



December

Newsletter

December 04, 2018

Administrators' Message

As many of you are aware, we have been without a Vice-Principal since the start of this school year. There are plans underway to hire a new VP, but we want to make sure that we take the time needed to find exactly the right person, and do not want to rush this process.

To help mitigate the absence of a VP, at the beginning of the year we were given an extra classroom teacher which allowed us to create smaller class sizes, and our prep teacher allotment was also raised to make sure that we were able to fully staff our school.

From my perspective, I would really like to thank all of the staff at all three the upper North Thompson schools for pulling together to help keep everything running smoothly, and to step in with extra effort and time to help out however they were needed during the first term. We have a great team in our schools, and I appreciate all their efforts!

We can also look forward to a new school website very soon- one that will link all three of our schools, and hopefully provide more convenient access to news and information. Stay tuned!

Mrs. Bradstock

Christmas Concert

The sounds of Christmas are starting to be heard in the hallways and classrooms! You're in for a special treat this year with a concert completely planned, produced and directed by one of our students! Don't forget to mark Thursday, December 20th on your calendars so that you can come and see our fabulous, homegrown Christmas Concert presentation! The performance begins at 6:30 pm sharp, students should arrive at 6:15, which is when the school doors will open. Parents are encouraged to bring donations for the Food Bank on the evening of the concert.

If you are not able to make the evening performance, the dress rehearsal for the concert will be taking place on the same day, but at 1:15 in the afternoon. It might not be quite as polished, but it will still be worth seeing! They gym is always less crowded in the afternoon.

We sure hope to see you at one of these 2 performances!

Food Bank Donations

As we do each December, the leadership students will be gathering food for the food bank. Please send any non-perishable food items to school with your child. Canned meats, peanut butter, soups, baking mixes, stuffing mix, canned fruit, pasta, sauces and crackers are all good ideas. Personal hygiene and toiletry items are also helpful. We appreciate families donating anything they can to help Clearwater's Food Bank feed the less fortunate citizens of

our community.

Students can hand in their items to their classroom teachers in exchange for a paper decoration to colour and add to our paper Christmas tree in the entrance hallway. Let's get that tree decorated!

Student Absences

As we've moved into cold/flu season, we would like to request of all parents that when their children are going to be away from school, to please call the absence reporting number (1-844-350-2647) to report absences. Also, once Cathy is back at school on Thursday she will send out the page with all of the information on it to all families' email addresses. Many people say that using the mobile app is the most simple and effective way to manage absence reporting for their children. Thanks for helping us to help you keep "our" kids safe!

Cold Weather Clothing

Another reminder to parents about helping to make sure their children are properly dressed for outside weather. Winter has just begun, and there is still a lot of cold to come! Believe it or not, there are still students who come regularly without boots, warm coats, gloves and hats. We realise that this can be a point of disagreement between parents and children, but do ask that parents please monitor the weather, and if common sense dictates certain items of clothing, please send your children to school dressed in the most appropriate clothing for the weather. Remember, in all but the most extreme cold, students will be spending time outside every day. Thank you for your cooperation!

Also, it takes but a moment to write your child's name in their hats, mitts, boots, jackets, snowpants...well, you get the idea. This makes identification and return of lost items so much simpler. Once those items hit the Lost and Found, they tend to stay mostly lost!

Lost and Found

There are always SO many items in our lost and found, and on a regular basis Mrs. Gale displays them on the folding tables outside of Ms. Carter's classroom. If you are in the school, and know there are items missing from your child's wardrobe, **please** stop by and check out the tables. All items will be packed up on the last Friday before the break and will be donated to local Thrift stores. Thanks to Mrs. Gale for looking after this for us!

Volleyball Update

Senior Volleyball- Ms. Carter and Mr. Wilkes: Our senior boys volleyball team had a good year competing in the Tier 1 league. We travelled to Kamloops on Tuesdays where we played a variety of Kamloops teams and the boys worked really hard. We attended the TRU (Thompson Rivers University) tournament and got to watch the Wolfpack Varsity Teams play against Winnipeg. The team also got to participate in a one on one coaching clinic provided by TRU athletes and coaches. It was an awesome experience and the team learned a lot. Congratulations boys! Coaches: Ms. Carter and Mrs. Allan

The senior girls volleyball season came to an end after travelling to Kamloops 3 times to play league matches and once to compete in the TRU tournament. There was a fantastic turn out throughout the whole season, with a total of 21 grade 6 and 7 girls who competed in league and tournament matches. All senior girls did a great job representing Raft River, showing sportsmanship, leadership and a respectful attitude both on and off the court. Well done girls!! Coaches: Mr. Wilkes and Ms. Harvey

Junior Volleyball- Ms, Rushton and Mrs. McKay

Grade 4/5 junior volleyball players at Raft had a great season learning how to play triple ball!! They put in a great effort while developing skills and learning the rules of the game. They had fun playing a few exhibition games with some of our senior players to wrap up the season! Way to go Raptors!

Next up is basketball season, which will start early in the New Year.

Our Newest Additions



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Announcing the arrival of this year's batch of salmon eggs- delivered on November 19th! Right now these delicate eggs

need cold water, darkness and quiet. By the time we return from our winter break, we should have eyed-eggs. In May or June the students will travel to the Dunn Creek Hatchery to release the Salmon Fry. This year the class who has volunteered to be in charge of taking care of the salmon is the Grade 6 class. You are welcome to have a look at the tank as you pass by, but please remember not to touch.

Library Report

Thank you to all students, parents, community members, and volunteers that supported our Enchanted Forest Scholastic book fair this past week. We made over \$4300 in sales and our school receives 60% of that amount in Scholastic credit which allows us to buy books and learning resources for our library. The three winners for our golden ticket contest were Gavin Prince, Raquel Escamilla, and Savannah Halko, who each received \$10 in product from the book fair. The grand prize winner of \$25 in books and \$25 in books for their classroom teacher was Natalie Murphy in Ms Rushton's class. Congratulations to our winners! Happy reading from Mrs Cooke.

Skating

A big thank you to everyone who was involved with our school skating lessons. It takes a whole lot of organisation to get 13 classes of students to the arena, make sure they all have skates



and helmets, that there are enough parents to help tie laces, enough instructors to keep them busy, and enough teachers to get them all back safely! So THANK YOU to the Raft River Pac, Cassie Sills and the parent volunteers, the CSS student volunteers, the staff at the Sportsplex, the bus drivers, and the teachers. This truly is a cooperative undertaking!

Heli Skiing Opportunity

Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing will be offering a Kids Cat Skiing program every Saturday from January 19th - March 16th. Participants must be able to ski, turn, and stop independently on blue level terrain. Ski and snowboard gear is NOT provided. Register online at <https://goo.gl/EGdPwd> between December 9th and January 6th. Contact Maymie Tegart at mtegart@sd73.bc.ca for with any questions.

Head Lice

Over the winter months, head lice outbreaks tend to occur as children wear (and share!) hats and scarves. Please make it a part of your routine to check your child's head weekly for signs of lice (adult lice, nits attached to the hair follicles, and red areas behind the ears and on the back of the neck from scratching). If you do notice any live lice or nits, begin treatment immediately. There are a variety of treatments available for purchase at the local pharmacy. You can reduce risk by: screening for head lice on a regular basis; wearing hair up at school, work and play; not sharing hats, combs, brushes or accessories; bringing own pillows and sleeping bags to sleepovers; keeping hats or fur-lined hoods in a bag at school; and protecting hair when using public upholstered seats. Thanks for your support in this matter!

Upcoming Events

Throughout the month	Collecting for the Food Bank to decorate our entry wall Christmas tree.
December 17	Red and Green Day
December 18	Crazy Hair OR Wear a Hat Day
December 19	Ugly Sweater Day
December 20	Christmas Concert: Dress Rehearsal- 1:15 pm Evening Performance- 6:30pm
December 21	Pyjama Day Last day of classes for 2015
January 7	School resumes after Christmas Break

**Wishing all of our Raft River
family an enjoyable holiday break.
Looking forward to seeing each of
you in 2019!**

Merry Christmas



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