



Bramblewood Elementary School

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Ms. Britt Walton, Principal

NEWSLETTER # 4

December 4, 2023

Dear Bramblewood Families,

The first term of school has just flown by and we are about to welcome our holiday season and New Year! I am so proud of all of our children as they have shown evidence of growth throughout the past four months. This December, we look forward to the return of old events as well as ushering in some new experiences for the children.

Beginning September, Grade 5 students have been demonstrating their leadership abilities by giving daily announcements. Such announcements have included holiday themes and daily jokes of the day. A big thank you to Mrs. Wright and her radio experience, she has been integral in mentoring the children in becoming budding broadcasters! Additionally, I am so proud of all of our Grade 5 Lunch Monitors who have gained valuable experience in helping and supervising younger children. Special thank you to Mrs. Khan and Mrs. Willetts for their sponsorship of Grade 5 Volleyball. The Gleneagle Jamboree was wonderful experience for our children.

All students will begin their preparation for this year's Holiday Dance Performance and will likely be strutting their moves at home shortly! We hope the dance theme this year will be as delightful as our previous performances. Additionally, our ELL students under the support of Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. Lloyd, have been campaigning for our virtual food drive in support of SHARE support services. We continue our daily collections and encourage everyone to make a donation in the spirit of giving and helping others. Thank you in advance for your generosity and thoughtfulness at this busy time of year. Thank you to the PAC who will be hosting the return of the pancake breakfast and pj day our our last day in session as well as thank you Mrs. Wright and the staff for organizing the Ginger People decorating activity this year.

We wish everyone a wonderful and safe holiday season from all of us at Bramblewood and we are looking forward to seeing you and your children in the New Year!

Sincerely,

Ms. B. Walton — Principal



Next Meeting...

**Wednesday,
January 17th,
2024 at 6:30 pm
(Library) or
please contact
PAC if you
would like link**
Bramblewoodparents2@gmail.com

CALENDAR

Christmas Holiday
Break

**Dec 25, 2023 -
Jan 5, 2024**

*(return Monday,
January 8th)*

Students
Do Not
Attend School





Next PAC meeting via Teams – Wednesday, January 17th, 2024 at 6:30 pm (hybrid: in person @ library & online with MS Team). Please email [Bramblewoodparents2@gmail.com](mailto:bramblewoodparents2@gmail.com) for more information or to get a link to the meeting. **All are welcome.** *Note: December meeting is cancelled.*

Thank you to those that supported all of our Fall Fundraisers: Tri-Cities Coupon Books, Movie Night, Me 'n Ed's Pizza Night, Spirit Wear, and Purdy's! In addition to our ongoing Hot Lunches, Milk Program, and Treat Days our fall fundraisers have fundraised a total of \$6,000. These funds will go toward our Holiday Pancake Breakfast, Classroom funds for the Teachers, Entertainers, Pickleball programming, and others. Please keep an eye out for some more fundraisers coming Winter/Spring of 2024.

A big thank you to all of our parent volunteers who made these fundraisers successful!

IMPORTANT INFO:

- Ongoing Fundraisers: Return-it, Cobs Bread (contact bramblewoodparents2@gmail.com for additional info)
- Donations to the PAC can be made via School Cash Online (charitable donations over \$25 will receive a tax receipt)

Holiday Pancake Breakfast & Pajama Day: Friday December 22th

- The Holiday Pancake Breakfast returns to Bramblewood on the last day of school before break! Everyone is invited to wear their favourite PJ's and celebrate with the school!!

Join us on Facebook at Bramblewood PAC: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/bwpac> Email us at bramblewoodparents2@gmail.com For any direct questions, please email PAC Chair Ryan Mymko mymkovski@gmail.com

Daily Health Self - Assessment

Families are reminded that flu and cold season is upon us. Please take the time to do a health assessment of your child(ren) prior to coming to school each morning. Although there are no formal restrictions, we can all do our part in curbing the spread of such bugs. Should children have gastrointestinal symptoms or have symptoms consistent with a flu, cold, or COVID please keep them at home until they feel well enough to attend. Children should not come to school if they require medicine to control a fever. We thank you for your understanding and cooperation in keeping everyone healthy.

Kindergarten Registration (February 6th – 8th)

- **Date of Kindergarten Registration:** February 6-8th, 2024.
- **When can my child start Kindergarten:** Children who are 5 years old on or before Dec 31, 2024 may enter school in September 2024. You may defer your child's enrolment until September 2024.
- **When Should I Register My Child?** Kindergarten registration (except for Programs of Choice - Montessori, Mandarin Bilingual, Reggio and French Immersion) within School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) will be held between February 6th – February 8th, 2024 using the online forms on your catchment school's website.
- Use [School Locator](#) to determine your catchment school

Instructions:

Kindergarten Registration Package will be available in **January 2024** from <http://www.sd43.bc.ca> *It is recommended that you complete the registration form using a computer (PC or Mac).

*School District # 43 – Programs of Choice
(January 11th -January 17th)*

There are several Parent Information Meetings coming up in early January for Early French Immersion (Kindergarten Entry), Early Montessori, Reggio Influenced, and Mandarin Bilingual. Please check the School District #43 website at www.sd43.bc.ca for information on any of these programs for the next school year, 2024-2025.

*School District # 43 – Cross Catchment Process
(February 9th – February 14th by 4 pm)*

Any child who wishes to attend a Coquitlam school outside of their catchment school, must apply through the cross-catchment process online. Please check the School District #43 website at www.sd43.bc.ca for information.

Pink Shirt – Ordering Deadline: Dec 8, 2023

Pink Shirt Day, celebrated in B.C. this year is on February 28th, 2024 and is nationally recognized day where people wear pink shirts to raise awareness about the issue of bullying in schools, workplaces, homes and online.

If you are interested in ordering a shirt, below are the details:

- **Pink shirt day:** February 28, 2024 (*students wear pink shirts to school, optional*)
- **Ordering Online Deadline:** December 8, 2023 @ 12 noon (*no late orders will be accepted after Dec 8 @ 12 noon*)
- **Payment:** pay on [KEV school cash online - click here](#) Instructions are attached, if you haven't signed up yet for KEV - school cash online, please follow instructions. T-Shirts are \$13 per t-shirt or \$35 per hoodie (includes tax), and you need to choose your colour and size.



*Learning Update (aka Report Cards) – **Thurs. Dec 7th***



Learning Update (aka Report cards) for the first term will be posted on MyEd Parent Portal on **Thursday, December 7th**. Should you have forgotten your username and password or have not received account information please contact bwalton@sd43.bc.ca as soon as possible. It is important all parents have access prior to December 7th, 2023 as **Report Cards will no longer be printed**. Be sure to print a copy of your child(ren)'s report cards for your personal files. Access between Dec 7-21 by either saving or printing, as it's parent's responsibility. Parents are encouraged to contact their child's classroom teachers through email should they have any concerns. Teacher's emails can be found on our school website. Parent Teacher Interviews by appointment only on December 14th. Classroom teachers will be sending their communications this week.

Food Drive (Nov 27 - Dec 15)

Our virtual "Food Drive" begins on November 27th and goes until December 15th to help support our local SHARE Food Bank. Please bring in monies to help families in need or better yet make a donation and receive a tax receipt online for your generosity. Please share the following link on your social media for friends and relatives.... <https://bcvfd.foodbank.bc.ca/fundraiser/bramblewood>

On The Calendar



As always, please remember to check our ecalendar for a complete list of events. Events on this list are subject to change – changes will be made immediately on the online calendar: Bramblewood eCalendar – Link: [Bramblewood eCalendar](#)

DECEMBER 2023	
Monday, Nov 27	Food Drive begins (Nov 27 - Dec 15): Please bring in any non-perishable food item for donation
Tuesday, Dec 5	StrongStart Centre closed
Thursday, Dec 7	Learning Update Term 1: (parents to view on MyEd Parent Portal) – no longer printed
Thursday, Dec 8	PAC Hot Lunch Little Caesar's Pizza
Thursday, Dec 14	Fruit & Vegetables Program: Mandarins 1:45 pm Early Dismissal (Parent / Teacher Interviews)
Friday, Dec 15	PAC Treat Day > Sugar Cookies & Candy Cane for \$1 Virtual Food Drive Completed
Thursday, Dec 21	2 x Christmas Concert times (10:45 am & 1:45 pm)
Friday, Dec 22	AM Pancake Breakfast PM Ginger People Cookie decorating & School Wide Event
Dec 22-Jan 9	StrongStart Centre closed for winter break
Dec 25-Jan 5	Winter Break (Bramblewood Closed)
JANUARY 2024	
Monday, Jan 8	School re-opens after Winter Break
Wednesday, Jan 17	PAC Meeting in library @ 6:30 pm or email mymkovski@gmail.com for code/link
Friday, Jan 19	Hot Lunch
Thursday, Jan 25	Fruit & Vegetable Program: Cheese Sticks
Friday, Jan 26	Treat Day
Monday, Jan 29	Pro D Day -School Based (school not in session) **This is a school-based day, meaning it may not be shared by other schools.
Tuesday, Jan 31	Kindergarten Registration (January 31-February 4, 2023?? Dates)

Personal Belongings

A friendly reminder to please ensure all personal belongings such as favorite toys, stuffies, **pokemon cards**, fidgets like poppers, soccer balls etc remain at home. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Trading of such items has the tendency to result in unnecessary and preventable conflict.

Holiday Performance December 21st

Children will be preparing for our winter performance in the upcoming weeks. This year's performance will see our children breaking out their dance moves! Please note that we will be hosting **two performances** on **December 21st (10:45am and 1:45pm)**. We kindly ask that families limit their attendance to one performance to allow everyone to attend. It will no doubt be an exciting time for all of our children as the holiday season approaches.

StrongStart Centre

StrongStart will be closed on Tuesday, December 5 for a staff meeting. Thursday, December 21 will be their last session prior to winter break and will re-open Wednesday, January 10th.



Our students will be expected to go out for fresh air at recess and lunch on most days, even when it is raining. As we enter the cool and rainy days of winter, *please ensure that your child comes to school prepared for the weather conditions. Please help to reinforce the expectation that jackets are to be kept on when outside during this winter season.*



In the event of heavy snow, ice or extreme temperatures, a decision on school closures will take place as soon as possible after 6:30 a.m. that day.

- Check the district website at www.sd43.bc.ca beginning shortly after 6:00 a.m.
- Be sure to hit Refresh when checking back
- The district website posting is official – ***there is no need to call the school or the Board office after viewing. If your child will be absent, please complete the “Absence Report” form on the school website.***
- Tune in to CKWX 1130 AM, CKNW 980 AM or CBC 690 AM for updates

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 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 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

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.

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

'intheknow'

Connect and Learn

For families and caring adults who
are parenting a child or youth with
mental health and/or substance
use challenges.

EVERY MONTH, WE HOST EVENTS FOR FAMILIES CALLED 'IN THE KNOW'.
WE WATCH A VIDEO AND SHARE EXPERIENCES AND STRATEGIES THAT
HELP IN THE HARD MOMENTS. WE HELP FOCUS ON STRENGTHENING OUR
UNDERSTANDING AND CONNECTION WITH OUR KIDS.

ADHD - The Real Deal

Join us as we listen to Dr. Don Duncan dispel the many myths surrounding ADHD by presenting up to date scientific facts about cause, prevalence, diagnosis and treatment. He will explain how and why the ADHD brain works the way it does.

Come together with other families to watch this one hour video presentation followed by a 30 minute facilitated discussion by a FamilySmart Parent Peer Support Worker.

Cost: Free of Charge

Date(s):

Tuesday, December 5, 2023, 6:30pm (PST)
Wednesday, December 6, 2023, 6:00pm (PST)
Thursday, December 7, 2023, 12:00pm (PST)
Tuesday, December 12, 2023, 6:30pm (PST)
Thursday, December 14, 2023, 6:00pm (PST)



Registration required:

www.familysmart.ca/events

