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Principal: Hal Wall
Vice-Principal: Vicki Moro
Head Teacher: Derek Cockram
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Dates to Remember ...

Friday, January 20.....School Based Pro-D (No School For Students)
Thursday, Jan. 26.....Second Young People’s concert
Friday, Jan. 27 - 9:15 am PAC Meeting(Parents Welcome)
Tuesday, Jan. 31 – 2:10 pm..... Celebration of Learning Assembly
February 1 First day of registration for new students and those going into Kindergarten in September 2017
February 1 – 28Cross District Applications Month for September 2017 Registration
Tuesday, Feb. 7 – 6 pm Multicultural Potluck(Notice will be sent home with details)
Monday, February 13 Family Day Holiday – No School
Tuesday, February 14 Jump Rope for Heart – Jump Off
Friday, February 17 District Pro-D Day – No School for Students
Monday, February 20 Young People’s concert
Friday, February 24..... Pink Shirt / Anti-Bullying Day Assembly(Parents Welcome)
Monday, March 13 – Friday, March 24 Spring Break (School Closed)

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

The Importance of Community

Being involved in a community of family, friends, relations and neighbours is important in the growth and development of all children. As I reflect on our Christmas concerts, the sense of community students develop in working together is one of the many benefits. This week I have watched as students excitedly got together after the holidays and seen an increase in the cooperation and support of students for each other. Over the past ten years as a principal I have seen that when the connection between students and the school increases, attendance improves, academic achievement goes up and instances of negative behaviour decrease. Having a strong sense of community gives children a strong sense of self, a sense of belonging, and a sense of connection. They feel emotionally and physically safe and valued; they develop social abilities and have a sense of sharing and caring for each other. As I look forward to upcoming events such as Family Day, Multicultural Potluck, Pink Shirt/Anti-Bullying day, monthly assemblies, Hip Hop, Sports Day, Grade 6/7 Camp and more I know that these activities and the work of teachers in classrooms will help increase our sense of community here and reap many benefits. I was thrilled to have over a thousand people attend our Christmas concerts and hope many parents will join us for some of our community events here at Taylor Park. (Mr. Wall)

Registration for September 2017

Applications will now be accepted for new students to the Taylor Park catchment area. Students currently attending Taylor Park will automatically be re-registered for September 2017. We are welcoming registration of students born in 2012 for September 2017 kindergarten. Grade 7 students are automatically enrolled in their catchment high school.

If you are wanting to attend a school outside your catchment or any of the cross district programs, please note that the cross district form is due in to the office for signature by the principal during the month of February. Acceptance into cross district schools for both elementary and high school as well as for special programs(French Immersion, Mandarin Immersion, etc.) is based on school board policy and details are available on the district website. Taylor Park turned away a number of families who wanted to attend our great school this past fall so please be aware and register early. Registration and cross district forms are available online or at the school office. Registration for new students at Taylor Park needs to be done through an appointment made online at our school’s website. Online registration appointment booking will be available as of January 23. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact the office.

Poetry Slam Winners from Taylor Park

Congratulations to Julia A. and Neill V. for representing the Taylor Park Canada Scores program at the regional poetry competition. Both presented at the regional championship and did a great job. Neill won the regional competition and will be going on to San Francisco to participate there. Their poetry coach, Ms. Belcourt, said she was thrilled with the poems from all the Canada Scores participants. Canada Scores is an after school program for grade 4/5 students that focuses on soccer, literacy and community development. Canada Scores Executive Director Kevin Yang and Program Coordinator Susie Bakajic presented Neill with his medal and trophy.

Coyote Sightings

There have been a number of coyote sightings around our school recently and this past week a coyote was spotted on our school grounds. Coyotes are well adapted to living in cities. They are naturally scared of people, but can become bold and aggressive if fed. The Stanley Park Ecology Society has advised us that coyotes are not dangerous animals and actual incidents of human-coyote conflict that result in injury or harm are very rare. However, it is important that children and adults alike are aware of how to interact with them.

- Be Big, Brave, and Loud – Scaring coyotes helps them retain a natural fear of people. If you encounter a coyote you should treat them aggressively, yell “Go away coyote!,” clap your hands or throw objects at them so that they have a negative interaction with humans.
- Never Feed Coyotes – Coyotes that are fed by people can become bold and aggressive, and may have to be destroyed.
- Pet Safety – Keep dogs on a leash and cats indoors, especially at night.
- Spread the Word – Report your sightings by calling 604-681-WILD/9453, tell your neighbours about co-existing, and put up posters from the Stanley park ecology society in your neighbourhood.
- To learn more about co-existing with coyotes, to report a sighting online, or to see an interactive map of recent sightings (Our sighting is noted) go to: <http://stanleyparkecology.ca/conservation/co-existing-with-coyotes/>

Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA)

Each year BC students in grades 4 and 7 write a set of three provincial tests called the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA). This assessment tests students on their abilities in reading comprehension, first-draft writing and numeracy. Like other schools throughout the province, our students will be writing these tests from January 9 – February 17. The Ministry of Education will return the results of this year's tests to school districts by the end of the year and we will, in turn, provide parents with the results for their child. For more information, visit <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/>.

Jump Rope for Heart Fundraiser Begins

Our annual Jump Rope for Heart Fundraiser for the BC Heart and Stroke Association will begin soon. Each student will be bringing home a fundraising envelope in January. The envelope cover explains that donations are welcome on line at: www.JumpRopeForHeart.ca or money can be collected and placed in the envelope and brought to school to their classroom teacher by February 14th. This is our special Jump Off finale where each class skips in the gym for a half hour of fitness and fun. Students will have an assembly in January where a representative of the BC Heart and Stroke Foundation will speak, share the goals of the foundation, and encouraging healthy life styles. All donations raised will support heart research. We are emphasizing the importance of collecting donation money safely through parents, families, work, or in the neighbourhood with a parent. As shown on the envelope, students who raise donation money will receive prizes based on the amount raised. The prizes will arrive generally about four weeks after the Jump Off Finale February 12th. We thank you in advance for any donation money collected. For any further questions, contact Ms. Long at the school.

Online Safety for Children

The Burnaby District Parent Advisory Council, known as the Burnaby DPAC, is presenting a free evening workshop on Wednesday, 25 January 2017 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Maywood Elementary School gym for parents about online safety for children. For more information and to register, go to: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/elementary-children-online-safety-tickets-29081136462>

Staff Updates

Welcome Ms. Marks(EA). She has replaced absent EAs here in the past but will now join us until the end of the year.

Christmas Concert Fundraisers

Thanks to the support of many of our families we received \$350 in donations and several hundred dollars as a result of the raffle(exact amount not available at time of newsletter printing). This money will be going toward our music program. We are currently looking at using our music program funds to help with upgrading our gym sound system so that concerts, assemblies, talent shows, dance programs and other musical/drama productions work well.

Christmas Concert Raffle Winners...

Prize #	Value		Student Name	Div #
1	300	Sky Zone	Adam	3
2	240	AG Hair Group	Gioia	3
3	170	Starbucks	Jaxson	17
4	160	Mad Science	Laura	17
5	130	Club 16	Summer	19
6	118	MCL Motors – Porsche Cups	Andrew	21
7	90	Focus Eye Care	Eddie	9
8	75	Music Box - NW	William	9
9	70	Funtopia in Surrey	Connor	18
10	50	Tjx (Winners, Marshalls and Homesense)	Summer	19
11	36	Saint Germain Bakery (BBY)	Roman	2
12	30	Entertainment Book	Mia	22
13	25	Menchie's at Highgate	Patricia	24
14	25	Cora Restaurant	Serena	19
15	20	Safeway	Elizabeth	21
16	10	Dollarama	Brandon	25
17	81.5	Dancin' Star	Owen	19

Reading Club Reminder Due Dates

The pink reading club sheets must be returned to classroom teachers between January 23 and February 3rd for students to receive a notebook.

Chess Team

The Taylor Park Chess Team placed sixth in the Championship section of the BC Elementary School Team Championship last May. Most of the team members have been playing regularly in the free monthly Sunday afternoon tournaments organized by local candidate master Henry Chiu held at Tommy Douglas Library. If your child is in grade 3 or above, knows the basic checkmates and is interested in playing in these events, please contact Mr. Chiu at <mailto:knightmares64@gmail.com>. Future beginners' bi-monthly events will be held on Sun., Feb. 19 & Apr. 30. For details, please see the flyer at: <http://www.chess.bc.ca/>

Spring Break Camps

The City of Burnaby offers a variety of Spring Break Camps that focus on the arts, sports, leadership and most importantly being active! The program leaders are trained and have the experience to create a safe, friendly and memorable environment. For more information on the City of Burnaby's Spring Break Camps, visit www.burnaby.ca/camps

Carousel Theatre for Young People's Spring Break Drama Camps are an opportunity for students to spend a whole week discovering theatre. Students will be grouped by age and will enjoy morning and afternoon blocks of drama games and activities, plus a supervised lunch break. Pack a lunch and snacks, and get ready for a week of fun and collaborative theatre explorations. All levels welcome! No previous experience required.

<http://www.carouseltheatre.ca/drama-school/spring-break-drama-camps/>

South Burnaby Metro Club

Let's Play Ball – online registration is now open for the upcoming spring 2017 baseball season. Programs available for all youth ages 4-18. For more information or to register online, please visit www.southburnabybaseball.com