



DECEMBER 2018

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The staff at FG LEARY would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and would like to thank you for your support, encouragement, and involvement in your child's education. Our partnership is vital in the success of students and we encourage you to come into the school and talk with us and to get involved.

Dates to Remember

- Dec.6- Hot lunch- HUGOS
- Dec. 7- Report Cards- Home
- Dec. 18 Grade 1-3 Christmas Concert 1:00 pm and 6:00pm
- Dec. 19- Kindergarten Christmas Concert @ FG Leary- 6:00pm
- Dec. 20- Hot lunch- PIZZA
- Dec. 17-21- Spirit Week
- Dec. 21- Last day of school before holidays
- Jan. 7- School Reopens after Christmas

Spirit Week

- Dec. 17- Christmas Colours
- Dec. 18- Christmas Sweater
- Dec. 19- Crazy Hair
- Dec. 20- Christmas Bling or socks
- Dec. 21- Pajama Day

Our Students Gift to You

Our students, both the primary grades and the intermediate choir, will be working very hard this month preparing their Christmas Concert, **TWINKLE AND SHINE**. They are very excited to share this Christmas gift with their audiences on:

Tuesday December 18th - Matinee @ 1:00 and a 6:00 pm Evening Performance.

Mrs. Istace, Mrs. Ngieng, Mrs. Lakowski, Ms. Fedoruk and Ms. Callander's classes will be performing along with our Choir led by Mrs. Boyes. Tickets will be \$2.00 available through your child's teacher. A form will be sent home on Monday Dec. 3 indicating what show you and how many would like to attend. Tickets will be distributed on Wednesday December 5th.

Wednesday December 19th @ 6:00- Mrs. Lefurgy, Ms. Valer, and Mrs. Van Leeuwen's classes will be performing. No tickets needed for this show.

We decided this year to have the venue at FG Leary in order to make it affordable for families.

REPORT CARDS

On Friday December 7th, students will be bringing home newly designed report cards. Some of the reasons for these changes are:

- No letter grades in all grades- the revised curriculum reflects a continuum of learning and letter grades do not assess a continuum of learning
- Reporting should reflect individual student learning, needs and growth
- The story of the individual student and their growth is what is important
- Goal of redesigned curriculum is based on personalized learning



MITTEN TREE

Miss Valer's class is starting their first philanthropy project of the school year with a "Mitten Tree". The idea behind this event is inspired by Candace Christiansen's book, "The Mitten Tree". This picture book pays tribute to acts of kindness, generosity, and giving from the heart with no need for recognition or applause.



The goal is to decorate a tree with items of warmth for people of all ages. We will be setting up a tree outside our classroom. Students can decorate it with donations appropriate for outdoor wear, such as mittens, toques, scarves, jackets, neck warmers etc. It is preferred that all items be new or gently used. Donations will be distributed to students within our school who need warm winter gear and the Salvation Army. Please feel welcome to join Miss Valer's class in spreading warmth and smiles this winter.

Project Starts: Dec 4th

Last Day for Donations: Dec 15th

LOST AND FOUND

Please come by and pick up any lost and found items. We will be donating these items on: **Friday December 7th** and **Friday December 21st**



Extra Clothing

At this time of year, our outside areas are really wet and we have had a number of students sitting with wet clothes all day. If you could put some extra clothes (pants, shirt, socks) in a labeled bag it would be appreciated. This would avoid having to call you during the day and have to come down to the school. Thanks

STUDENT SAFETY – Signing in and out *IMPORTANT !!!*

As part of our effort to keep our students safe, we try to connect with every person who enters the building. Please stop at the front office to check in and out, letting Mrs. Holden know who you are and why you are there. If you are dropping off, coming to pick up early, or delivering something, please check in. If you must leave early with your child, please make prior arrangement with your child's teacher and/or the office. We are trying to keep classroom disruptions at a minimal level.

Volunteers must also sign in, please. Thank you!

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Every parent and guardian of a FG Leary student is automatically a member of the FG Leary PAC. We encourage you to get involved as they are a very important part of our school.

The next meeting is on **Thursday, January 24th at 1:00**. You are invited!

ANGEL TREE @ FG LEARY ELEMENTARY

Our Angel Tree is located near the office this year and we need your help fulfilling wishes! Every year, our wonderful staff let us know which families need help this holiday season. This year, we have 5 families who have children who attend our school that need our help!

On the backs of each Angel, is a "wish" for an item for the child for Christmas. Please choose an Angel from the tree, purchase the gift and bring back with the angel to our school by December 16th, 2016. (Unwrapped please). Please give the item to the Mrs. Holden.

Please note: The items listed on the back of the Angels are "suggestions" and the families would be more than thankful for whatever you wish to donate. If you purchased an item on sale, but wasn't what was listed, we would still love your donation.

If your unable to come to the school to see the items wished for, please call the school 604-792-1281, post on the PAC page on Facebook, or email bojcic@shaw.ca and we can let you know what is on the tree. Cash donations are accepted at the office, any cash that is donated will be used towards Angels that are still on the tree.

Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS



We are starting to collect non-perishable items for the Christmas Hampers. We would greatly appreciate donations of any kind (food, family activity coupons, etc.)! Below are some of the suggestions of what is needed: **Food most needed:**

Tinned fruit, tinned meat/fish, tinned lunches, peanut butter, pasta, rice, tomato paste and sauce. Tinned vegetables, soup, jam, meal helpers, cereals, and macaroni dinners.

THE PAC will be collecting food until December 19th and then delivering these hampers to local families during the week of December 20th-21st

LIBRARY NEWS



The Reading Link Challenge books for 2019 have just been announced! The first meeting for all interested grades 4 and 5 students will be on Thursday Dec. 6 at lunch. Please check out the library link on our school website for this year's book titles. The RLC team will begin meeting regularly after Christmas. Students who attend the meeting next week will be bringing home more information.

We are at the time of year where books that have been overdue for a long time need to be returned or paid for. If you receive an overdue notice, please make payment to the library so that borrowing privileges can be resumed. Thank you.

Bad Weather Guidelines & Information for Parents & Students

Inclement weather conditions such as freezing rain, significant snowfall or high wind can occur during the fall and winter months. In such conditions, decisions on the opening or closure of school district facilities are made by the Superintendent of Schools in consultation with management and supervisory staff who have checked first-hand on the driving conditions and general condition of buildings. While service to students and parents is a priority and schools will be kept open as much as is reasonably possible, student and staff safety is the primary consideration.

In the event of extreme weather conditions, parents are urged to check the School District website www.sd33.bc.ca, tune into radio stations **STAR FM 98.3**, **The Drive 89.5**, or **The Weather Network (cable channel 90, STAR Choice 398 or Bell Expressview 505)** to receive up-to-date information on school closures and information on the buses. Reports will start after 6:00am and will be repeated often. The information broadcast is directly from the School District. The reports are confirmed and there is **no need to call your school**, the School District Office or the radio station. Students will be marked absent for the day, but such an absence will not affect a perfect attendance record.

In the event that there is inclement weather but the school remains open, it is the parent's decision, based on their assessment of the relative safety of travel conditions, as to whether or not their children attend school.

FIRE ALARM AND LOCK DOWN PARENT PROCEDURES

What should parents do when they are at school (for pick up, as a volunteer, etc.) during a fire alarm or lockdown? Here are some basics:

FIRE ALARM

If the fire bell rings, DO NOT ENTER THE SCHOOL! It is not the time to try to find your child or to gather your child's belongings. Instead, STAY OUT OF THE BUILDING. Everyone is expected to move away from the building to a safe distance as quickly as possible and to stay away until the "all clear" signal is given. Your child will be in the grassy field with an adult, so you can be sure they will be safe (they are our priority).

LOCKDOWN

When we announce a lockdown over the PA system, it means there is a serious safety concern that requires us to secure the children in a safe, locked room inside the school. If we announce that it is a drill, we always act as if it was a genuine emergency. In a genuine lockdown, police will arrive and will assume that any visible person could be dangerous, so please DO NOT HANG AROUND. Either go immediately back to your vehicle and leave the parking lot or get into a secure classroom area with the class in which you are volunteering.

We take these things very seriously and we appreciate you helping us by cooperating.

