



Taylor Park

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A happy, caring learning community

Newsletter

November 2016

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Principal: Hal Wall
Vice-Principal: Vicki Moro
Head Teacher: Larry Ryan
Secretary: D. Quickstad

Dates to Remember ...

November 4 – November 18 Film-Making Workshops for all Students
Thursday, November 10 (10 am) Remembrance Day Assembly (Parents Welcome)
Friday, November 11 Remembrance Day Holiday
Friday, November 18 – 2 pm Film Making Presentation – Parents Welome
Wednesday, November 23 Young People’s Concert
Thursday, November 24 Monthly Celebration of Learning Assembly @ 2:10
Friday, November 25 District Professional Development Day – School closed
Tuesday, November 29 Kiskeyambay Performance in Gym
Tuesday, November 29 PAC Meeting 7:00 pm
Wednesday, December 7 Pancake Breakfast Sponsored by PAC and Burnaby Firefighters
Friday, December 9 & Monday, December 12 Christmas Concert Dress Rehearsals
Wednesday, December 14 & 15 5:30 pm Christmas Concerts
Friday, December 16 Last Day of School before Winter Break

(See our website at taylorpark.sd41.bc.ca for the full year’s schedule)

Remembrance Day Reflections

Each year, students throughout Canada take time to honour those who have served and sacrificed so that we can have peace and also consider what we need to continue having peace in our communities. There are many memories that each family has and I am sharing mine to show our changed role and expectations for students in the area of peace-keeping.

My mom’s parents came to Canada from Russia in 1921, looking for peace and safety. In 1918, during the Russian Revolution, her father (my grandfather) saw his wife and two sons shot and killed in front of him. He was a wealthy farmer and the Russian workers on his farm and nearby farms were angry that some people had more money than they did. Fearing for his life, my grandfather left his farm with his one remaining son and the Russian nanny that looked after him. My grandfather had many servants in his house and did not know how to raise a child so he needed a nanny to help. They found a farmer in the south of Russia with some extra rooms and stayed there. When more refugees arrived one day, my grandfather was told that they would no longer have a separate room for the nanny and that she would have to sleep in the same room with him and his son. My grandfather married his nanny that day. Eventually, they made their way through Turkey and came as “refugees” to Canada. My grandfather ended up having five more children together.

Once my grandfather and his family were in Canada they were safe, but my grandfather was often very angry. It was very difficult for his family to deal with him. In other words, there was safety but there wasn’t truly peace – for him or for the family. Fortunately, my grandfather made a conscious effort to develop better relationships with his wife and family in the last few years of his life before he died in 1955.

As a principal at a variety of schools I have had many conversations with children and adults who are upset because someone has done something to them that they don’t like. As a result, they are angry. Unfortunately, all too often, they have responded or retaliated and feel justified in their actions. Stopping the hurtful behaviour is not enough. True peace is not the absence of war or conflict, it is the building of community – the continual development of positive relationships. In other words, for students to truly have peace and succeed, it is not enough to stop mean behaviour, there needs to be an increase in positive behaviour. At Taylor Park, our staff puts a lot of effort into helping students not only to solve conflict but also in helping them develop the skills to have positive relationships.

It was very difficult for my grandfather to deal with the hurt in his life because of what had been done to his family but what he ultimately found was that supporting and helping others brought about healing in his life. Showing kindness and intentionally building positive relationships benefits ourselves as well as others and enables the development of true peace and that is what we help students to learn here at Taylor Park. *Hal Wall (Principal)*

New Secretary At Taylor Park

We want to welcome Donna Quickstad as our new school secretary. She has worked in the district in a variety of secretarial positions and will now be calling Taylor Park Home. Mariana Chow, our secretary at the start of October, has taken another position in the district.

Christmas Concerts

Students are starting to work on their performances for our Christmas concert. We are hoping you will be able to attend one of our evening concerts. Due to the size of our gym, we have divided the school into two casts in order to accommodate all the parents at our performance.

	Cast One	Cast Two
	Divisions: 1, 3, 5, 6, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25 Primary and Intermediate Choirs Rock Band	Divisions: 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24 Primary and Intermediate Choirs Rock Band
Dress Rehearsal	Friday, December 9: 9 am Monday, December 12: 12:30 pm	Friday, December 9: 12:30 pm Monday, December 12: 9 am
Performance	Wednesday, December 14: 5:30 – 6:30	Thursday, December 15: 5:30 – 6:30

Stormy Weather Information from the District

Stormy weather that will include strong winds and heavy rainfall is expected over the next several days. As we enter the fall and winter storm season, please take the time to review how to learn if your child's school might be closed for the day. This could happen due to damage, power outages or another circumstance that would make it impossible to operate safely. Information about a specific school or district-wide closures will be shared with Metro Vancouver radio stations and posted on the front page of the Burnaby School District website www.sd41.bc.ca. The information will also be tweeted out, so follow us on Twitter @burnabyschools. More information can be found at the District website by clicking on the Winter Weather info button (<http://www.sd41.bc.ca/winter-weather-procedures/>)

Annual Canned Food Drive (Oct. 3 – Nov. 8)

Once again the Grade 4/5 leadership council held a school-wide canned food drive with all donations going to feed needy families. Our donations have been sent to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank who will in turn distribute it to the local community agencies. This year we had so many donations that we ended the food drive two weeks early. Thanks for the generous support of our families and the leadership of Ms. Long and the student leaders.

Taylor Park Reading Club 2016

Many of our students read every day and we want to recognize their effort and encourage all our students to read. Every day, parents are asked to initial their child's reading club form, if the child has done his/her reading. Once the form is completed, please send the form back, and your child will receive the next form. There are 4 forms in all, each a different colour, and each with a different due date. Forms can be returned after the due date, but not before. Students will receive a small prize for each completed and signed form. Please make sure your child's form has his or her full name and division printed clearly. Thank you and keep reading! *Ms. Zimmerschied, teacher-librarian*

Hot Lunch Sign Up Deadlines

Each month we place our order for the number of hot meals we will receive on the 15th. This means that we need to receive orders on or before the 15th. We have been able to have a little bit of leeway the first month as our new supplier gave a little larger portions than we needed but as our vendor adjusts, we will need to become firm about this deadline. We understand some students may be absent and they may not pick up or give parents the monthly notice so if you think making the monthly deadline on the 15th, you may want to pay online or give post-dated cheques to the school so that you don't miss out.

Sign-up For Email Updates of School News

As of November, we have over 150 parents receiving updates on school news because they entered their email on our school's website. We will not be having a listserve this year. News and event updates are available by e-mail only by signing up on our school's website at <http://taylorpark.sd41.bc.ca/>

DO YOU LOVE TO WRITE?

Talk to your teacher about writing a story or poem for this year's

WORDS WRITING PROJECT.

It might be chosen to be printed in the 2016/17 WORDS Anthology!

Submit your written work to your teacher by February 6, 2017

