Sarah Loat Principal sloat@sd38.bc.ca Archibald Blair Elementary School School District No. 38 (Richmond) 6551 Lynas Lane, Richmond, BC, V7C 3K8 Phone: 604-668-6330 Early Warning: 604-668-6318 Email: blair@sd38.bc.ca Website: blair.sd38.bc.ca Twitter: @BlairDragons



Celebrating learning, treasuring each child, valuing diversity, teaching caring, and honouring the wonder of our universe.

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION**

Teaching respect for diversity includes helping children understand that families have different ways of acting, and these may not be the same as the behaviors in their own family. This is certainly true regarding holiday practices as well. Understanding the different ways people do and don't celebrate; learning accurate, respectful vocabulary about holidays; broadening children's worldview of what a holiday is-these are all wonderful, powerful learning opportunities for children about holidays and winter traditions. The Blair staff will be taking the time to include respectful learning about holidays as a part of the curriculum during the month of December.

Holiday Gift giving is an important part of many people's lives. During this time of COVID, exchanging gifts is tricky. We want to keep everyone as safe as possible. Therefore, if you are wanting to give a gift to staff (who are so deserving!) we encourage less packages and more items that could be within an envelope – like a gift card. We do ask that you leave baked goods for another time once this has all passed.



We also want to remind you gifts are not at all required – we are blessed to teach your child and that is gift enough. Do connect with us if you have any questions.

#### Parking Reminders and Safety



Thank you to those parents that are following the parking rules for the safety of all the students at Blair. Please be reminded that the "Drop Off" lanes for dropping off and picking up students only. **Please do not park in lane and leave your car unattended**. You are welcome to park your car in a few of the spots in the southern parking lot. Please **do not park** in the **two reserved spots**, or in the **no parking spots** at the ends of the parking lot.

The parking lot closest to the school is for STAFF ONLY. There are two traffic cones in front of this parking area to ensure that cars to not enter this lot, even if there are spaces. There is ample street parking, and we encourage you to park on the street and walk in if you are planning to stay after school and play on the playground.

#### **Potential School Closures Due to Weather**

The district will make every attempt to determine school closures due to inclement weather by 6:30 a.m. based on current weather and road conditions. We will communicate to parents as soon as possible using a variety of methods including social media and school and district websites. If schools are open, and you wish to keep your child home due to weather conditions, you may do so. Please let your school know of this decision by leaving a message on the Early Warning Line at 604-668-6318 **before** 8:30am. Parents/guardians are responsible for their child's safe travel to and from school. To reach as many people as possible - as quickly as possible - we work closely with our local media to share information.



Please listen to local radio stations and follow local news outlets online to also get information about the impact of severe weather emergencies in our schools. No radio or television announcement will be made saying that schools are open. Only school closures will be announced by the media. Please do not call the school as we need to keep the lines open for district staff.

#### DRESS WARMLY- SNOWY DAYS ARE HERE!

#### Wear a coat with a hood.

Your coat should fit a little loose on your body so that you can comfortably layer clothing underneath it. Stick with zippers instead of buttons. Zippers provide a tighter seal when it comes to windy weather. Jackets are shorter than coats and tend to only keep your upper body warm. Longer coats will provide more protection from inclement weather.

#### Cover your head and ears with a thick hat.

If your coat comes with a hood, feel free to get a hat made from wool, knit fabric, or a poly-cotton blend. Pick a hat that will cover your ears, since cold ears can make your entire head feel cold even if the top of your head is covered. Your ears don't naturally have a lot of protection, so it's important to keep them warm.



## Protect your hands by wearing a thick pair of waterproof gloves with padding.

A thick pair of gloves is essential in cold weather. The cuffs of your gloves should extend past the cuffs of your coat to ensure that your wrists aren't exposed to the elements.

Get thick socks and a pair of big boots to keep your feet warm. To protect your feet, opt for a pair of thick winter boots. Get boots that rise above your ankles and buy a pair that is a half-size bigger than your regular shoe size to make room for your socks. Get a thick pair of wool socks.

#### Keep legs warm with a pair of long underwear or snow pants.

In very cold temperatures, wear snow pants over your pants to keep your legs warm. For most people, boots, a coat, gloves, and a hat are enough to stay warm. If it isn't too cold out, there's no need to wear any extra garments to protect your legs.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- Nov. 28 Dec. 4 Hannukah
- Dec. 10 Pizza Day
- Dec. 10 Copycat Day- Spirit Day supported by our Student Leadership Students
- Dec. 13 Winter Concert: The link will be sent out to families this week: Watch at your leisure!
- **Dec. 17** Comfy Cozy Day Spirit Day
- Dec. 17 Last Day of School before Winter Holiday

December 20 – January 4 Winter Holiday

January 4 – First day Back after Winter Holiday January 21 – PAC Meeting @ 9:00 via TEAMS January 31 - Professional Development Day (no school)

## **Richmond Public Health**



# **Children's Dental Program**

Book your child's first dental check around their 1<sup>st</sup> birthday.

Free Oral Screening & Fluoride Treatment

 For children up to 5 years old who do not have a dentist

免费牙科普查计划 & 氟化物處理

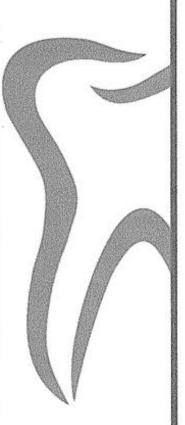
• 为 5岁以下不能去看牙医的儿童设立

## Referral for free dental treatment

 For children 3-12 years old who do not have dental insurance

### 轉介免費牙科治療

•對於沒有牙科保險的 3-12 歲兒童



# Scan or call 604.233.3104 for more info