



A caring, creative, intelligent school!!

(604) 944-9037, Fax (604) 944-8634

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/blakeburn/>



Talking Circles

This term our classes will be taking part in talking circles as part of our school goal.

Learn how oral history and respectful communication are key to Aboriginal culture.

Learn about the different uses of the talking circle in Aboriginal culture (problem solving, communication - everyone has voice).

Learn about the protocols of talking circles (respect, active listening, appreciation for one another, the right to pass, self-regulation in the circle)

Be introduced to key concepts of honour, trust, courage, respect, and patience



Boxes & Collections

I came across a box of treasures over the holiday. It was filled with a lock of hair from my daughter's first hair cut, the locket she wore for special occasions. It sat on the shelf beside her first set of high top running shoes. I reflected on how my collections and boxes hold parts of my identity that I cherish.

Ms. Lafond, Ms. Clark and I have created a lesson sequence using the new curriculum. We are exploring how identity is embedded in history and memory.

We are starting with a gallery walk of boxes and collections put together by the staff. Parents are encouraged to come and enjoy the gallery walk (6 :15 in the library) before the PAC meeting. It will be set up in the library. Students will be doing the gallery walk the week of Feb. 15-19th.

The following week students will be creating their own boxes and are encouraged to bring small pictures, words or jewels to attach to their boxes.

Beyond the Bell

Kids in the Kitchen

Mondays Jan. 18 – Mar. 7th from 2 :45pm – 4 :45pm.

Art Attack (Self Portraits)

Tuesdays Jan.19 - Mar. 8th 2:45pm - 4:15pm.

Register : www.experienceit.ca or 604.927.PLAY

Gymnastics

Mr. McComb has been working alongside teachers providing gymnastics instruction. The students have been working on building floor sequences that include travelling, balancing and rotations.

LICE911

Thank you to the volunteers that helped make our February school wide lice check a great success and to the PAC for providing this service for our families. We have had very few cases this year. Thank you to parents for checking heads on a regular basis at home. We have our second school wide lice check in May.



Manipulatives & Puzzles

Thank you PAC, K-4 games and puzzles are arriving for classrooms.

Link to Online Absence Report

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/blakeburn/Lists/Calendar/calendar.aspx>

Calendar Items

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
8 Family Day No School	9 Curriculum Implementation Day No School	10 Minnehada Parent Info Night 7:00pm	11	12 Friendship Day Wear pink or red Valentine Treat Day
15 No Bounce Gymnastics Gallery Walk PAC Meeting	16 Fruit & Veggie Program (mixed apples)	17	18 No Bounce Gymnastics	19 District Pro-D Day No School
22	23	24 Pink Shirt Day "I Choose Kindness"	25	26 PAC Hot Lunch (MacDonalds) PAC Movie Night
29	1 Fruit & Veggie Program (celery sticks)	2	3	4

Take Five

Take five is a mindfulness strategy. The challenge is to take five, five times during the day. Essentially that entails focussing on five slow breaths and becoming aware of your surroundings. Try taking five with us.

"Scientific evidence suggests that we can change our brains by cultivating habits that will improve well-being. They include happiness, resilience, compassion, and emotional balance."

-Dr. Ricard J. Davidson, neuroscientist, the University of Wisconsin-Madison

Free Ready, Set, Learn Event for Families

Children will be able to participate in a variety of play based learning activities, listen to stories and have a healthy snack. Parents will be able to learn and play with their child as well as meet with early childhood education experts and local community agencies. Adding even more fun to the festivities, enjoy an award-winning show by children's entertainer Will Stroet. Morning shows will be at 10 am and afternoon shows will be at 1:30 pm.

Drop into any one of the following events. It's all free!

The **Ready, Set, Learn** initiative, sponsored by the B.C. Ministry of Education provides families with an opportunity to make positive connections with the school system and local community agencies.

Wednesday, February 10

9:00-11:30

Heritage Mountain Elementary

Wednesday, February 10

12:30-3:00

Coquitlam River Elementary

Tuesday, February 23

12:30-3:00

Roy Stibbs Elementary

Tuesday, February 16

9:00-11:30

Seaview Elementary

Thursday, February 18

12:30-3:00

Hazel Trembath Elementary

Thursday, February 18

9:00-11:30

Cedar Drive Elementary

Tuesday, February 23

9:00-11:30

Riverview Park Elementary

Nut Allergies

Some of the students in our school have a severe allergy to peanuts. Because of this health concern we ask you to avoid sending snacks containing peanuts and peanut butter to school. Please remind your child not to share recess snacks with other students so that you know what your child is eating at school.

Washing hands after eating (including breakfast), especially if peanut products are eaten, is a healthy routine for all of us to establish and practice. Your cooperation with this situation will help to ensure the safety of all students in the school.



Parking Lot

Our parking lot is simply not large enough to have every parent be able to park and go in and retrieve their child. Nobody should leave their vehicle if you are in the pick-up and drop-off zone. We have people blocking the through traffic.

There are several things you can do to make our parking lot run more smoothly:

- Arrive at 2:50 instead of before 2:45.
- Do not park in the bus zone.
- Do not block traffic; you can loop around and come in again.
- If you have to come into the school, you need to find parking in the neighborhood and walk.

Winter Weather!

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 am** so that families can plan and make alternate arrangements.

Any district-wide or partial-district closure will be decided and communicated by 6:30 am via the School District 43 website www.sd43.bc.ca and on 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

Learn more about SD43's process for emergency and inclement weather status updates at: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/NewsEvents/Pages/EmergencyInformation.aspx>

While the District tries to make the best decision with the information available, the weather does change quickly. Therefore, when schools remain open, decisions to stay at home during challenging weather conditions should be made by each family.

February 5, 2016

News From the PAC

Website: www.blakeburnpac.org

Find us on Facebook: "Blakeburn Elementary PAC"

Next PAC Meeting – Monday, February 15

The PAC welcomes all parents of Blakeburn children to attend PAC meetings. The meeting starts at 6:45pm and is usually done around 8pm, and they take place in the school library.

More info here: <http://www.blakeburnpac.org/our-meetings.html>

Family Movie Night – Friday, February 26

Blakeburn PAC is excited to be organizing another **Family Movie Night**.

Bring your blankets, pillows and stuffies and come in your jammies to hang out with your friends and watch the Disney movie "**The Good Dinosaur**" in the gym at Blakeburn. Parents can bring chairs and set them up in the back of the gym. Parents must accompany children - no drop offs please.

Doors open at 6:30 pm and the movie will begin at 7:00 pm. The PAC kitchen will be open for concession items and will be selling items such as juice, popcorn, chips and candy treats.

Tickets are available for purchase in advance for \$10.00 per family up to 5 people. Watch for a notice in your child's planner.

Upcoming Dates

Friday, Feb 12 – Treat Day (pre-ordered through Munchalunch)

Friday, Feb. 26 – Hot lunch – McDonalds (pre-ordered through Munchalunch)

Community Information

[City of Port Coquitlam](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca)

It is that time of year and we are running Winter Day Camps for 3-5 year olds and 5-10 year olds – see below:
http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/Recreation_and_Culture/Children_Youth/Children_s_Services/Children_Service_s_Winter_Day_Camps.htm



Adult Learning Opportunities

Want to Graduate?

Call our Learning Centre (CLOC) at 604.945.4211 to book an advising appointment – You might be closer to graduation than you think. We have **tuition-free** courses for non-graduates*.

Need a Course or Want to Upgrade a Mark?

Class-room based and self-paced courses are available: Accounting 11/12, Biology 11/12, Communications 11/12, Chemistry 11/12, English 11/12, Geography 12, History 12, Math 11/12 (all) Physics 11/12, Planning 12, Social Studies 11 and more!

High School course registration opens online on December 15th for February classes. Registration for self-paced classes is on-going. Visit www.ce43.com for account creation and registration information.

Want to Learn English?

We have free* Foundations classes to support you. Language Assessment is required prior to registration. Visit Montgomery Centre Thursday nights from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Visit www.ce43.com for documentation requirements.

Are you New to Canada?

We have Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) classes to help improve English Language skills (beginner to intermediate) and provide settlement information and support. These are free classes funded by the Canadian Government through a grant provided by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. Daytime and evening classes are available, and child-minding is available for daytime classes.



Government of Canada

Looking for a New Career or Want to Improve Your Skills?

We offer **Continuing Studies Courses**: Accounting, Bookkeeping, Business Communications, Computerized Accounting, Digital Photography, Employment Preparation, Keyboarding, Microsoft Office, Payroll, Photoshop, Records & File Management, Special Effects Make-up & Beauty Make-up, Ten Key Number Pad, How to Get Better Grades in School, Introduction to Medical Terminology for ESL, and Spanish.



We also offer **Diploma & Certificate Programs**: Administrative Assistant, Building Service Worker, Computerized Accounting, Community Support Worker, Dental Receptionist, Games Studies, Health Care Assistant, Medical Office Assistant, and Beauty & Special Effects Make-up. Visit www.vocationalprograms for more information.

Visit www.ce43.com for locations and more information on all of our programs.

*Subject to Canadian status and BC residency requirements.

To unsubscribe to this email list, please contact: sfiset@sd43.bc.ca

