

# The Current - Monty Middle Newsletter

Volume #8 Monday Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> 2014

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Monday,	Nov. 17 <sup>th</sup>	Advanced Band @ 7:50 in Band Rm. Ski & Snowboard Registrations Due Today Student Government Representative Applications due to Advisory Teacher Intramural Sports Council Representative Applications due to Advisory Teacher Parent Education – Community Change Session #1 – Transition to High School Panel discussion @ 7:00 in the Band Rm.
Tuesday,	Nov. 18 <sup>th</sup>	Beginner Band @ 7:50 in Band Rm. Seven Habits for Teens Workshop Blk. 5 Team Skye Seven Habits for Teens Workshop Blk. 6 Team Sicily Athletics: Gr. 7 Girls Vball Practice @ 7:30am Gr. 6 Boys & Girls Vball Tournament @ Dr. Chas. Best Sec. @ 3:15- 6:00 Gr. 7/8 Boys Vball Practice @ 3:15 – 4:30
Wednesday,	Nov. 19 <sup>th</sup>	Student Government / Intramural Council Elections in each Adv. Choir Practice @ 7:50 in Band Rm. Field Trip: Team Quadra – Skating @ Poirier Rec Centre @ 11:30 – 2:30 ABED District Program Blk. 5 in Rm. 210 Seven Habits for Teens Workshop Blk. 5 Team Hokkaido Athletics: Gr. 7 Boys & Girls Vball Tournament @ Dr. Chas. Best Sec. @ 3:15 – 6:15 Gr.8 Girls Vball Practice @ 3:05 – 4:15
Thursday,	Nov. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Student Government / Intramural Council Elections in each Adv. Tri-Cities Kid Conference @ Pinetree Community Centre @ 9:00 – 3:00 4 Representatives from Monty will attend Universal Children's Day – United Nations Declaration Athletics: Gr. 8 Boys & Girls Vball Tournament @ Dr. Chas. Best Sec. @ 3:15 – 6:15
Friday,	Nov. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Final Election Day for Student Government/ Intramural Council Seven Habits for Teens Workshop Blk. 1 Team Quadra Gr. 7 & Admin Assembly @ Blk. 6 <b>Special Note: Odyssey of the Mind Fun Day on Saturday Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> hosted at Monty Middle from 9:00 – 3:00</b>
Monday,	Nov. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Kids Xmas Market Items Collected and Dropped off at School Advanced Band @ 7:50 in Band Rm. MDI Gr. 7 Survey in Blk. 5/6 Student Government Mtg. #1 @ 2:00 Blk. 6 in Band Rm.
<p><b>Next Week: All week please continue to drop off your donated goods for our Kids Xmas Market</b>                  Tues. Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> Intramural Sports Council Mtg. @ 12:30; Wed. Expo Rock Show @ 9:45 in Blk. 2 in Gym;                  Thurs. Nov 27<sup>th</sup> Term One Explorations End; Fri. Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> Kids Xmas Market all day in Fitness Rm./                  Montessori Registration Letter for Next Year goes Home</p>		
<p><b>Two Weeks:</b> Mon. Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> Term Two Explorations Start/ The 12 Days of Xmas Food and Health Product Drive Begins for the next two weeks – more details to come; Fri. Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> Gr. 8 &amp; Admin Assembly Blk.6</p>		

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## **McFaul's Chat and Chew: Parent Education – Learning about Transitions**

**Parent Ed. Community Change Session # 1** – We invite you to attend an evening panel presentation from our alumni students who have volunteered to share their time with you to discuss their insights on high school transitions. Many parents call us throughout the year to discuss their concerns about whose class their child is placed into and about what teachers are the best in preparing their child for the rigors of high school along with the discussion about what secondary school is the best fit for their child. All worthy questions and inquiries; moreover, who best to share some responses but students who have just recently experienced the transition event over the past few months and year. This is your chance as a parent to come and ask direct questions about the following types of information:

1. How did the middle years prepare your for the transition to high school?
2. What were the biggest challenges in the transition to high school in your first few months/ year?
3. What type of impact did having multi-grade experiences in middle have on your transition to high school – positive and negative?
4. What do they like best about their current high school placement and why?
5. How could the middle school experiences better prepare students for the transition to high school?

We will have a panel of students presenting from all academic backgrounds and representing a wide variety of secondary schools in our district. The key questions are; will we have a group of parents who want to get direct information, who want to hear the successes and the challenges of transition and will we have parents who will vote with their feet and attend to try to discover the best fit for high school for their child. If you want to be a part of this process we ask that you show up at **7:00 on Monday Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> – TOMMORROW NIGHT** to meet our array of fine Gr. 9/10 students who want to tell you about their experiences in transitioning to high school. This is why we call this **PARENT EDUCATION** and how our students our **CHANGING OUR COMMUNITY**. **Are you ready to learn and be part of the change?**

## **Culture Beat: Events and Activities.**

**Volleyball Tournaments this Week** – This is the week if you would like to check out the sports scene in the middle school athletic programs. On Tuesday the Gr. 6 players will travel to Dr. Charles Best for their District Tournament which is full of energy and learning the etiquette and skills of the game. On Wednesday the Gr. 7 players take to the court and you will see an improvement in their overall individual skills and team play. Then on Thursday the Gr. 8 players will be at Dr. Charles Best showcasing their athletic prowess and combined team play. The progression in learning the skills and the ins and outs of the game will be obvious to the adult eye and one can marvel at how in 30 months the skill level of all players moved from a simple fun level to a team effort on fun and athletic cooperation. Thanks to our coaches for the Gr. 7's Ms. Redlich – Girls/ Mrs. Tuan – Boys and for the Gr. 8's Mrs. Perry – Girls/ Mr. Kwok – Boys for their gift of time and efforts.

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**Grade-less Report Cards for Montessori** – We will be following forward on a commitment that was established last year in our District Montessori Program to move towards a system wide reporting process of using grade-less report cards. This is not new to the district as both Miller Park Elementary and Scott Creek Middle both completed a year cycle of using a very informative structure of grade-less report cards. The work done by our Montessori teachers and District Support Staff will require more depth and detail in the analysis of student work along with a collaborative approach using self-assessment and consultative reflective practices between student and teacher. We are excited to move in a purely true Montessori direction on enhanced students self-assessment and qualitative examples of student work and progress and a move away from percent and letter grades that often times do not show the quality and quantity of the work portfolios the students have created.

A quote from the **Montessori Foundation**: Traditionally, Montessori schools communicate with parents and future schools about children's progress through written narrative reports and portfolios of children's work, complemented by parent-teacher-student conferences during the school year. Giving children comparative letter or numerical grades violates the basic principle of good Montessori practice. (Tim Seldin 2010)

**Three-Way Reporting Conferences** – Thanks to all of you who have taken the time last week to phone in and schedule your 3-Way Conference with your child's teachers. We are booked for the dates of Wed. Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thurs Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> as Early Dismissal times in order to move forward with our support for establishing 3-Way Conferences before our Term One Report Card goes home on Fri. Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. The Early Dismissals will be @ 1:30 on both the dates of Wed. Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thurs. Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> with our conferences starting right after we have had a chance to manage our students through their end of day routines.

If you have not had a chance to schedule a meeting then please contact the school office to arrange a time as the spots have been filling up fast and choice times will be challenging to secure.

**Yearbook Request** – This year at Monty we will be creating a 45 page memory book to help us remember all the fun we shared with our friends during the 2014-15 school year. You can help out with the memory book by submitting photos that you have taken at school or on school trips or at school events. By clicking the link below, you can upload your photos (according to the criteria below) to our memory book site on Picaboo. Mrs. Rains will then receive and approve the photos for **possible** use in the memory book.

**Guidelines:**

- 1) Photos must be of Monty school students/staff either at Monty or on a Monty sponsored event (field trip, sports event)
- 2) All school rules are followed (no "swearing"/ rude gestures; no drugs/ alcohol; no demeaning photos etc.)
- 3) Photos are clear and in focus (not blurry), show faces, balanced- individual or group shots

I ask that you submit 5- 10 photos total (total for the whole year). If everyone submits this many photos it means that we will have 3000+ photos to choose from. It also means that Mrs. Rains will have to view all these submissions and approve them all before they are accepted. So please ensure that your photos are of excellent quality worthy of being included in our memory book.

Thanks for your help in capturing all the special moments at Monty this year! Please click on the link below and get started uploading your special photos.

[Monty Middle Memories](#)  
[Get Started!](#)

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**Ski & Snowboard Club Information** – The first meeting of our Ski and Snowboard Club was held last week and we had over 120 students come to express their interest. We know that this is a popular event for our community and we thank Mrs. Hutchinson and her host of mountain assistants who give freely of their time in January to ensure that our students get a full four lessons and mountain experience every Thursday evening.

Key points to know:

- The sessions start on Thursday Jan. 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th.
- Students will leave school at approx. 2:45 and return to Monty parking lot by 9:30
- **All forms must be completed and returned to Mrs. Hutchinson by Mon. Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>**
- Late registrations and adjustments to schedules will not be permitted due to guidelines required by Mt. Seymour.

**Student Government and Intramural Sports Council** - This week all students who are interested have a chance to have their say and voice in how our school organizes different events like school dances, Xmas activities lunchtime sports and fun days. If your child is interested in Student Government then we ask that they submit their completed application **signed by you the parent** to their Advisory Class Teacher. If your child is interested in Intramural Sports Council then they have to submit their application to their Advisory Class Teacher, no parent signature required. This week there will be elections in each of the Advisories if needed and then we will convene our representative assemblies and get started on doing the work of having an active Student Government and an Intramural Sports Council. These will only be effective if your child chooses to get involved and make good things happen for their life and times at Monty Middle.

### **Student Congratulations Section:**

Students share their thoughts about their Team Activities and their Learning:

#### **Team Hokkaido News:**

Despite our late start, my first month and a bit on Team Hokkaido has been fantastic! Mr. Prestia, Mme. Mitchell, Ms. Johnston and Ms. Bertoia have made the start to the school year great! We have done lots of fun projects and team activities together. On Fridays, we have a block of Genius Hour where we start with a question, research our inquiry and finally present our answer to the question to our class. Block 4 on Fridays we have Team PE. Our first team PE, was a get to know you block but we soon got into it. We have played tons of Prisonball, have done Fitness Friday and the intense (and tiring) beep test. To get into the Halloween mood, we took a trip to Centennial High School for their maze haunted house. All of my peers were spooked. It was terrifying! I can't wait to see what activities are around the corner!!!

Submitted By:

Kiah

#### **Team Skye News:**

A special congratulation goes out to Brianna S. in Adv. 6 Team Skye for her winning submission in the Maple Ridge Legion poem contest. Brianna wrote a Remembrance Day poem reflection that garnered her recognition and a first place prize in the local community contest.

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## 2014 CHRISTMAS MARKET FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28th

This is a reminder that volunteers and donations are needed for the KIDS CHRISTMAS MARKET which is happening at the school on Friday, Nov 28<sup>th</sup>. Last year was such a tremendous success in raising funds and awareness for supporting others in our community, as well as a big surprise for everyone on Christmas morning when you opened the carefully chosen gift your child thought was perfect for you. If you have items to **donate**, **please send them to the office beginning on Monday Nov 24<sup>th</sup>**. We are off to a great start as many people have said they have been collecting donations and will be bringing them in. Monday thru Thursday is preferred but donations will be accepted until the morning of the market.

Thank you to everyone who has already contacted me to let me know they can help out with the Market. More volunteers are still needed; even an hour makes a big difference. Any time you can spare is appreciated. Volunteer times are as follows:

**1:00 - 3:00 on Wednesday Nov 26<sup>th</sup>** for donation collection and set up.

**9:00 - 3:00 on Thursday Nov 27<sup>th</sup>** for donation collection, sorting and pricing.

**9:00 - 3:30 on Friday Nov 28<sup>th</sup>** to help with the actual sale. Parents are needed to help look after a table, wrap gifts, etc. Shifts are available all day until 3:30 PM. Come for a while or set the whole day aside, you choose, but we do need your help to make this event successful.

**PLEASE CONTACT EVELYN at [mikeeve@shaw.ca](mailto:mikeeve@shaw.ca) or 604-931-9158 if you are able to volunteer.**

Parents and siblings not attending the school are invited to shop after school. Students may also revisit the market at this time.

If you are asking yourself "What is the Kids Christmas Market", then you probably missed the notice that recently went home. Don't worry; a copy is available on the school website homepage under the publication section and there may be a copy or two at the office.

Please remember that **students should bring small change, loonies and toonies on the day of the market as well as a shopping bag to carry their purchases home safely.**

Please talk to your children:

1. About why we are raising money (for example, to support Coquitlam families through the Share/Project Angel program with gifts and food donations, as well as the homeless with toques, gloves and socks and what that will mean to them).
2. That they are shopping for family members and other special people in their lives.
3. Encourage them to do extra chores around the house etc. to EARN their spending money.
4. All classes will be given an opportunity to shop.

Thank you,

Evelyn Chursinoff Kids Christmas Market Coordinator

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## **PAC News and Events:**

**January PAC Mtg. – Wednesday Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 in the Library**

**Monty Staff Thank You** - To all parents who have most graciously donated treats and goodies over the past few weeks to share in our staff room. As our staff slide in for a break from the day we have had cookies and chocolates present themselves from it seems like out of nowhere; whereby, in fact we know that they have come from your caring homes and generous hearts. We greatly appreciate the treats and most importantly the thoughts behind them that express your way appreciation for the work our staff do daily with your children. Much Appreciated!

## **Community News:**

To unsubscribe from this mailing list and stop receiving these notifications from Montgomery Middle School, please email [montgomerymiddle@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:montgomerymiddle@sd43.bc.ca) stating you wish to be removed. Within 10 days of your request, you will no longer receive these emails.

## **34<sup>th</sup> Annual Coquitlam Christmas Craft Fair**

Friday, December 5 from 5pm to 9pm  
Saturday, December 6 from 10am to 4pm  
Sunday, December 7 from 11am to 4pm

Poirier Community Centre  
624 Poirier Street, Coquitlam

Adult Admission \$2.50  
Seniors & Children \$1.25

[www.coquitlamcrafts.com](http://www.coquitlamcrafts.com)

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## Youth & Social

# Media



*Monday, November 24 7-8:30pm*

## Inlet Theatre

Is your elementary or middle school child using social media?

Is it safe?

**Parents are invited to an informative evening with social media expert, Jesse Miller. Hosted by the Port Moody Police Department and CERA. (*Communities Embracing Restorative Action*)**

Drop-in. No registration required.



100 Newport Drive, Port Moody, BC V3H 3E1 [library.portmoody.ca](http://library.portmoody.ca)



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