



Newsletter

February 1, 2019

Administrators' Message

Happy Friendship February everyone! The days are getting longer, we have enjoyed a mild mannered January and are looking forward to the arrival of Spring! Life at school remains busy as usual. If as parents, you have a little spare time I would like to invite you to attend our monthly PAC meeting at 9 am on the second Tuesday of each month. There are always plenty of opportunities to volunteer as much or as little time as you like, and working together is good for our students and our school!

Here's a look at the many things going on at Raft River this month.

2019 Kindergarten Registration

February 11-15 at Raft River Elementary School - 9:00 - 11:30 am and 1:15 - 3:00pm.

Parents of students in all area schools (Raft River, Vavenby and Blue River) are strongly encouraged to register children for kindergarten on these dates **at Raft River school**. Information on the catchment areas is available on the District website: www.sd73.bc.ca

To be eligible for attendance in kindergarten in September 2019, a student must be five years of age **by December 31, 2019**.

Please bring your child's original birth certificate, CareCard and proof of address with you when registering for kindergarten.

Conflict Resolution Skills at Raft River: USE YOUR WITS!

At Raft River we teach our students to use their WITS when resolving conflicts. WITS stands for:

**WALK AWAY
IGNORE
TALK IT OUT
SEEK HELP**

All of these strategies help students to develop pro-social ways of problem solving. During Friendship February we will be reviewing the use of WITS to help our students become more able to deal with conflict in a RAFT manner! And speaking of Friendship February...

Friendship February



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This year we have decided to focus on Friendship for the month of February. It just seems to make sense, considering that we have Valentines Day, the Moose Hide Campaign, and Pink Shirt Day all happening in February. There will be many great activities happening during the whole month, starting on Monday, February 4.

Classes will be learning about the qualities of a good friend, and practicing their friendship skills as well as reviewing what to do when problems arise. There will be assemblies, presentations and even some fund raising for a good cause. More information will come out as the month progresses- stay tuned!

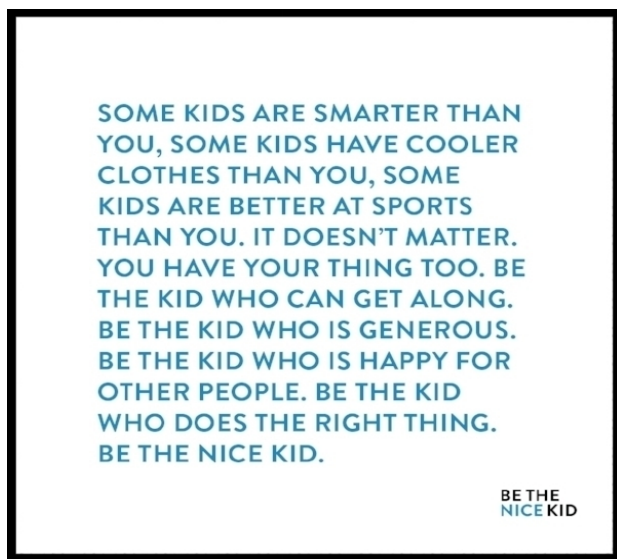
The Moose Hide Campaign

At its heart, the Moose Hide Campaign is about men and boys standing up against violence towards women and children. In order to focus on the positives related to this, at Raft River we are choosing to honour the male role models in our community. Students are given the

opportunity to recognise a positive male in their lives, and to fill out a form with both of their names on it. The forms are going to be posted on the outline of the moose that is displayed in our entry hallway. In addition to this recognition, there is a celebration on Wednesday, February 13th at the Dutch Lake Community Centre. Please see the attached poster with details regarding this event.

Pink Shirt Day

As always, we will recognize Pink Shirt Day, which this year takes place on February 27th. We wear pink shirts to stand against bullying, We are also going to use that week to focus on the Bryan Skavnak “Be The Nice Kid” message:



It is our aim to encourage all the “nice kids” at Raft River Elementary!

District Elementary Math Competition

For the first time Raft River will be sending a team to the Elementary Math Competition in Kamloops on the 12th of February. Grade 6/7 teachers asked for expressions of interest from the students, and then those students wrote a qualifying “test”. As we are only allowed to enter one team of 3 per school, the teachers evaluated the qualifiers and the following students were chosen to represent us:

Reid Muddiman, Ethan Smith, and Betty Ann Roy. We are really looking forward to seeing how it goes on the 12th and wishing our team the very best for that day! Thank you to Mrs. Muddiman for taking the team in to the competition and to Ms. Harvey for organising the details.

Axis Theatre Performance: The Troll Grandfather

Coming to Raft River on February 5th, THE TROLL GRANDFATHER is an original play for young audiences by Clem Martini.

Nine year old Sandy Nardini and her Grandpa barely know each other and now, she has to reluctantly spend the whole summer in his remote cabin while at home, her mother battles ongoing health issues. Sandy soon discovers there are secrets in her family’s heritage and uncovers the truth...Grandpa is a troll! Grandpa and Sandy embark on an epic journey to retrieve Sandy’s magical right, a “kinship blessing” – a blessing that could save her mother’s life or have dire consequences for their entire family.

Basketball News



Both of our Grade 6/7 basketball teams have had a very successful start to this season. Last week they opened the season with wins over St. Ann’s school, and this week the streak continued as they were triumphant over the teams from Dallas Elementary. There are games for the next 3 Tuesdays after school, come on out and cheer on our students as they come up against other teams from Kamloops!

Salmon Update

Though we had a setback when we returned from our winter break, we are not giving up on raising salmon this year. We were very sad to see that most of the eggs that we first received died over the break. As we were cleaning them out of the tank, however, Mr. Shymkiw found that 3 of the eggs had actually hatched, so we had 3 alevin hiding under the rocks. Last week, a Dunn Lake Hatchery worker brought us some more eggs, which we are hoping will hatch very soon, so our 3 little alevin won’t be lonely! Hopefully by the Spring we will be able to take all of the fry back to Dunn Lake to let them go. We will let you know how things go!

Free Blazers Tickets

We will have 30 Blazer tickets available for the home game against the Prince George Cougars on Friday, March 15th. If you are interested in being placed in a draw to win these tickets, please ask your child to pick up an entry form at the office, or stop by to fill one out. The form must be filled in by an adult who is committed to attending the game, so that the tickets will not go to waste. If you are not sure of being able to attend, then it would be best not to enter the draw. We will accept entries until the end of February, and make the draw in the beginning of March. Winning families will be contacted once the draw is complete.

High School Information Meeting

Grade 7 parents are reminded that there is a meeting at the high school to get more information about your children moving up to CSS next year. You should have all received an email earlier in the week with more details. The meeting is in the Pit and starts at 6pm.

Upcoming Events



- February 5 Axis Theatre Cultural Performance-9am
- February 6 Grade 7 Parents Meeting @ CSS-6pm
- February 8 District Curriculum Learning Day for Teachers- No school for students
- February 13 Moosehide Campaign (see poster)
- Feb 9/16/18 Senior Basketball Games at RR
- February 18 BC Family Day- No School
- February 21 Blue River Cross-country Ski Race
- February 27 Pink Shirt Day- Be the Nice Kid
- March 1 District Curriculum Learning Day- No school for students
- March 14 Second Term Report Cards Home
- March 15 Last Day of School before Spring Break
- March 16-24 Spring Break

District of Clearwater Survey

Please see the letter below from the District of Clearwater. If you are interested, they would appreciate your input on their survey.

Dear Community Members:

As a new Council, we are really interested in hearing from our community and learning from our citizens. We are setting priorities as part of the budget process and looking to develop a community plan that reflects community values and creates a vision for local economic and social growth. But we need community input!

The survey takes a quick and easy 7 minutes. It's by no means complete but Council is committed to finding new ways to engage with our citizens and finding ways to listen to their thoughts on how the community should grow and where the priorities should lie around budgets and planning.

We would like to invite your participation. All responses are anonymous and confidential. Here is the link (see below). Just cut and paste into your browser.

<http://www.districtofclearwater.com/community-survey/>

Paper copies are available at the District of Clearwater for those that prefer.

Thank you in advance for your time!

Sincerely,
Shelley Sim
Councillor, District of Clearwater

When given the
CHOICE between
being RIGHT and
being KIND,
CHOOSE KIND
Dr. Wayne Dyer