



# WINCHELSEA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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**Ian MacDonald, Principal**

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## **Newsletter #13 – December 1, 2009**

We would like to thank all parents who attended our recent Term 1 conferences. Parent – teacher conferences which include the active participation of students, are key to building the important partnership between home and school. Conferences provide a time when we formalize the frequent and ongoing communications between the home and the classroom, and develop common understandings and shared beliefs about how a student can best learn, and how this can be supported. In any classroom, there exists amongst students a wide range of abilities, experiences, rates of learning and development. In addition, we know that students learn in a variety of ways and at different rates. But, the most important thing is that we ensure that we encourage student's natural curiosity and keep them engaged as learners. Conferences provide an opportunity to jointly recognize a student's accomplishments, and, to set goals for future learning. If at any time you have concerns about your child's progress, or, have information about your child which will assist their teacher in better meeting their needs, please contact the school.



With Term 1 completed, we are now in December a month that gets very busy with special events and performances connected to the upcoming winter holiday. A reminder, our Christmas concert will be held on Thursday December 17, 2009. As usual there will be both an afternoon and an evening performance.



## **Christmas Choir – Wednesdays @ 8:30 am**

This is a reminder to all students in Grades 2 – 5 that are in the Christmas Choir. Choir starts at 8:30 am in the music room. Bus students may join in as soon as they arrive. The next three practices, Dec 2, 9 & 16 will run till 9:30 am as we prepare for our upcoming concert on Dec 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **Scholastic Book Fair**

Our library staff would like to thank everyone who participated and supported our Scholastic Book Fair. Once again, the Fair was very successful! Also, a big thank you to all of our parent volunteers for their assistance with the fair. Wow - This year the Book Fair sold just over **\$2500.00** and so our Library will receive **\$1250.00** in books. So thank you to everyone for your support!!!

## **PAC News**

### **PAC Meeting**

Next PAC meeting is **Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** in the **WES Library**. We have had to move the meeting up a week due to our Tree sale fundraiser. We look forward to seeing you there!

## **WES PAC CHRISTMAS TREE SALE – Dec 11-13/09**

From **Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>** to **Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>** PAC will be hosting a **CHRISTMAS TREE SALE** in the gym at **Winchelsea School**.

We are also looking for volunteers to help that weekend, if you can do a 1/2 hour shift please contact [wespac@shaw.ca](mailto:wespac@shaw.ca) or leave a message at the school 250-248-3296.



## **Parent Parking Spot of the Month**

The December winner of the PAC parking spot is once again, the Torgenson family. The odds were good this month, there were only 3 entries.

## **Grade 3 Swim Program**

Notices are going home today to all of our Gr 3 students to participate in a swimming program at the Ravensong Aquatic Centre in Qualicum. This program consists of 8 – 45 minute lessons. These lessons will begin early January, right after the Winter Break. Mrs Spendlove's Grade 3 class will swim on Tuesdays and Ms Trelawny and Ms Jones' Grade 3's will swim on Thursdays. Our PAC has very generously offered to pay for half of the program cost in order for it to be affordable to our families. Thank you to PAC for their help with this great program.

## **Calendar Dates to Remember**

Dec 3	Rooms 8, 7 & 1 walk to skating
Dec 8	PAC Meeting @ 7pm
Dec 9	Rooms 6 & 2 walk to skating
Dec 11	Rooms 5 & 3 walk to skating
Dec 11-13	PAC Christmas Tree Sale in parking lot
Dec 17	Christmas Concert @ 1pm & 7pm
Dec 18	Last day of classes prior to Winter Vacation
Jan 4/2010	Schools re-open after Winter Vacation



## **Community Events**

**Parks & Rec – District 69 Recreation Programs for Winter.** To register for programs, call 250-248-3252 or 250-752-5014 or visit the website [Recparks@rdn.bc.ca](mailto:Recparks@rdn.bc.ca).

**6<sup>th</sup> annual Winter Wonderland on Ice** – Dec 16-26<sup>th</sup> @ Oceanside Place. Come out and enjoy a magical skating experience!

**Santa Swim-** Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> 2-4 pm – Ravensong Pool

**Polar Express Camp** – Dec 21-24<sup>th</sup> and 28-31<sup>st</sup> 8am – 5pm

**Express Camp** – Dec 21-23<sup>rd</sup> and 29-30<sup>th</sup> 9am – 4pm