



November 2017

PRINCIPAL: Mr. Robbie Dhillon
SECRETARY: Ms. Sharon Binng and Ms. Melanie Warriner

<http://schoolsweb.sd68.bc.ca/parkave/>

FROM THE OFFICE

Dear Parents,

October is now in our rear view mirror and I must say the Halloween parade in the gym was a fun time for students, staff and parents. I had a wonderful time in there as well! Thanks to Mr. Robertson for making the music possible and to students, staff and parents who participated.

November is a time for reflection, to appreciate the sacrifices of previous generations in preserving our cherished freedoms and way of life. Our Remembrance Day Assembly took place on November 10th for our students, staff and other guardians who were able to come to the gym that morning. Warrant Bruce Sampson was our special guest. Thanks to our Grade 7 students who were in charge of the assembly.

With this time of year comes cold and/or wet weather. Please don't let your child(ren) leave home in the morning without proper clothes for the weather. We encourage students to play outdoors during our recess breaks in proper waterproof attire, including gloves and boots.

Thank you to the Altrusa Group for donating \$150 to the school to help support student activities. This money will come in handy to support students.

A newsletter cannot be sent out without mentioning our PAC. If you do not already know, we have a wonderful group of members who do a lot to support our school. Without this group many of the fun activities students enjoy could simply not be done. In addition, the group has purchased technology, and readers for the school that our students enjoy on a daily basis. Don't forget to read the PAC messages which are also emailed out on the listserve as well.

It will not be long before the school will be alive with the sights and sounds of the holiday season. Our PAC is organizing a Santa Breakfast on Saturday December 2nd. Our staff is organizing a Winter Craft Night on Wednesday December 20th (6-7:15 PM). Both of these events are in the gym.

As always, if you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Mr. Robbie Dhillon
Principal

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2017-2018

PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Nov 20
Last Day before Holiday.....	Fri. Dec 22
First Day back	Mon Jan 8
PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Jan 15
Progress Report Issued	Fri Feb 2
BC Family Day (students do not attend)	Mon Feb 12
Non Instructional Day (students do not attend)	Mon Feb 19
Non Instructional Day (students do not attend)	Tues Feb 20
PAC (6:30)	Mon Feb 26

Last Day before Spring Break/Easter	Fri. Mar 16
First Day back.....	Tues Apr 3
PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Apr 9
Pro-D (school based) (students do not attend)	Fri May 11
PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon May 14
Victoria Day (students do not attend)	Mon May 21
PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Jun 11
Formative Report Issued.....	Thurs Jun 28
Last Day of School (school dismissed at 2:37).....	Thurs Jun 28
Administration Day	Fri. Jun 29

STUDENT ABSENCES



If your child is absent or late for school please phone the school as early as possible to notify the office (and preferably before 8 AM). The school office does have a 24 hour voice mail and you can leave a message stating your name, your child's name, grade and teacher. This will avoid the phone call from the office to you in the morning, as well as help us to ensure all students are accounted for as quickly as possible.

STUDENT LATES

On the topic of lates, please ensure your child arrives to school by 8:45. Being late to class can impact your child's day as critical information (ie shape of the day) is covered early on, as are the morning announcements. Being late can also cause distractions for students and staff. We are finding a large number of students arriving in between 8:45-8:50 in the morning. We are hopeful these students can show up 5 or so minutes earlier, on a consistent basis, so they don't miss out on the opening information.

CROSS COUNTRY

Once again, we had a cross-country team. Our team was open to all Tyke (grades 3 and 4), Peewee (grades 5 and 6) and Bantam boys and girls (grade 7). There were weekly practices and the athletes did a great job at the South Zone Race, which took place on Thursday, October 26 and the district meet on November 2nd. Congratulations to Sebryn Wear for winning the Bantam Girls meet and to Patrick Canning for finishing 1st in our district amongst Bantam Boys. Thank you to our Cross Country coaches: Mr. Klan and Mr. Wells as well as all of the parent drivers.



APPROPRIATE CLOTHING FOR WEATHER CONDITIONS



The cool wet weather will arrive and there will be many days students will ask the question "Is it an inside day?" The answer on most days is no. Students will be going outside to play at recess and lunch unless it is raining heavily. We thank you

for ensuring your child comes to school with appropriate rain and cool weather clothing. At Park Ave we believe in the importance of fresh air and outside play for all students and appreciate your assistance in this regard. **It is also advisable students have a change of clothes in their school bags, including socks.** Warm gloves are always a good idea as well.

SAFETY DRILLS



We have regular fire, lockdown and earthquake drills so that we are prepared in the event of an actual emergency or disaster of this

nature. Our aim is to have everyone understand the safety procedures and be evacuated and accounted for within a very short time frame. **We participated in the Great BC ShakeOut Earthquake Drill on October 19th. Our Students and Staff did a great job of protecting themselves. Bravo!**

YOU CAN HELP THE OFFICE BE MORE EFFICIENT BY CONTINUING TO:



- call the school in advance and leave a message on the answering machine which is on 24 hours a day, if you know your child will not be attending school on that day. It has been very much appreciated this

year, and some days we have only had to make 2 or 3 calls to parents.

- have after school plans set up with your child **before** the start of the day so they do not have to use the office phone at the end of the day. Thank you parents for continuing to do this
- get your name on our email list by calling the office. If you know of families who are not receiving our emails please encourage them to contact our office and provide us with their email address or visit our website where the information is easily accessible.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF



Over the past few weeks we have had a few new staff members join us: Ms. Lalawnie Atto (EA) joins us in Ms. Radu/ Ms. Grindler's room. In addition to this Ms. Shannon Ward is teaching Grade 7 (Wednesday mornings)

FREE WEEKLY PUBLIC SKATE (LIONS CLUB) FRANK CRANE



Frank Crane Arena hosts free Sunday skates between 12:00 and 1:30 pm thanks to the LIONS club. There are occasional changes to the schedule, so double check the exact start time prior to going (some Sunday's are earlier because of Clipper games). Parents and students from the

school who have gone say there are a lot of people there so if you need to get skates and helmets, show up early. It has been nice to see so many Park Avenue

families out on Sunday's! Arrive early to avoid the lineups.

SCHOOL CLOSURES



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.

BC SCHOOL FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM

Our school is involved in a province-wide healthy living initiative. One of our goals is to encourage healthy eating by providing fresh BC fruits and vegetables as snacks. If you do NOT wish your child to participate in the program, please let us know in the office.