Dear École Millstream School Families:

***Courage***

Last week, our Grade 1/2 French Immersion and Grade 3 classes performed at an assembly focused on the idea of courage. The students did a fantastic job presenting their own ideas as well as some research around this topic. We encourage you to continue to talk about the idea of courage at home. Perhaps you could discuss the following quote that was shared at the assembly: “An act of courage is always an act of love.” Paulo Coelho

***Staff Changes***

Mrs. Giesbrecht continues to be at the school every afternoon to support us in her role as Vice Principal. Mme. Ogrodnik resigned her Vice Principal position in late January, and has taken on a teaching position at another school. We wish her well in her new assignment, and thank her for all that she contributed to Millstream School!

Last month, Ms. Fiona O’Neal (Kindergarten/Grade 1 teacher) started teaching Division 6 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays as Ms. Shields is on a part-time medical leave. Mme. Tates (French Immersion Kindergarten teacher) started her maternity leave on Monday, and we welcomed Mme. Beyea to our teaching team. We wish Mme. Tates and her family all the very best!

***February Highlights***

Many of our classes celebrated 100’s day during the month of February, and it was great to see student projects and everyone’s costumes. Our school also celebrated *Carnaval* with a special pancake breakfast and daily announcements about *Carnaval* facts. Thank you again to PAC and the Westshore Lions for helping with the pancake breakfast.

As the weather improves, classes are going back outside to garden and to explore the forest on nature walks. We hope you have noticed the new planters in the front garden, which we received as part of a grant project.

The Victoria Conservatory of Music is offering a special program to two of our primary classes. This free of charge program teaches students music theory using a self-paced video game. One-on-one support is provided for each student, and the equipment for all of the students to learn the basics of playing piano.

***Staff Inquiry Learning***

We have two staff teams working on inquiry projects where teachers and our ECE explore a topic of interest by answering the following questions – *What’s going on for our learners? How do we know? Why does this matter?* One of our teacher teams is looking at self-regulation and our Kindergarten/ECE team is exploring how to make a differentiated learning environment sustainable.

***Sports***

Many thanks to all students who participated on our basketball teams. We had a very large girls’ basketball team, which speaks to the great enthusiasm around team sports at our school. Thank you to our coaches – Mrs. Ramsbottom, Mme. Tates and Ms. Nemeth – the season would not have been possible without you!

***Reminders***

Please remember …

* **Our next spirit day - Multiples Day on March 12th**
* **To come inside and look at the lost & found items in the hallway.**
* **To arrive at school on time – our school day begins at 8:30 am.**
* **Spring Break from March 16th to 27th**

***Upcoming Events***

We are regularly updating our school website. Please refer to the website or app for upcoming events or information. The school app can be downloaded in the App store (Millstream Mustangs).

<https://millstream.appazur.com/help/quickstart>

<https://millstream.appazur.com/help/flyer>

<http://millstream.sd62.bc.ca/>

Enjoy the warmer spring weather!

Mrs. Krusekopf and Mrs. Giesbrecht