



# Birchland Elementary School

## E-News

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[birchland@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:birchland@sd43.bc.ca)

Mr. Frank Pearse, *Principal*

Birchland E-News Volume 2013/2014 – 8

December 11, 2013

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### Happy Holidays From Birchland – [fpearse@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:fpearse@sd43.bc.ca)

Important December Dates and Reminders:

1. Christmas Sing-Along Concert
  - a. Thursday, Dec 19<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM
  - b. Dress Rehearsal Thursday, Dec 19<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30 PM
  - c. Please see PAC communication about Bake Sale and 'Ho-Ho-Hold the Seats' draw
  
2. Pancake Breakfast with Santa
  - a. Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Santa will deliver pancakes to each classroom
  - c. Pajama Day at Birchland
  
3. December 23<sup>rd</sup> – Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> Winter Break – SCHOOL CLOSED
  - a. School will resume on Monday, Jan 6<sup>th</sup>



Have a safe and happy holiday!

Frank Pearse

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### Christmas Concert & Bake Sale – Save the Date



Our school's Christmas concert will take place on Thursday, December 19th @ 6:30 pm. There will also be a dress rehearsal that parents are welcome to attend on Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm. BPAC will host the annual bake sale before each concert in the Multi-Purpose Room (by the gym). Please mark this date on your calendar so that you have the chance to come and join in the celebration and watch your children perform!

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### New SMART BOARDS coming to Birchland

Often it takes years for schools to raise enough money to accomplish major technological improvements. Fortunately, and due to the amazing fundraising efforts of our PAC and school community, Birchland has been able to completely upgrade our existing fleet of Smart Boards in an 18 month period. Last Friday I signed off on the work order to upgrade Mr. Sung's and Mr. Cumming's Smart Boards, this work is expected to take place on our pro-d day on January 31<sup>st</sup>. Completion of these final two boards will represent a major accomplishment for our school, and conclude a project with a total budget of over \$12,000.

Kudos to the Birchland PAC and all of the Birchland parents for your hard work raising the funds to complete this project!

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## Two Weeks at a Glance [\(Click for the full Birchland Calendar\)](#)

Please keep a close eye on the calendar as the next few weeks are very busy!

- Monday, Dec 9
  - E Newsletter
  - Fruit & Veggie; Mandarin Oranges & Milk – distributed this week
- Tuesday, Dec 10; Lunch Lady (optional)
- Wednesday, Dec 11;
  - Wacky Wednesday; PJ Day
  - BPAC Hot Lunch (SUBWAY)
  - Poinsettia's delivered and pick up after school in foyer
- Thursday, Dec 12
  - Aboriginal Education Program
  - Outdoor Education Club (last class)
- Friday, Dec 13;
  - Report Cards go home
  - Tuesday, Dec 17; Lunch Lady (optional)
- Tuesday, Dec 17; Lunch Lady (optional)
- Thursday, Dec 19;
  - 1:30pm – Christmas Concert Dress Rehearsal & Bake Sale
  - 6:30 pm – Christmas Concert & Bake Sale
- Friday, Dec 20;
  - Last day of school! School Reopens on **Monday, Jan 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014**
  - Pancake Breakfast & wear your PJ's! I hear Santa maybe in the building!!

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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## Safe Schools Task Force

Our districts Safe Schools Task Force is pleased to inform you that Kevin Cameron will be returning to our district in the New Year to speak with parents and all other interested members of our community. This will be part of the three series events entitled "Parenting our Kids in the 21st Century". The dates are: February 4th (Coquitlam Alliance Church) and May 15th (Charles Best) from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Please plan to attend these very useful sessions.

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## Bad Weather:



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 am that day.

- Check the district website at [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) beginning shortly after 6:30 am
- Be sure to hit "Refresh" when checking back
- The district website posting is official – (Please do not call the school to tell us your child will be away)
- Tune in to CKWX 1130 AM, KKNW 980 AM or CBC 690 AM for updates
- Please refrain from calling the school to ask if we are open.

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## Cold Weather Recess

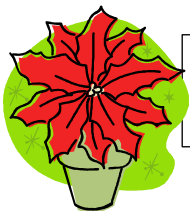


Looking at the extended forecast it appears that we will see the temperatures fall. When the weather is cold please ensure your children are dressed appropriately to be outside for up to 30 minutes when they are coming to school. Unless there is a substantial amount of ice, or large slushy puddles we will continue to be outside with the children at both recess and lunch time.

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## Extra Clothes

As the wet and cold weather come upon us, we would greatly appreciate if the kids had an extra pair of clothes (pants, underwear, socks and shirt) in case they get too wet or dirty. Thank you for your assistance.



**Poinsetta** – order pick up is December 11<sup>th</sup> after school in front foyer

**Bake Sale** – is taking place before each concert (day time and evening). Accepting donations to sell. Form is on line or in office.

Hockey Night for Birchland! Coquitlam Express vs Chilliwack Chiefs– Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup> 2014 @ 7 pm @ Poirier Sports & Leisure Centre. HALF TIME FRISBEE TOSS – proceeds to Birchland! Forms available on line or in office.



**FIRST AID KITS & ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS (4) for SALE** – extra available. 2 auto first aid, 1 sport, & Essentials soft case. Contact the office if you are interested.

**BPAC Hot Lunch Program!**

*This year, BPAC is excited to offer online ordering for our Hot Lunch!*

BPAC lunches are planned to run every two-three weeks, and 100% profit of our lunches goes directly back into our school! We have already enjoyed Chinese Food from Ming&Sing, Pizza from Freshslice! And Sushi (sushi Shelter 101). We have also set up a Dairyland account which allows us to offer 2% or Chocolate Milk with most meals.

Once your account has been created (click here to [create](#)), you can order online [www.munchlogin.com](http://www.munchlogin.com) Payments can be made online, or by cash or cheque payable to 'BPAC'

**Upcoming Lunch Dates**

- December 11– Subway; paper orders accepted until Friday Dec 6

If you have not already set up an online ordering account for your child, please visit the [Munch Account Page!](#)



**Bulldog Cinch Sacks!**



**\$10**

Order online  
[www.munchlogin.com](http://www.munchlogin.com)

Notice of a meeting of the members

**BPAC Meeting**

All welcome! Please help us plan our goals for the 2013/2014 school year! We will also discuss our Hot Lunch Program, Fundraising, Upcoming activities and vote in our remaining PAC positions.

When: **Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

Time: **6:30 pm**

Where: **Birchland's Library**

Coffee & Tea will be provided

**Hope To See You There!**

\*on-sight childcare provided if needed, please RSVP to arrange Childcare to [goncalves\\_stella@hotmail.com](mailto:goncalves_stella@hotmail.com) or sign up on the PAC Board\*

## Learning, Land and Neighbourhoods

We invite you to visit our [Learning, Land and Neighbourhoods section](#) of the District website, which can be found under the News & Events menu, to learn more about the Learning, Land and Neighbourhoods initiative, the community engagement process, and an overview of the four properties under consideration.

## School Meals Program

Once again this year School District 43 will be providing the School Meals Program at Birchland Elementary. All food preparation takes place within our school district and the meals are delivered to the school each morning. Order forms will be available on our website sometime this week, and we will send a note to parents when this happens.

The cost for each lunch is \$4, however, as this program does receive outside financial support, families can speak with Mr. Pearse to ask for this charge to be reduced or waived altogether.

## Community Information

The following groups have requested that we distribute information regarding their community events. Although some of these activities may take place in School District 43 Schools we do not organize or endorse these groups or organizations, we simply pass along the information.

**Coquitlam Express** – latest [newsletter](#) is available on line.

**Port Coquitlam Skate Club** – club information is available [here](#).

**SHARE** has recently launched the SHARE Bear Kids Club! The club is meant to recognize the great work done by our countless young fundraisers and to encourage others to join in! Here's an article recently published about one of these kids: <http://www.tricitynews.com/news/219813641.html> Please find attached a press release about the club and a registration form. You can also find out more information and download the form here: <http://www.sharesociety.ca/WaystoGivetoSHARE/HowtoHostanEvent/tabid/328/Default.aspx>

**City of Port Coquitlam** – celebrating 100 years! [Please click here for information.](#)



Learn in the Tri-Cities    Face-to-face    [www.ce43.com](http://www.ce43.com)



**Study English. FREE learning opportunities!**  
Join our Foundations English classes for adults which focus on basic reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

**REGISTRATION AT MONTGOMERY ADULT LEARNING CENTRE**  
Thursdays ONLY until December 19. . . . . 4:00 - 7:00 PM  
Thursdays January 9 - ongoing. . . . . 4:00 - 7:00 PM

**PLEASE BRING:**  
1 Proof of Canadian Status    2 Photo ID    3 Two proofs of BC residency

MONTGOMERY ADULT LEARNING CENTRE  
380 Montgomery Street, Coquitlam  
British Columbia, V3K 5G2

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL OR VISIT  
604.936.4261 | [www.ce43.com](http://www.ce43.com)





**COMPUTER BASICS** *Free class!*  
*internet keyboarding word processing email*  
"Literacy Foundations Information Technology"

**Where: CLOC**  
Tuesdays & Thursdays .....Dec 3 - Mar 11 ..... 11:45 - 3:00 PM course # 7A27-1  
Tuesdays & Thursdays .....Mar 13 - Jun 26 .....12:00 - 3:00 PM course # 7027-2

**Where: Montgomery Centre**  
Tuesdays & Thursdays .....Dec 3 - Mar 11 .....6:00 - 9:15PM course # 4A66-1  
Tuesdays & Thursdays .....Mar 13 - Jun 26 .....6:00-9:00PM course # 4066-2

A free class for BC residents\* 17 years of age and older.  
This 80 hour computer basics class is ideal for the beginner.

Register in person at Montgomery Centre or call 604 936 4261 for more information. Visit [www.ce43.com](http://www.ce43.com)

\* Students wishing to register must be a Canadian Citizen, Permanent Resident, GAR, Refugee claimant or have a work visa that is valid for one year or more, proof of status and residency is required for registration. Intermediate English required.



COQUITLAM CONTINUING Education