

## Newsletter: November 4, 2022

### BLAIR SCHOOL STORY

Our school will continue to use an inquiry-based process called the Spirals of Inquiry to focus on our current school goal: **What social and emotional skills and supports do our learners need to help them thrive and learn in school and in life?**

This goal was chosen two years ago after gathering and considering useful information determined by asking students questions through surveys and interviews. This year we will be continue to focusing on using consistent language throughout the school that will focus on a Social Emotional framework: **Blair Cares**.



By using the **Blair Cares** framework, we will be learning about and demonstrating ways to Care for Self, Care for Each Other, and Care for Place. Classroom teachers have shared with you some skills and strategies they are practicing with their students through a written communication and discussions at parent teacher conferences. We are also focusing on Mindfulness and practicing being mindful at different times of the day. Connecting with each other and nature are ways of increasing connections and appreciation for “place”. We further invite parents to ask their child about **Blair Cares** and how it's meaningful to them. You can also discuss some of the skills and strategies your child is learning to use at school to help them to focus, self-regulate and calm their bodies so they are able to learn more effectively.

### REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY



Our Remembrance Day assembly will be on November 10th at 10:30am. Parents are welcome to attend. Mrs. Berko-Gabay and Ms. Quan have assisted in organizing the program this year. We look forward to being together as a community to show recognition and respect for those that have served in wars and to share in messages of peace for the future. Thank you to those that generously contributed donations to the Poppy Fund. We have collected over \$60.00 so far.

### BLAIR-MCMATH CANDY CHALLENGE

Our students from Blair School and McMath Secondary School participated in the candy challenge. The candy was delivered to the Good Shepherd Ministry in Vancouver that provides homeless people with candy bags. Thank you for your donations.



### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY: NOVEMBER 21st

Students will not come to school on this day. Staff will be attending sessions on Social Emotional Learning, First People Principles of Learning, and district workshops. We are excited for this day of learning together with our colleagues.

## **A MESSAGE FROM OUR PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE**

Flu season is almost here. It is time to protect yourself and others by getting your free flu shot at a pharmacy. All you need to do is register using the QR code and then make an appointment at a pharmacy.



Remember, if it has been more than 6 months since your last COVID vaccine, it is time to get your booster. An invite will be sent to you to book an appointment. If you wish, you can do your COVID boost and your flu shot at the same time.

## **PLAYGROUND SAFETY**

**Please ensure that you (parents or guardians) are supervising your children while they stay after school and play on the playground.** We have had some unsafe situations happening after school and so we would like to remind you that it is your responsibility to watch your child to ensure their safety after 2:45 dismissal. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

## **PAC NEWS**

Our next PAC meeting is on **Wednesday, November 30th at 8:00 pm** on Zoom. An invitation will come out in an email a week before the meeting. We hope you can make it. Thank you for all your support for our first few food days this year. The PAC made approx. \$800.00. The money raised from our Food days goes to supporting teachers and students through out the year with special projects, technology and materials for the classroom.

## **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

Richmond School District 38 is excited to welcome kindergarten registration applications for children born in 2018, turning 5 in 2023. These children will begin kindergarten in September 2023. Online registration opened on November 1, 2022. Please visit our website <http://www.sd38.bc.ca/kindergarten> for more information about our online registration process, required documents, important dates and FAQs.

Families are encouraged to register any time during the Priority 1 registration period (November – January) for the best chance at attending their catchment school. All registration applications completed any time during the Priority 1 registration period will receive placement decisions via emails from the school by February 3, 2023.

There are parent videos available on this site as well. These include information on English Language Learner (ELL) assessments, and District Program Options – Early French Immersion and Montessori. These videos are available in English and Mandarin. Please view the videos at <http://www.sd38.bc.ca/kindergarten>.

Finally, there will be a Kindergarten Information Evening for parents of students with disabilities and diverse abilities via Zoom on November 16 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. A link to the Zoom meeting

is be posted on the Kindergarten Registration website closer to the meeting date <http://www.sd38.bc.ca/kindergarten>

Thank you and please share this information with your friends and family who have Kindergarten aged children!

### **DRESSING FOR COLDER WEATHER**

As the weather starts to get colder, please ensure that you have warmer clothing for your child to wear while outdoors during the school day.

#### **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.



### **SUPPORT THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS.**

**Richmond Christmas Fund:** Each year the city of Richmond provides support for families in financial need during the Christmas season. Registration and distribution will take place at the Richmond Caring Place in late November and early December. Program registration and toy distribution will happen on the same day. This means that families will need to arrange for child care on the day they register (children are not permitted in the toy room) and families must be prepared to take toys home with you that day. There are certain documents required to access this service. Please see the notices we will be posting on our Parent Board in the hallway or for more information call or email the Richmond Christmas Fund: 604-279-7035 or [christmasfund@volunteerrichmond.ca](mailto:christmasfund@volunteerrichmond.ca)