

FRANK J. NEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

February 2, 2016

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

Activities since our last newsletter have included a fine arts assembly for grade three to seven – Sean Booth, recording artist and motivational speaker, and arctic explorer John Dunn. Rounding out our musical theme this month was an excellent performance for the whole school by the Dover Bay senior concert band. The grade four class is preparing for their trip to the Symphony at the Port Theatre later this month.

Welcome to our new student teachers who will be in our school this month: Nard Lee (Mrs. Krause) and Keira Streifel (Mrs. DeGroot).

February has arrived along with spring fever weather! January was another very productive and busy month. Our bantam boys and girls volleyball teams completed their seasons recently. All our teams showed excellent progress throughout the season. Congratulations to our bantam girls team, which are playing for 1st in the playoffs and the bantam boys who earned 4th place in the district. Excellent job! Many thanks to coaches Mr. Ratzlaff and Mr. Clouthier! Our peewee girls also had a strong finish, thanks to coach, Ms. Tuck!

Thank you to parents and staff who continue to work hard every day to support our students in their learning and encourage them in the completion of their school work. The time we invest today makes a significant difference in the future. It is through our combined efforts that we may provide the best learning experiences for all our students.

Susann Young

THIS MONTH'S VIRTUE RESPECT

What is Respect?

Respect is an attitude of caring about people and treating them with dignity. Respect is valuing ourselves and others. We show respect by speaking and acting with courtesy. When we are respectful we treat others as we want to be treated. Respect includes honouring the rules of our family or school, which make life more orderly and peaceful. It is knowing that every man, woman, and child deserves respect, including you.

UPCOMING DATES:

B.C. Family Day Stat.	Feb. 8
Kerri Isham sessions start	Feb. 9
Jump Rope for Heart	Feb. 12
Gr 4 to Symphony @ Port Theatre	Feb. 12
Valentine's Day – Wear Red and White (celebrated on the Friday before)	Feb. 12
Hot Lunch / PLC Day	Feb. 15
PAC Meeting 6:30-8pm	Feb. 16
Non-Instructional Day - District	Feb. 22
Non-Instructional Day – School-Based	Feb. 23
Anti-Bullying Pink Shirt Day Assembly	Feb. 24
Intermediate W.R.A.P Fair	Feb. 25
Hot Lunch	Mar. 7
Term 2 report cards out	Mar. 9
Last Day of Classes Before Spring Break	Mar. 11
Schools Re-Open	Mar. 29

KINDERGARTEN AND OUT-OF-CATCHMENT REGISTRATION

Registration for September 2016 is underway.

We encourage parents who live in-catchment to apply as soon as possible, as we will be projecting for our class organizations in the near future.



To obtain an assured space in your catchment-area school, you must register by June 15, 2016. If you know of any children of kindergarten age in the neighbourhood, we'd be pleased if you passed the word.

Applications for children living **out-of-catchment** are also available at the school office. Out-of-Catchment applications must be completed by **March 31st, 2016** to be considered for enrollment at Frank J. Ney School for the fall. Applications are on a first come, first serve basis, so early registration is encouraged. Please note: when registering you will be asked to provide your child's original birth certificate and a document confirming residency in the community. Parents will be notified in the middle of June or early September if we have been able to accept their application.

What is the Daily 5?

Improving stamina, independence, reading and writing are important goals in our primary classes. One way teachers are teaching students these skills is using a structure called "Daily 5".

The daily five basics are:

READ TO YOURSELF:

The best way to become a better reader is to practice each day, with books you choose, on your just-right reading level. **Parents, ask your child's classroom teacher what level your child is at and where to find the appropriate books to further engage their love of reading while at home; just 15 minutes a night of reading in the evening will improve your child's learning exponentially!**

READ TO SOMEONE:

Reading to someone allows for more time to practice strategies being introduced by the classroom teacher through explicit instruction, helps a child work on fluency and expression, and share in their own learning community.

WORK ON WRITING:

Just like reading, the best way to become a better writer is to practice each day. **Encourage your child to write every night, about anything they are interested in. Continual practice strengthens those powerful myelin connections in the brain; practice makes perfect!**

LISTEN TO READING:

When we hear examples of good literature and reading we learn more words, thus expanding our sight vocabulary and making us better readers. **Parents– just a few minutes a night of you reading to your child can impact their learning in numerous, beneficial ways!**

SPELLING/WORD WORK:

Students not only practice spelling but they categorize and manipulate words to better understand their meanings. Word play is a powerful strategy that embeds vocabulary and encourages students to deepen their understanding of etymology. **Ask your child's classroom teacher for more information on the Daily 5 and how you can foster a love of learning at home with your child!**

SICK CHILDREN



At this time of year, we seem to have many students who are not well, and are suffering from colds, flu and other infectious illnesses. When these children come to school ill, it puts the rest of the class, and staff too, in the situation of becoming infected as well. We ask that, in order to keep our classrooms healthy, parents provide an alternative care site when your child is ill.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING PROCEDURES

It is that time of year again, when the school district would like to remind parents about school closure procedures. The most common reasons that schools might be closed are dangerous road conditions due to a heavy snowfall or ice.

If you are wondering if schools are open on a particular day, for the most current updates listen to local radio stations (WAVE 102.3 FM and WOLF 106.9 FM) in the mornings.

We also attempt to put an announcement of any school closure on the school district website, www.sd68.bc.ca, and on Twitter and Facebook, but our ability to do so could be affected by such things as power outages and technical issues. If there is no announcement on the website or social media, please be sure to listen to local radio stations.

We would like to remind parents that it is their right to make the final decision as to whether it is safe for their children to travel to school on any given day. While the district strives to make the best decision possible for students across the district, there may be circumstances in your neighbourhood that lead you to decide to keep your children home, even though schools are open.

PLAYGROUND BEHAVIOUR – SAFE & RESPONSIBLE

At FJN, we continue to work on being safe, being respectful and being responsible.

- ✓ Please sign out & take care of the playground equipment.
- ✓ Keep our grounds clean & use the garbage cans available.

- ✓ Seek out a duty or playground buddy if you need help.
- ✓ Tell the office and/or a duty if you or another student is hurt.
- ✓ Include others in the game or activity.
- ✓ Electronic devices are **not** to be taken outside.
- ✓ No rough play.
- ✓ Be Kind and Courteous.

FEBRUARY 24th - PINK SHIRT DAY

All across B.C. the Anti-Bullying Pink Shirt Day will be observed on Wednesday, February 24, 2016.

Everyone is urged to show their support to promote anti-bullying by **wearing pink on February 24th**.

Pink Shirt Day was started as a result of an incident that happened in Nova Scotia several years ago. A young boy was bullied for wearing a pink shirt. Older students stood up for the boy and started a campaign for everyone in the school to wear pink shirts. For more information about Pink Shirt Day visit <http://www.pinkshirtday.ca/>.

The Ministry of Education has a guide developed to assist parents regarding bullying behaviour and other safety issues with the E.R.A.S.E. program. The guide can be found at www.erasebullying.ca/



What is Bullying Versus Conflict?

Building respectful and safe schools proactively address bullying and all forms of unacceptable behaviour including harassment, discrimination or violence. The definitions below are adapted from various Canadian safe schools' networks including: The National Crime Preventions Strategy.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is when someone, or a group of people, deliberately upset or hurt another person or damage their property, reputation or social acceptance on more than one occasion. There is an imbalance of power in incidents of bullying with the bully or bullies having more power at the time due to age, size, status, or other reasons.

Bullying may occur because of perceived differences, such as, culture, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability or disability, religion, body size and physical appearance, age or economic status. Bullying may be motivated by jealousy, distrust, fear, misunderstanding, or lack of knowledge. It can continue over time, is often hidden from adults, and will probably continue if no action is taken.

Types of Bullying

There are four broad types of bullying:

- **Direct physical bullying:** includes hitting, kicking, tripping, pinching, and pushing or damaging property.

- **Direct verbal bullying:** includes name calling, insults, teasing, intimidation, homophobic or racist remarks, or verbal abuse.
- **Indirect bullying:** is often harder to recognize and can be carried out behind the bullied person's back. It is designed to harm someone's social reputation and/or cause humiliation. Indirect bullying includes: lying, and spreading rumours, playing nasty jokes to embarrass and humiliate, mimicking, encouraging others to socially exclude someone, or damaging someone's reputation or social acceptance.
- **Cyber bullying:** is direct verbal or indirect bullying behaviours using digital technologies. Some examples include: harassment via cell phone/texting, setting up a web-bashing site or deliberately excluding someone and/or attacking them via social media sites like Facebook.

What Bullying is Not

Many distressing behaviours are not examples of bullying even though they are unpleasant and often require teacher intervention and management.

- **Mutual conflict:** involves an argument or disagreement between people but not an imbalance of power. Both parties are upset and usually both want a resolution. Unresolved mutual conflict can develop into bullying if one of the parties targets the other repeatedly in retaliation.
- **Social rejection or dislike:** is not bullying unless it involves deliberate and repeated attempts to cause distress, exclude or create dislike by others.
- **Single episode acts:** of nastiness or physical aggression are not the same as bullying. If someone is verbally abused or pushed on one occasion they are not being bullied. Nastiness or physical aggression that is directed towards many different people is not the same as bullying. However, this does not mean that single episodes of nastiness or physical aggression should be ignored or condoned as these are unacceptable behaviours.

It is important that all students recognize that they are each responsible for helping to create a safe, caring, and respectful environment at Frank J. Ney.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF GRADE 7 STUDENTS:

Dover Bay will be hosting an information session for Grade 7 parents on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. The evening will include an Orientation to High School as well as a tour of the school for parents. Students will take part in an orientation and tour session between May 10 and May 18th – exact date to be determined.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION SESSIONS

Please see the following link to the CDC Information sessions being offered through February:



CDC Info Sessions.pdf

PAC NEWS

PAC News! – February 2016

January was a fun month with the Dance-a-thon!! This was a huge success! Words that have been used to describe this event: "Soooooo Awesome!!", "Soooooo much fun!", "Cool!", "I liked the Freezies", "Highlight of the day!" Thank you to the 66 FJN students who participated and raised 2,355.50 in pledges! To Shayne and her team – what a great idea and to the Grade 7 girls, teachers, parents who supported this event - this wouldn't have happened without all of you!

February Elections & AGM

February is the FJN PAC Annual General meeting where all the Executive Positions on the PAC are voted for.

Executive positions are:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Chair | Treasurer |
| Members at Large | |
| Secretary | |
| Director of Fundraising | |

If one of these positions are of interest to you or you'd like more information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

We also have sub-committees that are always looking for additional support:

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| DPAC Rep | Earthquake Kiosk |
| Popcorn | |
| Bake Sale | Hot Lunch |
| This year - Fun Fair | |

If you'd like to help in these areas, feel free to contact me.

Upcoming Fundraisers:

- Popcorn Days: Tuesdays, \$1 per bag
- Bake Sales “ Stay tuned!
- Hot lunch Days:
- February 15 – Boston Pizza
- March 7 – Subway
- Hot lunch orders can be submitted up to 11 days prior to the actual day. Visit www.fjnpac.com. If you'd like to help with hot lunches you can sign up through the Munch A Lunch ordering system.

It's Fun Fair Year!! This is one of our biggest fundraisers. It's a lot of fun, but it requires a lot of work. If you are interested in helping before, during or after the event please contact Shayne Todd through Facebook or myself at fjnpacchair@gmail.com

The next PAC meeting is February 16th at 6:30 in the library. Childcare is available. See you then!

Kelly Marcan
PAC Chair
fjnpacchair@gmail.com
www.fjnpac.com

NEXT PAC MEETING

Tuesday, February 16th
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
School Library
Everyone is Welcome!

