

WALTON ELEMENTARY

JANUARY 19, 2015

1989

Do you remember 1989?

It's funny what you remember. For me, it was the endless lineups around the block for the summer movies that included Indiana Jones and Last Crusade, Batman and Star Trek V. I recall watching the news about an earthquake during the World Series in San Francisco and protests in Tiananmen Square. It was also the summer that I moved away from home to go to university.

It was also the year that a certain school in Coquitlam opened its doors.

Every school that I have worked at has unique characteristics that make it a special place for children to learn. Over the years, schools develop cultures

and memories. There have been thousands of students who have called Walton their second home over the last twenty-five years.

Watch for more information regarding our Walton's 25th Birthday!

Regards,

Mr. C. Mah

**Neighbourhood
Kindergarten
Registration,
February 3, 4
and 5**

**Lunar New
Years
Lion
Dance,
Tuesday,
February
24th,
10:40am**

CALENDAR DATES

- BC Family Day, Monday, February 9th
- Pro.D., Friday, February 20th

WALTON TURNS 25!

Walton Elementary will celebrate its 25th Birthday on Tuesday, April 7th. We will connect our 25th Anniversary celebration with the Grand Opening of our two new classroom additions. The children are signing their names to plywood sheets that will be used in the construction of the new classrooms. Thanks to Mr. Wicks, our contractor, and Ms. Biedka and Ms. Thiara for organizing this special Time Capsule. More details to follow!



WHAT'S GOING ON AT WALTON?

Thanks Mastermind Toys

Thanks to Mastermind Toys in Port Coquitlam for helping the staff with discounted prices for classroom use. The store has also donated games and activities to several of our teachers. Thanks Mastermind Toys!

Public Speaking

Walton's Intermediate classes will be preparing speeches for our in-house festival on Wednesday, February 11th.

60 Second Fairy Tales in Grade One

Structures

Many of our classes have been engaged in activities involving structures. Mrs. Palmer's Grade 3 class and Mr. Ross' Grade 4/5 class have been interested in structures.

New Kindergarten Registration

Registration for families looking to start Kindergarten in 2015-2016 in our neighbourhood program will occur on February 3, 4 and 5.

Mandarin Bilingual Information Session.

Thanks to teachers Ms. Suen, Ms. Thiara, and parents Mr. Woods and Mrs. Risk for speaking at our Mandarin Bilingual Information Session on Tuesday, January 13th. Our wonderful speakers provided information from both a teachers' and parents' perspective on our program! We also wish to thank thirteen of our Grade 5 students who helped greet our guests!



MANDARIN BILINGUAL UPDATE

We are still going through all of the information from our Edmonton trip! Watch for an invitation to our parents to hear about our trip and how it will influence our program.

Lunar New Years Activities Stations

Thursday, February 19th

Walton Elementary, including our Mandarin and Neighbourhood classes will be engaged in Lunar New Year stations in the afternoon.

Lion Dance

Tuesday, February 24th

Walton will host the Lunar New Years Lion Dance at 10:45am. Parents are welcome, but space in the gym will be very tight!

Open House

Week of February 23-27

Parents are welcome to come and visit the classrooms to witness Lunar New Year activities. This is a chance to see the students in an authentic learning situation. Please watch for information from your child's teacher regarding day and time.

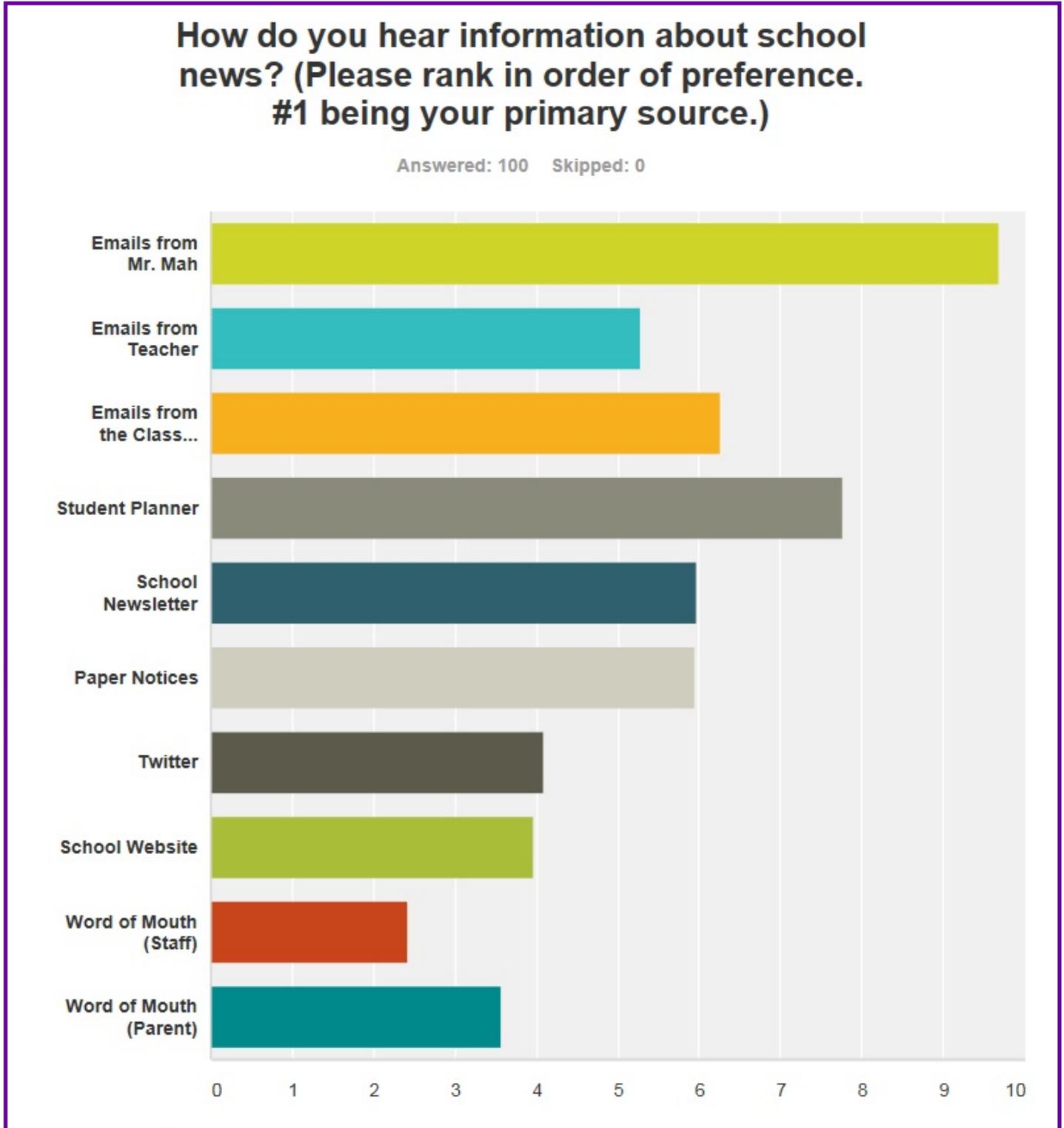
PLAYGROUND

Since November, we have been using the Tot Lot that borders Walton Avenue. We have invited two classes of Grade Ones up to the Tot Lot Daily.

This has given our students more room to play. It has also noticeably reduced the number of playground issues!

COMMUNICATION SURVEY RESULT

Last November, Mr. Mah engaged the parent community with an impromptu, non-scientific survey about how they learn about school news. We'll reprint parts of the survey over the course of the year. The results are based on 100 responses.



January 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 2 3

4 5 6 7 8 9 10

School Re-Opens

7 Mandarin Program

Only: Early Dismissal
for Parent Teacher
Interviews at 1:45

8 All Students: Early

Dismissal for Parent
Teacher Interviews at
1:45

11 12 13 14 15 16 17

13 Information

Evening for New
Kindergarten Man-
darin Program,
6:30

18 19 20 21 22 23 24

19 PAC Meeting at
6:45

21 Hot Lunch

25 26 27 28 29 30 31

February 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

*Regular
Kindergarten
Registration*

*Regular
Kindergarten
Registration*

*Regular
Kindergarten
Registration*

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

*BC
Family
Day*

Hot Lunch

*Valentine's
Day*

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

*Public Speak-
ing Finals for
Walton Stu-
dents*

*Lunar New
Years Activity
Stations in
afternoon*

Pro. D.

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

PAC Meeting at 6:45

*Lunar New
Year Lion
Dance at
10:45*

March 2015

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

Hot Lunch

2nd Report Card.

Last day before
Spring Break

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

Spring

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

Break

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

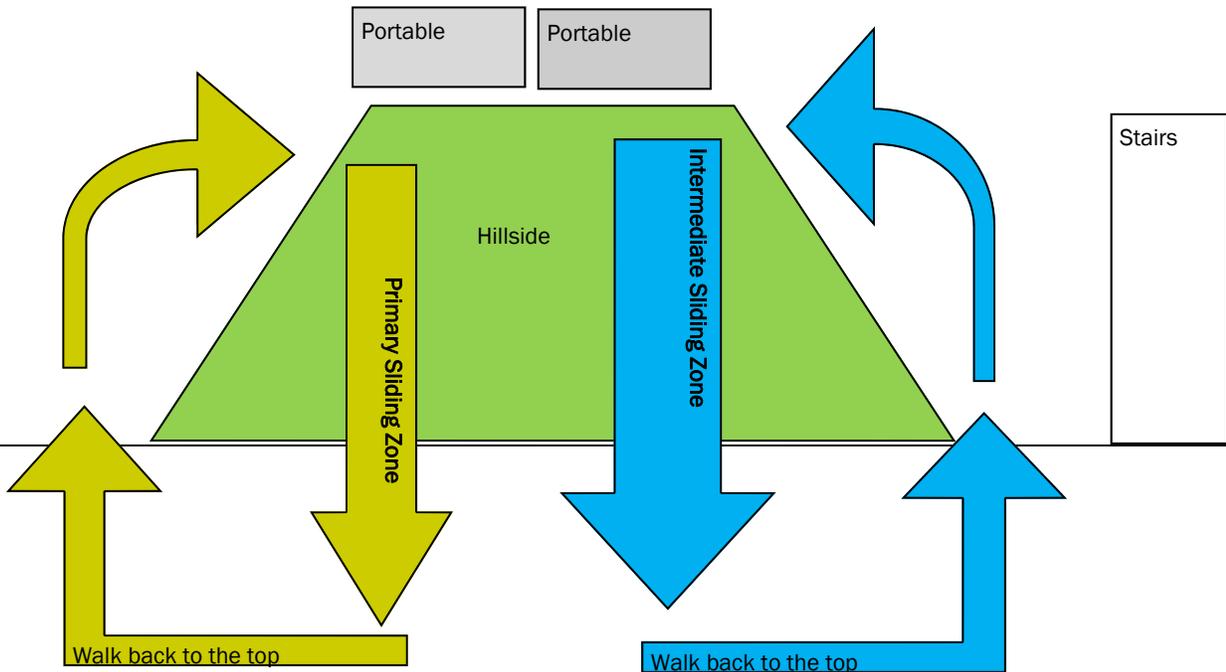
30

31

Earl; Dismissal for
Parent/Teacher
Interviews

Snow Slide Zone!

Walton School Building



Gravel Field

The school will determine if there is enough snow to sled safely. To ensure a safe sledding environment, we will follow the above map. Students will have designated sledding and climbing zones.

Mandarin Bilingual Program

2015-2016 Information Session



Mandarin Bilingual Information Session!

Walton hosted an Information Session for prospective Kindergarten and Gr. 1 parents interested in the Mandarin Program on January 13th. These are some of the slides that were presented.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Application forms will be available at the information meeting at Walton Elementary School on **January 13th** and on this site on **January 14th**.

Completed application forms must be mailed or hand delivered to the Coquitlam School Board Office (550 Poirier Street, Coquitlam V3J 6A7), **no later than 4:30 pm on Wednesday, January 21, 2015. No faxes or emails accepted.**

CRITERIA: applications for Kindergarten /Grade 1 is done by a random draw and will be limited to the number of spaces available. Late application forms will not be part of the draw.

PRIORITY: Siblings of students already enrolled in the Bilingual Mandarin Program at Walton will be given first priority.

Mandarin Bilingual Intake for 2015

44 Kindergarten students
4 Grade One students

*Numbers are set by provincial class size limits.

Successful Applicants...

...will be notified by the end of the month.
...will register at Walton during February 24, 25 or 26.

Wait List

Families not selected will be placed on a wait list.
Register at your catchment school February 3, 4 or 5th.

*Active Wait List

A Unique Program of Choice



Why Learn Mandarin?

CONFIDENCE that Chinese can be learned in a public school.

Language is **CURRENCY**.

Create an understanding of Chinese **CULTURE**

What Will They Learn?

- British Columbia Ministry of Education Curriculum
- Chinese Language
- Chinese Culture



How do they learn?

Students learn 50% in Mandarin and 50% in English daily.

The children will have two teachers.

Learning Mandarin is difficult. There will be challenges that children in a regular program will not face.

Program Supports

- School District 43
- Confucius Institute of Coquitlam
- Walton PAC



**SCHOOL DISTRICT 43
(COQUITLAM)**

2960 Walton Avenue,
Coquitlam, BC, V3B 6V6

Phone: 604-941-1962

Fax: 604-937-8040

E-mail: walton@sd43.bc.ca

WELCOME TO WALTON
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,
WHERE WE STRIVE TO
CREATE A CARING,
RESPECTFUL
COMMUNITY OF
LEARNERS. THE
SCHOOL COMMUNITY IS
FOCUSED ON CREATING
A SOCIALLY
RESPONSIBLE SCHOOL
CLIMATE TO ENHANCE
STUDENT LEARNING



Food Composting Update

There has been a delay in the implementation of the Food Scrap Composting program due to a shortage of containers.

Our program will begin once we receive the containers.

The program was originally scheduled to begin January 5th.

Making Sense of Anxiety

**Wednesday, February 11th
7:00—9:00**

Hillcrest Middle School Gymnasium

Parents of school-aged children in our community are encouraged to attend!

No advance registration required

Admission:

A donation for the foodbank: a can or two of food or a "Toonie"

Hope to see you there!

Drobot Counselling

Adult Counselling, Parent Consulting,
Education for Parents and Professionals
Registered Professional Counsellor #2349
#2-1718 Marine Drive, West Vancouver,
BC, Canada, V7V 1J3
colleendrobot@me.com
www.drobotcounselling.com
604-626-5377

There is currently an epidemic of anxiety affecting children of all ages. Anxiety can take many forms including obsessions, compulsions, phobias, panic, sleep issues, physical illnesses, as well as a host of perplexing behaviours such as seeking attention and avoiding situations. Today's world can create many challenges for children with school pressures, peer interactions, family dynamics, negative self-image, perfectionism, and many other stressors that can impede a child's ability to play, learn and grow. Whether it's the natural, episodic worries of childhood, or more profound and crippling versions of anxiety, family therapist Colleen Drobot will help make sense of the roots of anxiety using Dr. Gordon Neufeld's approach. Through stories, examples, and theory, Colleen will suggest ways in which parents can help support their children to find psychological and emotional rest in their world.

Colleen Drobot

B.Ed., Dip. Of Special Education
Registered Professional Counsellor (RPC)
Faculty, Neufeld Institute



Colleen Drobot is a registered professional counsellor and parent consultant with a private practice in West Vancouver. She works with adults, families, and adolescents. She is also an educator with the Coquitlam School District and has over 20 years experience working with children in the regular classroom or in special needs settings. She is a faculty member of the Neufeld Institute and has worked with Dr. Neufeld's approach for many years. Colleen is a mother of two and draws from her personal as well as professional experience to support parents and professionals in gaining insight, opening their hearts.