

The Roy Stibbs Reporter



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Coquitlam, BC V3J 4A7
(604) 939-2486

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/roystibbs/Pages/default.aspx>

December Newsletter



DATES TO REMEMBER

December

Thursday, December 7th

A & W Day – For those students who have pre-ordered

Wednesday, December 13th

Christmas Concerts (9:15 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.) Please see newsletter for details

Monday, December 18th

Holiday Headwear Day

Tuesday, December 19th

Holiday Sweater Day

Wednesday, December 20th

Pancake Day & Pajama Day

Report Cards available online

Thursday, December 21st

Donuts Day – For those students who have pre-ordered.

Red & Green Day

Friday December 22nd

Festive Friday

Friday, December 22nd to

Sunday, January 7th

Winter Break – No School



MESSAGE FROM MS. SVIATKO

December 1st is here! Today the staff will “Deck the Halls” after school and when our students arrive on Monday morning, there will be some holiday magic sprinkled around the hallways with lights, trees, and decorations. It certainly makes the dark rainy days a little brighter!

We are extraordinarily blessed to have the amazing Mrs. Lundin at Roy Stibbs who is currently tuning up our concert choir for events at The Farmer’s Market and Loughheed Mall, and teaching, rehearsing, and directing ALL our students for our holiday performance Elflandia!

Elflandia Performances:

- All students will be performing.
- There will be two shows on Wednesday December 13th.
 - **9:15 am** – all students will stay and watch the whole show (dress rehearsal) **We will open doors at 9:00am for seating.**
 - **1:30 pm** – students will return to class after their performance -**We will open doors at 1:15pm for seating.**
 - You do not need tickets.
 - Please only attend ONE show – this will provide more seating for all our families.
 - You do NOT have permission to put any pictures/videos on social media of other students. Please respect this.

Construction – there is progress! Starting on the 12th we will be rotating our classes out to the portables 2 at a time. The classes will be in the portable for 3-4 days while the windows are being replaced in their classroom. Hopefully this will feel adventurous and exciting... at least for the first day?

Pancake Breakfast – On Wednesday December 20th, we will be serving freshly made pancakes, mandarin oranges and a cheesestick. It would be very helpful if you could send a plate and fork with your child to return home – we are trying to limit one use plates and utensils. * Hopefully Mr. and Mrs. Claus will make an appearance – the North Pole is getting back to me... 😊

Report Cards – By the end of the day on Wednesday December 20th, you should receive an email from me alerting you that the first term reports are online ready to read in the Myed Portal. Mrs. Tipper will assist you to sign in if you are having troubles. If you have any questions about your child’s learning at any time (you do not need to wait for a report card) please contact your child’s teacher.

Congratulations to Ms. Price who has just successfully completed her teaching practicum at Roy Stibbs under the mentorship of Mr. Lang. We wish you the very best career ahead – hopefully with a return to our community one day!

Thank you, families, for abiding by our “no shared food” at school policy. This remains true for the holiday season, please do not send edible treats for other students. A reminder that ALL toys must stay home and not be sent to school for play including stuffies, Pokeman cards etc.

Have a great weekend everyone,
Ms. Sviatko

ATTENDANCE/ LATE STUDENTS/ PICKING STUDENTS UP EARLY

- If your child will be absent/ late for any reason, please send an absence report (link is on our school website under “Quick Links”), phone the office at 604-939-2486 or email Mrs. Tipper at roystibbs@sd43.bc.ca before 9:00 a.m. We have an answering machine to pick up the messages if you call before 8:00 a.m.
- If your child is late – please come with them to the office to check in and pick up a Welcome Slip to take to their classroom teacher.
- If you are picking up your child earlier than the regular dismissal time, please phone the office when you arrive, and we will call them down to meet you.
- We need to make sure they have been signed in or out for safety reasons.

SNACKS AND LUNCHES

Please provide a nutritious snack and lunch that is easy for your child to consume. Please do NOT plan to drop off lunches later in the day – this is an unnecessary complexity when we have over 240 students. Of course, there may be a rare occasion when you must do this due to illness or mix up, but please teach your child to check for their own lunch/water bottle/snack etc. before you leave home! All eating will be done inside (before play time). There is no sharing of food or drink with others.

If your child requires any utensils in their lunch, please make sure to pack them in your child's lunchbox.



CHRISTMAS THEMED SPIRIT WEEK

On the last week of school before the Winter Break will be Christmas Themed Spirit Week!

- **Monday, December 18th** – **HOLIDAY HEADWEAR DAY** – You can wear Santa Hats, reindeer antlers, elf ears, holiday hats or toques!
- **Tuesday, December 19th** – **HOLIDAY SWEATER DAY** – Wear your most festive or ugly Xmas sweater!
- **Wednesday, December 20th** – **PJ DAY** – You can wear a clean pair (not what you wore to bed) of your favorite pajamas!
- **Thursday, December 21st** – **RED & GREEN DAY** You can wear red and or green pants, shirts, sweaters and /or socks to show your holiday cheer!
- **Friday, December 22nd** – **FESTIVE FRIDAY**– You can wear anything you have that is festive! You can repeat any of the days before!

ANNUAL PANCAKE DAY!



This year the Pancake Breakfast will be held on **Wednesday, December 20th**. Students are welcome to wear their pajamas and enjoy delicious pancakes. Please send a plate and fork in your child's backpack that they can use to have breakfast as we are modeling best practices for our environment by cutting down on disposable waste!

WINTER BREAK

The school will be closed from December 25th to January 5th. The school will re-open on Monday, January 8th. This will be a regular school day! We hope you all have a wonderful winter break.



CHOIR PERFORMANCES

The Our first public performance will be at the annual Coquitlam Farmer's Market

Date: Saturday, December 9th

Time: 2:00, singers are called for 1:50

Place: Poirier Sports and Leisure Complex, 633 Poirier Street

Dress: Holiday Festive Wear

Our second performance will be at the Lougheed Mall outside of London Drugs.

Date: Friday, December 15th

Time: 10:00

Dress: Black pants/skirts/shoes, choir shirts, festive hats, and holiday attire

SHARE FOOD BANK

In the past, Roy Stibbs Elementary has been very generous in donating food items to the Share Food Bank, which supports families in our area. This year, however, Share is asking us to consider raising funds rather than food. Food donations cause challenges for Share, including increased labor to sort and store items and a mismatch between donated items and items needed by families. With cash donations, Share can better serve the community by bulk buying needed items like perishable foods, formula for infants, supplements for seniors, or other culturally appropriate items.

This year, Roy Stibbs will run a virtual food drive to raise money for Share. Every dollar counts and no donation is too small. Please consider following the link to our fundraising page and donating to this very worthy cause.

<https://bcvfd.foodbank.bc.ca/team/125/105>

PLANNER FEE

For students in Grade 1- Grade 5 please log onto your school cash online account to pay for your child's planner. The total cost is \$4.50. If you need financial assistance, please contact Ms. Sviatko at

lsviatko@sd43.bc.ca

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration Period: February 6th to February 8th. More information will be coming out in January regarding the registration process. Please stay tuned.

CROSS-CATCHMENT PROCESS

- Cross Catchment Application (Feb 9 9am to Feb 14 4pm). Application forms will be available on the main SD43 page (www.sd43.bc.ca) between **Friday, February 9, 2024, at 9 a.m. to Wednesday, February 14, 2023, to 4 p.m.**
- Applications will be processed based on the availability of space in schools and on a **RANDOM DRAW PROCESS**. (using in-district priority then out-of-district)

SAFETY CONCERNS!

We need to remember to abide by the rules of the road to ensure that all our children, staff and parents can arrive to and from school safely. Some concerns that have been raised are:

1. The **speed** at which people are driving around the school: Please obey the posted limits of **30km/h**, and at heavy traffic times, this speed limit may still be too fast. Please remember that each one of us would like our children to come home safely from school.
2. **U-turns are NOT permitted** at the corner of Fairview Street and Accacia



Avenue (right out front of the school). It only takes an extra minute (not even) to drive around the block or up one of the side streets.

- 3. There are No parking/Stopping signs** directly in front of the school. You are not permitted to leave your car here. There is ample parking around the school on all sides, please use these areas.
- 4. Do not use staff parking lot** to drop off or pick up your children. There are many times when children and families are walking in the parking lot and having parents using the parking lot as a drop off or pick-up area is a safety concern. In addition, if one of our staff members leaves during the day for a meeting, we need to ensure that there is a parking space for them to use when they come back.



Your cooperation in following these rules is hugely appreciated to ensure the safety of the whole community.

HEAD LICE

During these colder months we sometimes see a rise in the number of cases of head lice. Although checking your children's hair should be a regular part of grooming, to help stop the spread of these pests; please check your child carefully for the next couple of months. You will need a bright light to do this. If you find lice and/or nits (lice eggs) on your child's head, treat it as necessary before your child returns to school.



How do I check for lice?

Because lice are tiny, mobile, and hard to spot, it's easier to look for their eggs (nits) rather than the bugs themselves. Live nits can be difficult to spot because they are tan-colored and blend in with the hair. Dead nits are silvery-colored and easier to see. These silvery oval specks are "glued" tightly to individual strands of hair, very close to the scalp. They are very small, about one-third the size of a sesame seed. They are mostly found behind the ears and at the back of the neck. Because "nits" can sometimes be mistaken for particles of dandruff, it is sometimes useful to use a magnifying glass when searching. If you do find nits, then lice are sure to be there as well. You can contact the School Public Health Nurse at 604-949-7200 for more information or you can access the Fraser Health Unit website at www.fraserhealth.ca Please remember...ANYONE can get head lice. Their presence is not a sign of poor hygiene, poor housekeeping, or low socioeconomic status. **If you find your child has head lice, please notify the school immediately. Thank you for your assistance. We are relying on all parents to participate in checking their children's hair on a regular basis to help prevent the spread of lice.**

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

SCENT AWARE

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) buildings are scent aware facilities. To protect those individuals with fragrance sensitivities and to prevent others from developing such sensitivities, SD43 provides this information and asks for your cooperation towards a scent-reduced environment. The district is asking for cooperation towards a scent-reduced environment. All staff, students and visitors are strongly encouraged to avoid or reduce the use of fragranced products, and to replace them with unscented alternatives. We recognize the personal right of individuals to use scented products. We believe, however, that this must be balanced with the adverse health effects and extreme discomfort that can be suffered by fragrance-sensitive individuals. This is not an issue about an individual disliking the smell of perfume and not getting what he/she wants in the workplace. This is not a ban on scented products. This is a request to refrain from chemical-based scented products.

WEST COAST RECESS/LUNCH

At Roy Stibbs we are committed to providing our students with many opportunities to play outside. Your children will be going outside on many days when it is raining; we call this **West Coast Recess/Lunch**. Please ensure that your child has a good raincoat, proper footwear, a hat, gloves, and umbrellas during the coming fall and winter months. If you need any assistance with accessing proper clothing, please contact us at the office.



***Please note: A sweater is not a rain or winter jacket. Please make sure you are sending a waterproof rain jacket with your child as we have had several children who have been very wet during the day.**

PROTECT CHILDREN FROM RESPIRATORY ILLNESSES THIS WINTER -MESSAGE FROM FRASER HEALTH

Respiratory illnesses tend to increase as we spend more time indoors. Common colds, the flu and COVID-19 spread through tiny droplets as people who are sick breathe, talk, cough, or sneeze. When other people touch these droplets and then their eyes, mouth, or nose before washing their hands they may become sick.

There are a handful of steps both children and adults can take to protect themselves and limit the spread of respiratory illnesses:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water. Use alcohol-based sanitizer if soap and water is not available.
- Avoid touching your face, especially your eyes, mouth, and nose.
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow.
- If you have symptoms, stay home, and stay away from people at higher risk of serious illness.



Flu and COVID-19 vaccinations

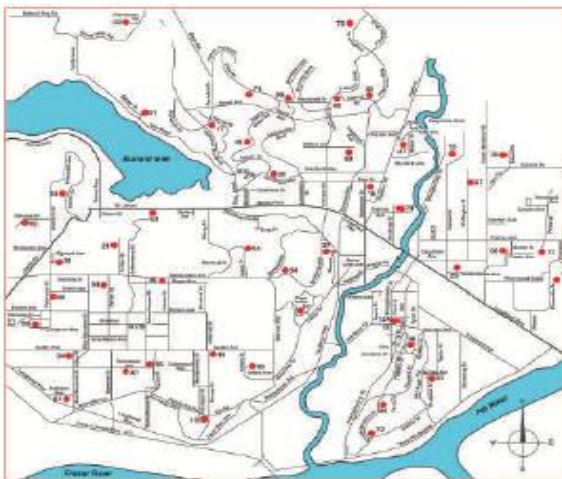
The best way to protect others and reduce the risk of getting sick with the flu and COVID-19 is to [get immunized](#). The flu and COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and available for free to anyone aged six months and older. It is much safer to get the vaccines than to get the illnesses. Register your children with the Get Vaccinated system so that you can be invited to book their vaccinations when they are due.

Learn more here: <https://ow.ly/5WWe50PYIYC>

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH US

We believe it is important for us to communicate with you consistently and regularly for you to be aware of what is going on at school and to keep you involved. To keep up to date be sure to read our newsletter or check the school website at:

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/roystibbs/Pages/default.aspx>



There are 13 Strong Start Centres located in the following schools:

MORNING PROGRAMS	8:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
BRAMBLEWOOD (9)	CEDAR DRIVE (11)
CENTRAL (12)	COQUITLAM RIVER (13)
MAILLARD (81)	MOODY (43)
RIVERVIEW PARK (57)	SEAVIEW (58)

AFTERNOON PROGRAMS	12:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.
JAMES PARK (29)	MUNDY ROAD (46)
NESTOR (47)	MEADOWBROOK (37)
ROY STIBBS (56)	

StrongStart

A time to play . . .

Explore a wide variety of play-based activities:

- sand and water
- music and movement
- dramatic play
- 'pretend' play
- art activities
- literature and storytelling
- building with blocks
- problem solving activities



**Families are welcome to drop into
the program any time, any day.**

ONE-TIME REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

You can register online at:
<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/Programs/StrongStart/Pages/Registration.aspx>
or in person at the SS site of your choice.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

Staff Development Department (604) 937-6381
or visit the site listed above.



DECEMBER

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3	4	5	6	7 A & W Day *for those who pre-ordered	8	9
10	11	12	13 Christmas Concerts 9:15 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.	14	15	16
17	18 Holiday Headwear Day	19 Holiday Sweater Day	20 Pancake Day and Pajama Day Report Cards available online	21 Red and Green Day Donut Day *For those who pre-ordered	22 Festive Friday Last Day of School	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Winter Break – No School						
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Winter Break – No School						

