



James Park News February 2017

Together We Can ... Learn, Belong, Take Care of each other and this place

Please help us as we strive to do our best at school

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Even though the holidays seem to be long gone, I trust you not only found some time to relax during the holidays, but also made more special holiday memories with relatives and loved ones. The staff and I were delighted to see so many of you at our Christmas concert. Thanks to all James Park staff, especially Ms Lajeunesse and our students who worked so hard and put in so many hours to make this event such an enjoyable experience. I also really enjoyed the pancake breakfast and seeing so many of you inside the school. Thank you to our PAC who paid the bills and to the Lions who came really early in the morning to cook all of those delicious pancakes!

New Staff at James Park and BCTF Court Ruling

By now I trust that most of you have heard about the court ruling in regards to class size and composition. At the beginning of January, an agreement was reached between the Province, BCPSEA, and the BCTF to provide school districts with \$50 million to immediately begin hiring teachers and improve student supports. SD43 – Coquitlam has received a portion of this money and has hired a number of teachers as result. More specifically, James Park Elementary has received a part time teacher who will be working in area of student services. This will benefit many of our learners and staff as well. I am very pleased to welcome the new teacher – Ms Urszula Siuda – to James Park Elementary, and I hope you will have a chance to meet her in the near future. Although she has been working at James Park as a TTOC for so many days this year, her first official day as a Student Services teacher will begin on Monday, January 30. We also welcome Ms Chand who was the successful applicant for Ms Weiseman's K/1 position. Ms Chand be teaching Ms Weiseman's K/1 class on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Foundation Skills Assessment

Many of our grade 4 students wrote the annual FSA – Foundations Skills Assessment during the past weeks. The FSA booklets have to be submitted for marking in the middle of February, meaning that you should receive your child's scores in the third week of February.

School Values and Beliefs

I am hoping that you are aware of our efforts to define who we are as a school community and what values and beliefs we cherish at James Park Elementary. Teachers and students have been engaged in these discussion since the beginning of the school year (and prior to that as well), and many of you have been so kind and completed a school survey in October/November 2016, providing us with good feedback. Taking all of the information into account and analyzing your answers, a list of 23 words has emerged. Students and staff have started to discuss each of the 23 words on the list (meaning, impact, how do these words "look", "sound" and "feel" like in our school), and, even though all of them are important, it is time for us to narrow down this list to the most important ones. If you would like to participate in choosing your most important words, please respond to the survey which will be sent to you via email next week. I have also added our list to this newsletter.

Please visit our website for more important events and dates at James Park!

Website: <https://www.sd43.bc.ca/School/jamespark/Pages/default.aspx>

James Park Calendar: <https://www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/jamespark/Pages/default.aspx>

Snow, Ice, Traffic and Parking Lot

These past weeks have been very challenging. Many areas around the school literally turned into skating rinks and our caretakers, Maintenance staff had their hands full to keep pathways safe and ice free. The biggest concern, however, remains to be the school staff parking lot. I am asking all parents to refrain from using the parking lot as a drop off and pick up zone. On several occasions, we have had no parking spots available for staff members or district vehicles. Fortunately, we have not had any accidents. I have also received a number of calls from neighbours whose driveways were blocked by illegally parked cars. Therefore, I urge you to please obey traffic regulations and do not use our drop off zone in front of the school as a parking zone.

School Calendar

Please establish an easy link to our website at
<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/jamespark/Pages/default.aspx>

Fri, Feb 10	9:15 am	Jump Rope for Heart – Jump Off
Mon, Feb 13		Family Day – School not in session
Wed, Feb 15	1:53 pm	Early Dismissal
Fri, Feb 17		Hot Lunch
Mon, Feb 20	9:15 am	Performance – Uzume Taiko
Tues, Feb 21		Fruit and Veggies
Wed, Feb 22		Pink Shirt Day – Anti Bullying/Popcorn Day
Thurs, Feb 23		Team Shirt Day
Fri, Feb 24		Non-Instructional Day – School not in session

PAC News

PAC Report

We are now at the halfway mark of the school year and February is looking to be a very busy month for students and the PAC.

Thank you to everyone who came out for our Movie Night. It was a great success, and it sounds like everyone who attended had fun. The next Movie Night is tentatively scheduled for Friday March 10.

Volunteer Opportunities:

We will have a large number of volunteer opportunities this month. If you haven't already filled out a volunteer form, please pick one up at the office, or take one from the PAC Board next to the kitchen. Here are some of the opportunities that we will need help with:

- 1) Hot Lunches – Friday February 3 and Friday February 17, from approximately 12:25 to 12:55. We need 13 volunteers for every hot lunch, and this is a great way to start getting involved.
- 2) The week of February 6th is Staff Appreciation Week, where we celebrate all the efforts our teachers and support staff put in. There will likely be some opportunities to help out, so sign up, and we will keep you posted.
- 3) The Carnival is coming and there will be a LOT of opportunities. Think about joining the planning team, and attending the next meeting on Tuesday February 21st at 7pm in the Staff Room.

Meetings:

PAC Meeting is Tuesday February 7, 11:30am, Room 202 (next to the computer lab). All parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

Carnival Meeting is Tuesday February 21, 7pm, in the Staff Room

Special Events:

Monday February 20, 9:15 in the gym will be a presentation by the Uzume Taiko drummers.

Contact Us:

Want to contact someone on the PAC? Check out the James Park website, find the PAC tab, and choose the email for who you want to contact.

Or, join the Facebook page at facebook.com/JamesParkPAC

Or, email Sunshine_Hanan@hotmail.com to get forwarded to the correct person.

Please Check Lost & Found

Parents/guardians, please help us in choosing James Park core values and beliefs by selecting five words from the list below. You will receive an email asking you to participate in an online, one question survey. To receive a ‘heads up’, here is the list of words.

TRUST	LEARNING	COMMUNITY
DISCIPLINE	COMPASSION	EMPATHY
PRIDE	RESPONSIBILITY	SHARING
SUCCESS	RESPECT	HONESTY
DIVERSITY	INCLUSION	TEAMWORK
KINDNESS	SAFETY	FRIENDSHIP
ACCEPTANCE	MULTICULTURALISM	CARING
HELPFULNESS	COURAGE	

Community News

As you may know, Place des Arts and School District 43 Community Connections have been working together since 2012 providing in-school arts programming in an effort to increase accessibility and exposure to the arts for children and youth. Place des Arts is an educational arts centre located in Maillardville, Coquitlam known for quality programming and instruction, with over 40 years of excellence in arts education.



In addition to the in-school programming offered by Place des Arts, the centre also offers regular art camps. Coming up, Place des Arts will be offering a one-day [Day of the Arts](#) camp on the February 24 School District Pro-D Day for students in kindergarten to grades 5. Day of the Arts runs from 9:00am – 3:45pm. The theme for February is *Myths, Tales and Folklore*, and children may choose from several day-long activity blocks featuring a variety of visual and performing arts classes that reflect this theme.

During Spring Break, Place des Arts will be offering a [Spring Break Camp](#) for students in kindergarten to grade 5 and two weeks of half-day art intensives for students in grades 6 to 9. Place des Arts’ spring break art activities are designed specifically with each age group in mind. Highly skilled instructors and a low student-to-instructor ratio provide a quality educational experience.

Please view these linked [Day of the Arts](#) and [Spring Break](#) flyers for class descriptions, registration information and more details about the camps and Spring Break Intensives.

Registration for the February 24 Day of the Arts is now open. Registration for the Spring Break Camp and intensives opens on Monday, January 23.

Please kindly distribute this information to your students and their families, either by posting on your community bulletin board or by including this information in your newsletters.

If you have any questions about Place des Arts’ arts camps, please feel free to contact Place des Arts Fine and Performing Arts Programmer Jessie Au at 604.664.1636 ext. 33 or jau@placedesarts.ca.

If you would like more information on in-school programming, please contact SD43 Community Connections & Healthy Living Coordinator Jeff Stromgren at jstrongrem@sd43.bc.ca.

Sexual Health Educator

Jessica Wollen, Sexual Health Educator will be presenting Askable Adult 101, how to keep kids safe and how adults can become better communicators about their children’s sexual health.

For more information you can go to shift-education.com to check workshops under services.

Happy-Times Preschool has booked Jessica for Wednesday March 1st, 7-8:30. The preschool has paid for this service and parents of James Park students are also invited to attend. If you would like to attend could you please bring a non-perishable donation for the foodbank.

School District 43



Free Ready, Set, Learn Event for Families & their 3-5 Year Olds

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!

Thursday, March 2

9:00-11:30

Bramblewood Elementary

Monday, March 6

9:00-11:30

Central Elementary

Tuesday, March 7

12:30-3:00

Meadowbrook Elementary



Thursday, March 2

12:30-3:00

Birchland Elementary

Tuesday, March 7

9:00-11:30

Irvine Elementary

Wednesday, March 8

12:30-3:00

Mundy Road Elementary

Wednesday, March 8


9:00-11:30

Moody Elementary




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.

Graduate? Upgrade? Learn English? New Career?



COQUITLAM
CONTINUING Education




The road to
success starts here.


English Language Learning

High School Credit


Business, Careers & Job Skills




Need to Improve Your English?



Want to Graduate?
Need to Improve Your Marks?



Looking for a New Career?
Improve Your Job Skills?



New to Canada?

Montgomery Centre
380 Montgomery St., Coquitlam
604.936.4261

Millside Centre
1432 Brunette Ave., Coquitlam
604.936.4286

Vanier Centre
1600 King Albert Ave., Coquitlam
604.945.7311

**Coquitlam Learning
Opportunity Centre (CLOC)**
104-2788 Lougheed Hwy., Port Coquitlam
604.945.4211


Night School Location
1195 Lansdown Dr., Coquitlam
604.464.5793

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COQUITLAM
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Rotary

STARFISH
PACK



Port Coquitlam
Winter Blues
Festival

In support of
Starfish Pack
Program
feeding hungry
kids in
Port Coquitlam


**TICKETS
\$45**

Rotary Club of Port Coquitlam Centennial

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2017
2:00 PM - 9:00 PM
@ RIVERSIDE SECONDARY SCHOOL
2215 REEVE STREET, PORT COQUITLAM

OPENING EVENT: Peter Tam's "Elton J"
CLOSING EVENT: Diane Lines and her Stellar Band

Also presenting:
The R&B Allstars | INCOGNITO
Steve "Mud Dog" Sainas
Freakin' Groovies



BUY YOUR TICKETS AT <http://tinyurl.com/hcxadzy>

