

Millstream Elementary



Message from Ms. Gerow

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February 1, 2017

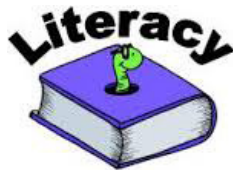
LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION 2017



The first day of the Lunar New Year, which is celebrated in many countries around the world aside from China, fell on January 28th this year. It marked the beginning of the Year of the Rooster, and 15 days of celebration which traditionally culminates with the Lantern Festival. The students in Mrs. Devenport's grade three class made Chinese New Year crafts, learned how to write Chinese characters with traditional inkbrush calligraphy pens and ink, listened to Chinese new year music and songs, got to try on a Chinese lion dance prop, received lucky red envelopes and treats, and wore red as a sign of good luck and festiveness! Several classes also joined Div. 3 in their classroom as Mrs. Devenport gave a presentation about Chinese culture and new year traditions. Students got to view a display of special Chinese artifacts and clothing, and a lucky few got to try their hand at traditional Chinese musical instruments, and participate in a friendly competition using chopsticks! Gung Hay Fat Choy!

Literacy Week this week

Monday was Vote for your Favourite Book. Each class had an opportunity to vote for their book from a list of 8 books. Selections were in French and English. The winner will be posted on the main bulletin board by tomorrow afternoon. Tuesday was Poem in your Pocket day with students sharing a poem with each other. Wednesday saw the entire School Wide Read together in the gym while Mr. Meusette played his guitar as background music, which was lovely. Thursday is Buddy Reading and tomorrow, Is Dress Up As Your Favourite Book Character! That should be entertaining. Photos to follow in the next newsletter. Thank you to Ms King for organizing this week's events.



Dress for the Weather

It is important that students get outside some fresh air at recess and lunch. Boots, coats and hats help keep your kids dry while they are outside enjoying time with their friends. It helps burn off some energy by enjoying games and activities that entertain them and their friends during these break times. Please dress your children accordingly for the weather. We have the undercover area where children can gather if they want to stay dry when it is raining. Our school field does not drain well so even when things appear to be drying out, boots are a good idea. Please ensure your child has a spare change of clothes in the event they have a fall during the break times so they can stay dry during learning time.



Dogs on the Field

Just a friendly reminder that dogs are not permitted in the playground area and school fields. If you are meeting your child at school and have your dog, you and your dog need to wait off site. Please arrange a meeting place with your child in advance. Many thanks to all who are already doing this.

Millstream Super Assistants

Our Super Assistant Team is up and running! Many students volunteer for a variety of responsibilities within the school including lunch monitors and office monitors. Thanks to all of those students that are part of our team. Students participating in these activities are showing great leadership skills.



Please let the office know if you are moving, not returning to Millstream next year or if your contact information has changed. ttreloar@sd62.bc.ca

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Bricks for Kids

This program is in its 4th week and by all accounts is running smoothly. Thank you to the PAC for organizing this activity. Students will be wrapping up this program in two weeks.



Safe Arrival and Late Arrival

Another friendly reminder to please inform the office if your child is ill or going to be late. We do have some chronically late students and this is a concern. If your child misses the first part of the morning on a regular basis they are missing out on the layout of the day with their class. This can put them behind and set them up for a difficult day. Thank you.

The Magic Flute

On February 14th, Ms. Papineau will be taking a group of students to the opera, The Magic Flute. The possibility to attend a dress rehearsal is offered three times a year by Pacific Opera. It is a wonderful opportunity for students to be exposed to the world of opera and to witness a full dress rehearsal. Thank you to Ms Papineau for organizing this wonderful event.

Cultural Performance

Tomorrow, the whole school will be entertained by Sandy Northrup. Sandy is a one woman circus act who specializes in physical comedy with juggling, riding her unicycle and performs in both English and French. Her program is aimed at broadening student understanding of Circus Acts, to help students meet physical challenges to develop performance abilities.

Bus Students

Many students take the bus at the end of the day. If your child is one of these students and you have decided to pick them or made alternative arrangements for the day, it is important that you inform the office. We are often out searching for students when the bus arrives that have been "picked up". For your child's safety, please inform the office before doing so. This can be done by a phone call, email or popping in to the office. This will prevent phone calls home at the end of the day. Thank you in advance for your help with this.

FSA testing

The FSA testing has been occurring for the Grade 4 students over the last two weeks. These standardized tests are being phased out this year and will be replaced next year with another format. Information regarding what the format will be has not been sent out yet. When we receive information as to what it might look like, we will share it with families. Scoring for the FSA tests will occur in March and results will be sent home to parents at the end of March or in early April.



Many classes in Millstream had the chance to celebrate Chinese New Year in Mrs. Devenport's class!