



Falkland Elementary School

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Monday, December 4th, 2017

Newsletter #4

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The students were excited to have a couple days of sliding before the snow disappeared. We managed to get hay bales in place and new crazy carpets for the unexpected snow fall early in November and our students are anxiously waiting to put them to good use again.

We've had a busy month with Hallowe'en activities, pumpkin decorating contest, interim report cards, volleyball practices and games (grade 6, 7, 8), school photos, popcorn day and hot lunch, FSA for students in grades 4 and 7, Remembrance Day Assembly, 2 projector installs (music room and Division 3), outdoor learning in the forest day, Spirit Daze (poppy day and moustache day). We recently completed our Poinsettia fundraising initiative to raise money for student equipment and our Purdy's Chocolates fundraiser for Div. 1. Students have also been busy preparing for the Christmas Concert performance of Scrooge: A Christmas Carol on December 12th at 6:00 pm (12:30 is our rehearsal time).

Here's how to keep up with the happenings at Falkland School.

1. Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Falkland-Elementary/264923487025152
2. Email: Newsletters and occasional reminders are emailed home. If your email address has changed recently, be sure to contact Janet at the office to update our records. Thank you! If you would like a paper copy, please contact Janet at the office as well.
3. School website: www.fal.sd83.bc.ca

Please have a look at the last page of this newsletter as it contains several important dates that you may wish to update your calendars with.

As always, I welcome your thoughts, questions, suggestions or any concerns regarding all aspects of Falkland School. I invite you to call if something is on your mind, however big or small you feel it is. It provides an opportunity to better understand each other.

Mrs. Cull ☺

News from PAC

If you would like to help out, please contact our very friendly president, Jodie Gillman at 250-540-6762 or vice president, Jen Hurren 250-550-4662. I know help will be needed for our breakfast for lunch hot lunch planned on Friday, December 22nd and many other initiatives as the year gets underway.

The next PAC meeting will be on WEDNESDAY, December 13th at 2:30 pm in Room 29, the StrongStart room. PAC is a wonderful way to be involved in making this the best school possible for our children. ☺ Babysitting is provided so parents can attend the meeting.

NEXT HOT LUNCH is on December 13th. On the menu is Shepard's Pie! YUM! Order forms are due to the office on December 8th. Thanks to Karroll Brosnan, our PAC hot lunch coordinator, and her team for their hard work. Breakfast for lunch is scheduled on the last day of school, December 22nd.

SPECIAL VISITOR: Also, we are very lucky to have our PAC organize a special visitor and a pancake luncheon for our students on the last day of school, December 22nd. Thanks PAC – our students look forward this tradition EVERY YEAR!

NEXT POPCORN day is on Friday, January 12th. Please keep popcorn payment and orders separate from hot lunch payments and orders. All orders need to go to the teacher please. Thank you!

Fundraising Initiatives

1. The PAC is organizing a basket raffle for the Christmas Concert. Each Division is collecting items for a basket. If you have items you would be willing to donate, please bring these to the office or your child's classroom teacher for PAC by December 11th.
2. The PAC has also organized a soup fundraiser with "2 ladies soupin it up". Orders were due on December 1st and available for pick up in order to deliver to customers on December 8th.
3. Thanks for all your support in selling poinsettias for our annual Falkland School fundraiser. These funds will go towards student equipment. Congratulations to Phoenix Borden who sold well over \$300 in sales. Poinsettia orders will be available for pick up after school on Thursday, December 7th and all day on Friday, December 8th. Please be sure to deliver these orders to your customers.
4. Division One organized their annual fundraiser with Purdy's chocolates. Purdy's will be available for pick up after school on Thursday, December 14th and Friday, December 15th.

PAC GIFT BASKET RAFFLE



WHEN
TUESDAY, December 12th @ 5:30 pm
Christmas Concert Night

WHERE
FALKLAND SCHOOL



TICKETS
\$2 ea, 3 for \$5, or 10 for \$10

DONATIONS NEEDED
Please drop off your donations
to the office or classroom
teacher by December 11th.

Division 1—Mr. Clarke

**SWEETS &
CHOCOLATE**

Division 2—Ms. Houston

**BEAUTY &
SPA**

Division 3— Mrs. Cull and
Miss Minchenko

COZY TIME
(tea, coffee, other hot drinks
and accompaniments)

Division 4—Ms. Richoux

**FAMILY NIGHT
MOVIES &
MORE**

Division 5—Mrs. McAfee

ARTS & CRAFTS

Falkland School Staff

GIFT CARDS

5. Our Me to We Student Leadership Team is planning a food drive, bake sale and homemade card sale to raise money for local project. These items will be for sale on the evening of our Christmas Concert, Tuesday, December 12th. Donations of baking are requested on December 12th before 8:30am. Nonperishables are also requested to be brought to our Christmas Concert.

Awooga Celebration – Student of the Week

We have recently started our 2017-2018 Awooga Celebration. As you may remember, each week one student from each division will be selected randomly. Mrs. Cull will make a phone call home to advise parents that their child has been selected and the various activities that will be in place for the week to celebrate their unique gifts and talents. Parents, teachers, students, and myself will all have a role to play in showing our appreciation to every child in the school by the end of the school year. We show our gratitude toward others often in an informal way, but our staff wanted to formalize this process to ensure all students feel valued and a sense of belonging. At the end of the week, their collection of appreciative comments will be sent home as a keep sake. This celebration is not related to behavior, academics or effort like it was in the past. Our recognition of academics and effort for grades 5-8 will continue in formal ways at our term end assemblies.

Christmas Concert – December 12th

We will be having our Christmas Concert on December 12th at 6:00 pm with our rehearsal at 12:30 pm. Doors will open at 5:20 pm and students are to be in their classrooms at 5:30 pm. **Students are to go directly to their classrooms when they arrive to school and stay there for the entire concert supervised by their teacher.** Only students with assigned tasks from staff will be allowed in the hallways or gymnasium. After our whole school finale, teachers will lead students back to their classrooms and parents can pick up their children there. Students will not be allowed to remain at school after school hours without a parent present. In order to be fair to everyone, seats will be available first come basis when doors open at 5:20 pm.

Students are asked to wear the following for their performance pieces:

DIV 5: Concert attire

DIV 4: Concert attire

DIV 3: Concert attire and some small props optional (sunglasses, cowboy hat)

DIV 2: Concert attire and some small props optional (sunglasses, cowboy hat)

DIV 1: (Actors/Singers)

Costumes as per character in the play – see right

Div 1 Student Costumes:

The following is a guideline for costumes, please feel free to contact me if you have other ideas. Setting is in the 1800s.

Narrators: Old fashion style clothes (or Christmas attire)

Scrooge: Dark clothes to which the following can be easily

added: scarf, top hat, suit jacket, night cap, housecoat/night shirt

Cratchit Family: Old clothes

Christmas Past: White clothes (cloak/gown maybe?)

Christmas Present: Green/Brown clothes (Earth colours)

Christmas Future: All black with hood

Marley: Dark coloured old clothes (old suit jacket?), chain

Nephew: 1800s style clothes for boy

Gentlemen: Suit

Businessmen: Suit & Tie

Thief: Old tattered clothes

Fezziwig: Old country style

Sound/Props: Black clothes

FYI:

We will be looking to borrow the following:

- Old fashioned looking lamp *not your valuable antique please ;)

- Some 1800s style décor

- A small, light cot

The Students of Falkland School
proudly present



A
CHRISTMAS
CAROL

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

DRESS REHEARSAL 12:30

Parents are welcome to attend the Dress Rehearsal if they cannot attend the evening performance.

CONCERT 6:00

Doors open at 5:20 p.m.

As per usual Falkland School will not offer reserved seating ~ seating is on a first come, first serve basis



Our Student Leadership team will gratefully accept donations for our BAKE SALE which will be open at 5:30. Donations to be brought to the school by 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 12th.

FALKLAND SCHOOL will also be collecting donations to the FOOD BANK at both the dress rehearsal and evening concert performances.

Report Cards

Our school is one of 12 School District No. 83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap) schools taking part in a pilot project to test a different, and hopefully improved, method of reporting your child's learning.

The report card itself will look and sound different (more about this below) and instead of the typical three written formal reports you will be receiving two formal written reports, a face-to-face conference with the teacher and two interim progress reports.

As part of the pilot, parents and teachers will also be receiving a survey asking for feedback on the report card template and on the student-teacher-parent conferences. This feedback will be important in deciding possible changes to the report card or whether to continue this report card for future years.

On December 20th you will be receiving the first formal report card informing you of where your child is at on their learning journey. We feel that communicating your child's learning should be an ongoing process and there should not be any surprises for students or parents/guardians.

An informal progress report in the form of student led conferences will occur for all families in late April. You are *always* welcome to contact your school teacher to discuss your child's progress.

Pilot Project Communicating Student Learning

The BC Ministry of Education and our School District are in the midst of implementing the renewed curriculum and improving reporting documents to better meet the needs of families. Our goal is to provide parents with a better way of understanding where their children are at on their learning journey.

Report cards home will look different this year. In addition to letter grades for students in grade 4-8, there will be a scale that will inform parents and guardians on their child's achievement in subject areas. The new scale will be: emerging, developing, applying and extending. Descriptions of the four-point scale are as follows:

Emerging:

Work does not yet meet grade level expectations;
Student may show evidence of progress toward relevant learning standards;
Requires on-going support.

Developing:

Work meets grade level expectations at a minimal level;
Student can understand the learning standards at a basic level or in familiar situations;
Requires some support.

Applying:

Work meets grade level expectations;
Student consistently applies understanding and demonstrates learning in a variety of situations;
Student generally works independently.

Extending:

Work exceeds grade level expectations;
Student demonstrates superior performance of learning standards;
Student independently takes initiative to extend their own learning and understanding.

Part of better meeting the needs of students and families involves increased opportunities for parents to meet formally with teachers to discuss their child's progress and agree on a goal(s). To accommodate this change, the district will schedule, for schools participating in the pilot, two days of one hour early dismissals. **Our school has decided to do one early dismissal for the whole afternoon. On February 8th we will dismiss at 11:45.** This will provide time for scheduled parent/student/teacher conferences.

These conferences will provide an opportunity for parents to discuss their child's report card and their child's areas of strength and needs and review/set a learning goal(s) for their child's continued academic and behavioral growth. There will be a suggested goal(s) included on the written report that goes home on

Wednesday, December 20th. At the conference in early February, the goal(s) will be discussed and modified if required.

We know that community-building and establishing strong relationships between home and school promotes and supports student learning.

Please see important timeline information below. At the next PAC meeting this will be the one focus of the Principal's Report.

Timeline for Reporting Student Progress to Parents 2017-2018

OCTOBER 23 – 27 - Interim reports (informal report #1)

DECEMBER 20 - Written Report sent home (formal report #1)

FEBRUARY 8 - Reporting Conferences (parent/student/teacher) with early dismissal at 11:45 am (formal report #2)

APRIL - Interim reports through Student Led Conferences (informal report #2)

JUNE 28 - Written Final Report sent home (formal report #3)

Winter Recreation Program

We are in the process of planning and booking dates for our Winter Recreation Program. If you have feedback around what worked or what didn't work in previous years, please call me at the school. Your feedback is important. At this time we have following three arranged with Silver Star Mountain Resort for Downhill Skiing, Snowboarding, Cross-Country Skiing or Snowshoeing with the final date of February 16th reserved for our whole school tubing day:

- January 19
- January 26
- February 9th
- February 16th (Whole School Tubing Day \$12/student, \$18/adult)

The Ski School at Silver Star will be providing information soon for a new online registration and payment system. The following are the costs for these activities at Silver Star. Thanks to PAC for covering the cost of transportation. This significantly reduces the cost of attending Silver Star by approximately \$50 per student.

STUDENT PRICING								
Option	Activity	Location/ Transportation	Grades (approx.)	Lesson Time	Student Cost for three sessions			TOTAL
					Lesson/ Guide (2 hr)	Lift/ Track ticket	Rentals	
1	Downhill skiing	Silver Star Bus	2-8	10:15 – 12:15	\$66	\$21	\$30	\$117

2	Snowboarding	Silver Star Bus	4-8	10:15 – 12:15	\$66	\$21	\$30	\$117
3	X Country skiing	Silver Star Bus	k-8	10:15 – 12:15	\$45	\$12	\$27	\$84
4	Snowshoeing with guide	Silver Star Bus	k-8	10:15 – 12:15	\$45	included	included	\$45
5	Activities in Falkland	Walking	k-8	8:15 – 2:00	--	--	--	--

We continue to work hard to provide local winter rec options for students who wish to stay in Falkland. More information will be provided when we return from the winter break.

Facility Improvements

I am happy to report that we have recently upgraded one of our hot water tanks. We are also scheduled to have additional electrical outlets installed on Wednesday, December 6th in Rm 29, our StrongStart and PAC room, which will hopefully accommodate our Breakfast Club and PAC needs better. On Friday, December 15th a new upgraded cabinet will be installed in our new classroom (Div. 3). Also we have a painter at our school freshening up our hallways, washrooms, and all classrooms on the main level, including the gymnasium. The gymnasium will be closed all week in order to get this space freshened up in time for the Christmas Concert. ☺

Important Dates

Please take note of the upcoming events and record them in your calendars. Please also check out the school calendar on our website as this is updated on a regular basis. The student planner is another great reference for parents to find out about the upcoming events in your child's classroom.

Mon., Dec. 4	Explorations Gr. 6, 7, 8 – Term 1 Session 9 Food Studies and Visual Arts
Tues., Dec. 5	Mandarin Oranges and Milk delivered
Wed., Dec. 6	Leadership Spirit Day – TEAM/JERSEY DAY
Thurs. Dec. 7	Poinsettia Fundraiser Orders delivered – pick up after school and on Fri. Dec. 8
Fri., Dec. 8	Buster the Bus presentation to Div. 5, 4 & 3 Soup orders delivered (PAC) Hot Lunch Orders due (PAC)
Mon., Dec. 11	Explorations Gr. 6, 7, 8 – Term 1 Session 10 Food Studies and Visual Arts
Tues., Dec. 12	Christmas Concert – Rehearsal 12:30, Concert 6:00 (Doors open at 5:20)
Wed., Dec. 13	PAC Hot Lunch – Shepherd's Pie PAC Meeting 2:30, Room 29
Mon., Dec. 18	Explorations Gr. 6, 7, 8 – Term 2 Session 1 Textiles and Drama Purdy's Chocolates Orders ready for pick up
Tues., Dec. 19	Div. 4 visit to Regional Library 12:45 – 1:45
Wed., Dec. 20	Term 1 Report Cards sent home
Thurs., Dec. 21	NO STRONGSTART – approved planning day
Fri., Dec. 22	Last day of school before Winter Break End of Term Assembly 8:30 Santa visits in the music room 9:30 (PAC) Pancake Breakfast for lunch (PAC) starting at 11:30 – 12:15

	Afternoon movie time (starting 12:15)
	Leadership Spirit Day – PAJAMA DAY
Dec. 24 to Jan. 7	Winter Break – students do not attend school
Mon., Jan. 8 (2018)	School Reopens after Winter Break – Welcome Back Everyone!!
	Explorations Gr. 6, 7, 8 – Term 2 Session 2 Textiles and Drama
Fri. Jan. 12	Popcorn Day
Mon., Jan. 15	Explorations Gr. 6, 7, 8 – Term 2 Session 3 Textiles and Drama
	Leadership Spirit Day – HAT DAY
Fri., Jan. 19	Winter Rec
Mon., Jan. 22	Explorations Gr. 6, 7, 8 – Term 2, Session 4 Textiles and Drama
Tues., Jan. 23	Ready Set Learn 9:30 – 10:30
	Apples and Milk delivered
Fri., Jan. 26	Winter Rec
Mon., Jan. 29	Explorations Gr. 6, 7, 8 – Term 2 Session 5 Textiles and Drama
Tues., Jan. 30	Leadership Spirit Day – HAWAIIAN DAY
	Div. 4 visit to Regional Library 12:45 – 1:45
Fri., Feb. 2	Popcorn Day (PAC)
	NO Winter Rec
Mon., Feb. 5	Explorations Gr. 6, 7, 8 – Term 2 Session 6 Textiles and Drama
Tues., Feb. 6	Kiwi Fruit and Milk Delivered
Fri., Feb. 9	Winter Rec
Mon., Feb. 12	Family Day Holiday – staff and students do not attend school
Wed., Feb. 14	Leadership Spirit Day – RED/PINK DAY
	Valentine’s Day
Fri., Feb 16	Whole School Tubing at Silver Star
Mon., Feb. 19	Explorations Gr. 6, 7, 8 – Term 2 Session 7 Textiles and Drama
Fri., Feb. 23	Professional Development Day – students do not attend school
Mon., Feb. 26	Explorations Gr. 6, 7, 8 – Term 2 Session 8 Textiles and Drama
Tues., Feb. 27	Leadership Spirit Day – TWIN DAY