



HIGHLANDS HIGHLIGHTS

March 2015



IMPORTANT DATES

March 9 – 12

Report Cards go home

March 13 – Alternate Calendar Day

School not in session

March 16 – 27

Spring Break

March 30 Classes Resume

April 3 - 6

Easter Weekend

April 13 – Pro D (RSA)

School not in session

April 17 – Milk & Cookie Day

April 24 – Talent Show

May 1 – Alternate Calendar Day

School not in session

May 12 – Highlands Track Day

May 15 – Alternate Calendar

School not in session

May 18 – Victoria Day Holiday

May 22 – Milk & Cookie Day

Jun 5 – Pro D

School not in session

Jun 25 – Last day for students

9:00 – 11:00 am

Principal's Message

I am excited to let you know that our school now has live announcements running each and every morning and we are only experiencing minor glitches. This project was set in motion over two years ago and it has been a big learning curve to get this up and running. There is so much potential with this system and I am excited to see what we can do with it. A group of students, who are part of the technology team, are instrumental in helping to run the show. Each morning two students go into the Live Announcement room and turn on all of the gear and go through all of the checks to make sure everything is working. Another group goes around to the classrooms if there are substitute teacher(s) to help them get the live announcements working. We are finding that students listen to the announcements with more attention. It was great to see and listen to the interviews of some of the basketball students talking about the success of their basketball season and what they enjoyed the most about the season. The joke of the week is becoming a big hit as well. There is a lot of potential to see what we can do with the live announcement system.

Some of the activities coming up, that students are looking forward to are: the Talent Show, the Highlands Track Meet, the District Track Meet, Sports Day, etc. We will be sending out the criteria for the talent show next week. This will give students the opportunity to decide on a talent to show case and to practice over Spring Break. We might even see an entry from the school staff this year. The date for the talent show is April 24th.

I would like to express a big thank you to all of the parents and other volunteers that help out with classroom activities, reading to students, the hot lunch program, the call back program, milk and cookies day, with classroom snacks, One to One program, etc. You truly make a positive difference for our students by being involved.

To help your child keep focused on their academics, have them keep up with reading, play some math games, and have them write in a journal about places they have gone and things that they have done over the break.

Congratulations to Madisyn Oviatt who was the winner of the \$50 Boston Pizza certificate for the completion of the Parent Satisfaction Surveys draw.

Have a restful, relaxing, and safe Spring Break.



Mr. Steve Rogers



Basketball

It has been another successful Basketball season. Both the boys and girls team improved a lot throughout the season. The season was finished off this week with a celebration in the gym, with pizza, juice, and snacks for both the girls' and boys' teams.

A big thank you goes out to the girls' basketball coaches; Kayley Dragovan, Jessica and Natalie Armstrong, and Sonya Bennett. The coaches, students at Laurie School, did a fantastic job and said they would like to do it again next year. We also need to thank the teacher sponsors; Mrs. Vording and Mrs. Buch.

Thank you to the boys' coaches who also did a fantastic job. We had two head coaches from Mt. Baker; Griffon Hawes and KiWan Kim. The boys also had three helper coaches from Laurie School; TJ, Conner, and Ethan. Also, thank you to Mr. Rogers for coaching and being the teacher sponsor.

Thank you to all of the students who helped score keep and to Ms. Carley and Mr. Rogers for refereeing the games.

Kindergarten Immunization

Immunizations are safe, free, and effective in protecting children against serious illnesses.

If you have a child who will be attending kindergarten in September 2015, boosters for Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis and Polio, and possibly Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Chickenpox (Varicella) are recommended between ages 4 to 6 years old. Please call the Cranbrook Health Unit at 250-420-2207 to book an appointment. For more information ask to speak to a Public Health Nurse or visit www.immunizebc.ca. These vaccines may be given any time after their 4th birthday, ideally before school starts.

ERASE Bullying (www.erasebullying.ca)

Bullying isn't just a child's issue; it's a school & community issue, & must be addressed with a school & community solution. Everyone has a role to play in promoting positive mental health & wellness, supporting students, positive social behaviour & preventing incidents like bullying. There needs to be an integrated approach to prevent, address & or/reduce bullying, by developing the right partnerships with schools, parents, community & police.

Students who feel safe & are free to develop in healthy ways are far less likely to be involved in inappropriate activities. Students who are learning & thriving take pride in themselves, their school, their accomplishments & the accomplishments of those they are connected to.

Setting a positive climate & culture will help set the tone for a child's learning. To do this staff, parents & community must model behaviour & attitudes that positive, respectful, fair, & caring. This means creating a school climate that is equitable, inclusive, diverse, tolerant, respectful & accepting. By doing this, we will move towards reaching our goal of making BC's schools the most inclusive in the world.

Are you Moving?

It is now the time when schools are in discussions with the School Board Office about planning for the next fall. In order to have all the information as up to date as possible I am requesting that any family who has definite plans on moving away from the Highlands community to let Mr. Rogers or Mrs. Pearson know as soon as possible. As disappointed as we will be about losing some of our students, understanding which student(s) are no longer able to be with us for next September allows for a better prediction for staffing our school. Thank you for communicating this information to us in a timely manner.