

École T. M. Roberts Elementary
School

The Twister



Weekly Newsletter
Thursday, December 15, 2016

TM Christmas Concert: December 21 - there will be two performances, the first will be at 10:45 am and the second at 1:15pm. Both performances are the same; please only attend one as space is a concern. Food bank donations are appreciated.

TM Band Concert: December 22nd at 1:15pm. All family members of band students are welcome to attend! Monetary donations will be appreciated with all proceeds going to the music department.

Parent Advisory Council: Next PAC meeting is Wednesday, January 11th at 6:30 pm.

Student Writing: Please see the attached story by Tommy Thompson

Kindergarten Immunization: Immunizations are safe, free, and effective in providing protection against serious illnesses. If you have a child who will be attending kindergarten in September 2017, please call the health unit at 250-420-2207 for more information and to book an appointment. Your child can receive their kindergarten booster any time after their 4th birthday, ideally before school entry.

Head Lice: Lice is a common problem in all elementary schools. Parents should be vigilant to check their child's head frequently and treat immediately if you find lice or eggs. Please let the school know if your child has lice so that we can take measures to prevent further spreading and reoccurrence. The great thing about this frigid weather is that you can put the non-washables such as pillows out in the cold to kill the eggs.

Cranbrook Triton Swim Club: The Cranbrook Triton Swim Club is a competitive swim club affiliated with Swim BC. The practices are held at Cranbrook Aquatic Centre. The next Elementary Swim Program runs from the week of January 9th, 2017 to March 9th, 2017 and introduces grades 3, 4 and 5 swimmers to the skills required for swimming competitively. Swim times for T.M. Roberts students will be held Wednesdays from 3:45 - 4:15. There will be a swim meet on Sunday March 5th that will highlight the skills they learned during the 9-week program. For swimmers who are already registered with Swim BC, the cost is \$58.00. Otherwise it is \$100. Please contact Dave for more information at 250-421-0018

Book Bites: The Public Library is hosting a fun afternoon on December 21 for kids aged 9-12. Have a snack and make a craft! See the attached poster for more information.

Communicating Student Learning: The Ministry of Education is allowing teachers to communicate student learning in more flexible ways. Our district is currently in the process of formulating a local framework for the way that teachers communicate student learning to parents. The flexible options that are permitted may come to you in different formats and not on fixed dates as they were in past practice. You can expect that your child's teacher will communicate with you at least four times a year with a final summative report at the end of the year. This communication can be in the format of a written report, a portfolio, a student-teacher-parent conference, a phone call or an email. Throughout the year, this information will help you understand how your child is progressing. At any time, if you need more clarification or explanation about how your child is doing, please contact the teacher to set up a time to discuss your concerns.

Public Input Sought: The government is seeking engagement input from the public, parents, school district staff, trustees, stakeholder groups and local governments on how we can best serve the educational needs of rural communities.
<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2016EDUC0256-002463>

Winter Clothing: As the weather gets colder and snowier it's important for our kids to come to school dressed for the weather. Our outdoor supervision is from 8:25 - 8:40, they also spend 15 minutes outside for morning recess and a half an hour at lunch time. Many classrooms are also taking their learning outside so it's important for the kids to be warm and comfortable throughout the day. Packing extra socks or mitts can be helpful. We do have access to extra winter clothing should your family require it. Please communicate with your child's teacher if that's the case. It is recommended that students have an extra pair of mitts and socks in their backpacks.



Pick up after school: Thank you parents for moving your pick up to the parent loop and away from the bus pick up and parking lot. With the slippery weather we need to be extra cautious during pick up and drop-off. The pick up loop is 30 seconds only, **not** for kindergarten students. The process is smoother if you arrive at 3:00 or later.

PAC Hot Lunches: The next hot lunch will be January 18th- Booster Juice. Order deadline for the January hot lunch is January 10th - 12:00 pm. PAC will only be taking orders through Munch-a-lunch on the TM Roberts website under the "parents" tab. Parents can sign up to help deliver lunches to their children's classrooms by contacting Kari Pidskalny at: tmrspac@gmail.com.

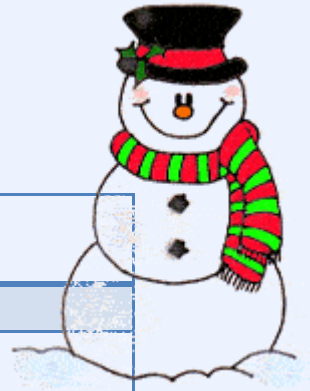
One to One Reading: If you are interested in volunteering to read to the students or know of someone that would be, can you please contact Carrie Schutz at 250-421-0461 or jordan97@shaw.ca.

Twister Shout-out: Take a look at our school blog!
<https://portal.sd5.bc.ca/public/o5sdsn24ofuwuzlcpbss4ytzofya/Blog/default.aspx#/>

Message from the Education Minister Mike Bernier: "Reporting is all about keeping parents like you informed, and we want you to tell us HOW you want to be informed and keep track of your child's progress. Until February 28 next year you can submit your thoughts online at <http://engage.gov.bc.ca/yourkidsprogress/en/home/>



Calendar Dates to Remember



December 21	Christmas Concert (both concerts the same) 10:45 am and 1:15 pm
December 22	Band Concert 1:15 pm
December 23	School Break School not in session
December 26, 27	Stat Holiday School not in session
December 28 - 30	School Break School not in session
January 2, 2017	Stat Holiday School not in session
Jan. 3 - 6	School Break School not in session
January 11	PAC meeting 6:30 pm
January 18	PAC Hot Lunch - Booster Juice
February 17	PAC Hot Lunch - DQ/Arby's

Remember to check the T.M. Website for regular updates.
www.sd5.bc.ca/school/tmres

