



November 2018

PRINCIPAL: Mr. Robbie Dhillon
 SECRETARY: Ms. Sharon Binng and Ms. Judith Miehl

<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. This year we had a different process for parent and teacher meetings in October. I invite your feedback. Please let me know how that went.

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 9th for our students, staff and other guardians who were able to come to the gym that morning. Thanks to our older 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.

Slegg Building Supplies recently donated \$2500 towards our school meals program. Thank you to the Altrusa Group for donating \$150 to the school to help support student activities. All of this money will come in handy to support students. I want to thank these groups for their donations.

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 our winter concert. Our concert date is Thursday December 20th. We will have two shows, one at 1 PM and one at 6 PM. We encourage as many people as possible to come to the 1 PM show as seating is limited.

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

Yours truly,

Mr. Robbie Dhillon (Principal)

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2018-2019

PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Nov 26
Winter Concert (1:00 PM and 6:00 PM start)	Thurs Dec 20
Last Day before Holiday	Fri. Dec 21
First Day back	Mon Jan 7
PAC (6:30 PM) (new date).....	Mon Jan 14
Progress Report Issued.....	Fri Jan 25
BC Family Day (students do not attend)	Mon Feb 18
Non Instructional Day (students do not attend)	Mon Feb 25
Non Instructional Day (students do not attend)	Tues Feb 26

PAC (6:30 PM)	Mon Mar 4
Formative Assessment Conference (Portfolio Style) (5:30-7 PM).....	Wed Mar 6
Last Day before Spring Break/Easter.....	Fri. Mar 15

First Day back.....	Tues Apr 2
PAC (6:30 PM).....	Mon Apr 15
Good Friday	Fri Apr 19
Easter Monday.....	Mon Apr 23

School Track Meet (Gr 3-7).....	Thurs May 9
Non Instructional Day(Students do not attend).....	Fri May 10
PAC (6:30 PM).....	Mon May 13
Victoria Day (students do not attend)	Mon May 20
PAC Fun Fair.....	Sat May 25
Zone Track Meet	Tues May 28

District Track Meet (Rotary Bowl)	Thurs Jun 6
PAC (6:30 PM).....	Mon Jun 17
Formative Report Issued	Thurs Jun 27
Last Day of School (school dismissed at 2:37)	Thurs Jun 27
Administration Day.....	Fri Jun 28

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 25 and the district meet on November 2nd. Congratulations to all of our student athletes. Thank you to our Cross Country coaches: Ms. Knight and Ms. Frostad as well as all of the parent drivers.



FOOTBALL

Thank you to Mr. Shaw for coaching our Bantam Football team. After advancing to the playoffs the team finished their season with a hard played game against Forest Park. The team is to be commended for their hard work and sportsmanship, traits that we received complements from, during the season. As with all athletic teams, thank you to our adult drivers during the season.



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.

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.

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 (until March 24 2019). 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). This skate includes free rentals and helmets (based on availability). 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.

PARK AVENUE SAFETY PLAN:

As part of our safety plan, Elementary schools are required to conduct fire drills, earthquake drills, lockdown drills (and we are adding "hold and secure" drills) at various times throughout the school year. These planned drills are important in ensuring that staff and students are aware of how to appropriately respond in the event of a real emergency. If any deficiencies or problems are noted, then changes are made to the plan.

We would like to share information on the following drills so that you are informed of what we are teaching your children.

Drill snapshots:

FIRE DRILL: fire alarm is pulled and students exit the building to meet in classes on the basketball court. Attendance is taken and when the "all clear" is given, children return into the school.

EARTHQUAKE DRILL: earthquake sounds come on the PA system, students duck and cover, count for 60 seconds, and another 60 seconds (in case of aftershocks), then exit the building to marshal on the field. Attendance is taken and when everyone is accounted for and the "all clear" is given, children return back to the school.

HOLD AND SECURE/SHELTER IN PLACE: PA announcement, students remain in the school, instruction continues, exterior doors are locked, and no one is permitted to leave or enter the school until the "all clear" is given.

LOCK DOWN: (potential threat within the school) PA announcement, all students and staff proceed to nearest classroom or office, classroom doors are locked (as are exterior doors), blinds lowered and everyone is instructed to stay away from doors and windows and to be silent. Instruction resumes when the "all clear" is given. In addition to the information about our drills, these are the procedures we have in place in the event of a real situation regarding potential threats to schools.

Hold and Secure will be activated if there is a **potential threat/security concern outside the school** (such as a police incident in proximity of the school). **Shelter in Place** will be activated if there is a potential environmental concern outside the school (such as bear, cougar, gas leak in area). In these situations, the police/conservation officers typically contact the school and direct the school to go into Hold and Secure/Stay in Place. When there is no longer a threat outside the school building, the police/conservation inform us that we can resume regular activities.

If our school is in Hold and Secure, the following procedures will apply:

- All exterior doors will be locked.
 - NO ENTRY signs will be placed on each door.
 - No one will be permitted to leave or enter the school until school administration announces that Hold and Secure is over.
- Lockdown** will be activated if there is a **potential threat inside the school building**. Again, this procedure is typically by initiated by the RCMP.

If the school is in Lockdown, the following procedures will apply:

- Exterior doors are locked
- All students and staff will proceed to the nearest classroom or office.
 - All doors to classrooms and offices will be locked and/or barricaded by the supervising adult.
 - Students will be kept away from windows and doors and instructed to remain silent and still.
 - No one will be permitted to leave their room until the Lockdown is over.

If you hear about a serious emergency at your son/daughter's school through media reports or other means, **DO NOT PROCEED TO THE SCHOOL. Please DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL OR YOUR SON/DAUGHTER'S CELL PHONE during an emergency**, particularly in a Lockdown situation where it is critical to remain silent, still, and not draw attention from any threat makers that may be in the building or distract staff from their priority of keeping students safe.