies and crew-necks will include an embroidered "CENT" across the chest. The sweatpants will have silk screened "CENTAURS" across the back, with a Centennial crest on the upper right leg.

Order forms and samples of the clothing are available in the Alcove for the week! Also, be sure to check the school website for the order forms. It is imperative that you hand in your order form and money before Friday February 10<sup>th</sup> or else you will miss out!

### SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM) CROSS CATCHMENT PROCESS 2012 – 2013

Parents have the right to choose the school their children attend subject to availability of space.

Should you want to choose a school other than your neighbourhood catchment school you must submit a "Cross Catchment Form" as outlined below.

**All Kindergarten students must be registered for Kindergarten at their catchment school on February 7, 8, or 9th before completing a Cross Catchment Form.**

**Features of the 2012-2013 Cross Catchment Process:**

- There are two separate forms:
  - o Kindergarten Cross Catchment
  - o Grades 1-12 Cross Catchment
- **All registrations will begin February 10th @ 9:00 a.m. and close February 22nd at 4:00 p.m.**

The District is encouraging use of the electronic version of the application form accessed through the District website ([www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca)) beginning February 10th. Paper forms will also be available at all schools and on the District Website as of February 10th. All completed paper forms must be returned **in person or by mail** to the School District Office at 550 Poirier Street, Coquitlam V3J 6A7 by the closing date. **Faxed or email copies will not be accepted.**

#### **Process details:**

- o Requests will be processed based on the **availability of space in schools** and on a **first come-first served basis (in-district priority then out-of-district)**.
- o The system will automatically mark the time we receive the request for the online process.
- o The receptionist will mark the date and time of all paper copies as they are received at the front desk in the School Board Office.
- o The District will then enter the paper requests into the online system and record the appropriate date and time.
- o Principals will be able to access information about requests as they are received.
- o The process will close off promptly at 4:00 pm on February 22nd.
- o The District response to cross catchment requests will be communicated in writing and/or email during the week of March 5-9, 2012.

#### **Important Information about Schools at Capacity:**

A number of schools have reached capacity and it is anticipated they will continue to be in this position for the next few years. Therefore, based on limited space, we want to clarify that the District may not be in a position to honour requests for cross catchment to the following schools:

**Aspenwood, Glen, Glenayre, Panorama Heights and Pinetree Way Elementary Schools.** However, please be aware that the District can only approve "cross catchment requests" up to the available space in any given school.

## GIRLS SOCCER

Centennial's two girls' soccer teams will be starting up shortly. We will have both a junior (grade 9-10) and a senior (open to all grades) team. The season runs from March to May with junior games taking place on Tuesday-Thursdays and senior games occurring on Monday-Wednesdays. First tryout will be on Monday, February 27. Stay tuned to the Centennial Today for details or see Mr. Moro if you have any questions.



## COMMUNITY PRESS RELEASE

**SUBSTANCE USE AND YOUTH IS ALWAYS A RELEVANT TOPIC.** The recent media attention around ecstasy provides a catalyst to initiate and continue conversations regarding substance use and its impact. SHARE Family and Community Services, Coquitlam RCMP School Liaison and School District 43 encourage adults to talk with youth about how they make the choice as to what they will or will not put into their bodies.

There is value in talking openly with youth about drugs and alcohol. Adults can be an important role model and asset for youth. It's important to keep the lines of communication open. Conversations are opportunities to listen and better understand youths' thoughts, beliefs and feelings. By investing the time and energy into 'two way' communication we establish opportunities for discussion and can open the door for future conversations. Take advantage of 'teachable moments' to discuss drug and alcohol use. Teachable moments can happen while driving in the car, at the dinner table, watching TV, through social media or current events, such as the recent attention to ecstasy. The more you communicate with youth, the more comfortable they will likely feel in approaching you.

It is significant to consider where youth go to find information on substances and to encourage them to critically assess this information whether it comes from friends, websites or other sources. When youth are able to access accurate information on drugs and alcohol, they are empowered to make the decisions that are best for them. Please see below for some recommended websites.

In light of the recent media coverage here are some useful facts about ecstasy: coke

- Ecstasy ("E" or "Caps") is almost always a combo drug. It may contain meth, coke, ketamine, CMP, and TFMPP (Legal "X") or PMA
- Often sold in cap form, ecstasy comes in different shapes, sizes and colours that are stamped with a logo or design
- The effects can be felt within 20-40 minutes after consumption and the high lasts between four and six hours
- As with any substance, the affect depends on: age, body weight, how much is taken and how often, the method of taking the substance, the environment you're in, whether you have any pre-existing medical or psychiatric conditions and whether you have consumed alcohol or other drugs
- Short term effects of ecstasy, a stimulant drug, include: feeling full of energy, increased heart rate, blurred vision, jaw clenching, sweating and hallucinations
- Long term effects and withdrawal symptoms can include: depression, anxiety, paranoia, panic attacks, change in sleep patterns, nausea, hallucinations, chills and sweating

In holding open conversations and accessing accurate information, youth are supported to make decisions that make them feel happy, healthy and proud of whom they are.

[www.carbc.ca](http://www.carbc.ca)

[www.drugprevention.gc.ca](http://www.drugprevention.gc.ca)

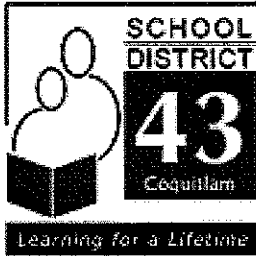
[www.heretohelp.bc.ca](http://www.heretohelp.bc.ca)

[www.sharesociety.ca](http://www.sharesociety.ca)

[www.adcs.bc.ca](http://www.adcs.bc.ca)

Karen O'Brien and Alison Shields  
Community and School Based Prevention Program  
SHARE Family and Community Services  
604-941-6052 ext 255 or 604-936-7205 ext. 168

Cst. Erin McAvoy  
Coquitlam RCMP  
School Liaison  
604-945-1461



550 Poirier Street, Coquitlam, British Columbia V3J 6A7 • Phone (604) 939 9201 • Fax (604) 939 7828

January 23, 2012

## MESSAGE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS REPORT CARDS

Our first Semester will end soon and students can expect to complete their current courses and prepare for the transition to Semester II.

During the current teacher job action we have been assured that teachers have been communicating to parents via email, phone calls, notes home, and face to face meetings.

As part of the job action, the Coquitlam Teachers' Association has informed the district that teachers will not produce report cards in accordance with the Essential Services levels set out by the Labour Relations Board during this labour dispute. However, under the School Act and as mandated by the Ministry of Education, report cards are required.

Grade 12 students can expect to have their final school marks in their end of semester report cards.

As with interim reports, students from Kindergarten to Grade 11 will receive report cards with little if any, achievement information. Marks will appear if a course is taught by a Principal or Vice Principal. Attendance information and teacher names will also appear. Kindergarten to Grade 11 students and their parents can receive their marks directly from the teacher.

Please contact your child's teacher(s) if you have any questions/concerns.

Sincerely,

Tom Grant  
Superintendent  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)

TG/bjs

# Fine Tune Your Parenting Skills With

## **STEPS TO EFFECTIVE PARENTING**

### Teen Program

For Parents of teens... ages 11 - 17

COMMUNICATE  
BETTER WITH  
YOUR TEEN

RAISING  
SOCIALLY  
RESPONSIBLE  
TEENS

STEP offers a down-to-earth and practical way to meet the challenges of raising teenagers today. It's a group discussion program that paves the way to improved parent-teen relationships; more responsible teenage behaviour in home, school and community; and teenage self-esteem and self-reliance.

Place: Gleneagle Secondary School

Time: 7p.m. - 9p.m.

Dates: Thursday April 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 {inclusive}

Facilitated by: Marilyn Abram, Itinerant Youth Worker

To register: Phone: 604-230-1563

E-mail: [mabram@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:mabram@sd43.bc.ca)

*Books may be purchased at the first class - cost \$20.*

**Register by March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012**