

Blair’s Week-At-A-Glance (WAAG) for Families:
December 16-20, 2024

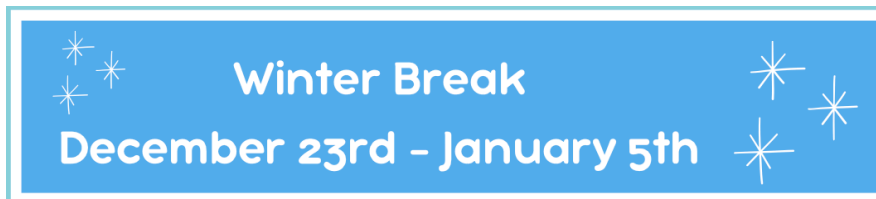
Dear Blair Families,

We enjoyed sharing our musical performances with you on December 11! Our students were so proud of their accomplishments, and we thank Ms. Kordyback and Ms. Quan, our music and band teachers, for their amazing work with our students! Our Term 1 Written Learning Updates/Report Cards will be published December 19 through the parent portal on MyEd. Thank you to PAC for sponsoring our Winter Wonderland skating field trip on December 18! We are excited for our final week of school before Winter Break!

I hope you have a wonderful weekend. -Mr. Livingston

Highlights For Next Week Include:

<p>Monday Dec 16</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:00 PAC Rice Bowl Day • Fun Hair/Hat Spirit Day
<p>Tuesday Dec 17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiples Spirit Day
<p>Wednesday Dec 18</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Appreciation Breakfast from the PAC – Thank you! • Winter Wonderland Spirit Day/Skating Field Trip at Minoru (9:15-10:15: Div. 1, 8, 5, 10) (10:30-11:30: Div 2, 6, 4, 7, 3, 9)
<p>Thursday Dec 19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dress up as a Celebrity/Famous Person Spirit Day • Written Learning Update – Report Cards Published on MyEd Parent Portal
<p>Friday Dec 20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last Day of School before Winter Break • Comfy Clothes/PJ Day • 9:00 am Student Movie • 12:00 PAC Taco Lunch



Upcoming Important Dates and Special Events:

Jan 6 **First Day back after Winter Break**

Significant Dates in our Community



Winter Solstice: Dec. 21
Quviasukvik Begins: Dec. 24
Christmas Eve: Dec. 24
Christmas: Dec. 25
Hannukah: Dec. 25 to Jan. 2
Kwanzaa Begins: Dec. 26



Christmas is a Christian holiday celebrated on December 25th, marking the birth of Jesus Christ. It is a time for family gatherings, gift-giving, festive meals, and decorations. Many people also observe the holiday with traditions like singing carols, attending church services, and spreading goodwill.



Quviasukvik is a traditional celebration in Inuit culture, marking the midwinter festival. It is a time of feasting, socializing, and giving thanks, often involving games, music, and rituals to honor the community and the renewal of the sun. It is a joyful occasion, symbolizing hope and the return of light after the long winter.

Celebrating
KWANZAA



Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration held from December 26 to January 1, honoring African culture and heritage. It was created in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga and is based on seven principles known as the "Nguzo Saba." These principles focus on values like unity, self-determination, collective work, and faith. Each day of Kwanzaa emphasizes one of these principles, and families celebrate with rituals, including lighting candles on a special candle holder called a kinara, sharing meals, and exchanging gifts. Kwanzaa is a time for reflection, community building, and cultural pride.



Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday that lasts for eight days and nights, usually in December. It celebrates the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem and the miracle of the oil that burned for eight days despite only having enough for one. Traditions include lighting the menorah, playing dreidel, eating special foods, and giving gifts.

There are a few spaces left for students to join the Thompson Community Centre After School Hangout at Blair!

Blair Elementary School

After School Hangout

GRADES K-7

Connect with other kids with fun and interactive activities after school. For Blair Elementary students only. Please provide a healthy peanut free snack for your child.

Tuesdays & Thursdays
Jan 07 - Mar 13
2:45 pm - 5:00 pm
\$396.00 / 20 sess
#00374968

3 WAYS TO REGISTER:

Online at www.richmond.ca/register
Over the phone, Monday to Friday, 8:30AM - 5:00PM, at 604-276-4300
In-person at Thompson or any other community facility.

Please contact Hana Hekal, Community Development Coordinator, for any question at hhekal@richmond.ca or 604-238-8426.

THOMPSON
CITY OF RICHMOND
COMMUNITY CENTRE

Richmond

Blair Spirit Week!

Blair Spirit Week

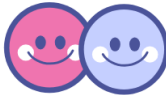
December 16-20

Monday



Fun Hair and Hat Day

Tuesday



Multiples Day



Wednesday

Winter Wonderland Day



Thursday



Dress Up as a Celeb Day



Friday



Comfy Clothes/PJ Day



Let's show our school spirit!

BLAIR LEADERSHIP
TEAM PRESENTS...

WINTER DONATION DRIVE



♥ HEART- WARMING HOLIDAYS



COLLECTING
UNTIL DEC.

16!



DROP OFF YOUR NEW AND GENTLY USED:

- WARM ADULT'S AND CHILDREN'S CLOTHING (COATS, SWEATERS, HOODIES, SWEATPANTS, RAINGEAR, ETC.)
- BOOTS
- WINTER ACCESSORIES (HATS, GLOVES, SCARVES, **NEW SOCKS ONLY PLEASE!**)
- BLANKETS

TO THE AREA NEAR THE FRONT OFFICE.



**ITEMS WILL BE DONATED TO
A NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION.**

Richmond School District

Kindergarten

Registration

November – January



sd38.bc.ca/kindergarten

RICHMOND
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38

PAC Hot Lunches

December Hot Lunch Orders are available on MunchALunch; watch for January dates soon!

www.blair.sd38.bc.ca



Dress for the weather!



winter coat



rain coat



rain or
waterproof
snow boots



mittens



hats



scarf



extra clothing
including socks



Date: January 14, 2025
Time: 6-8 p.m.
Where: Zoom
Register: QR code below

ONLINE PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE LONG-RANGE FACILITIES PLAN

The Richmond School District invites community members to participate in an Online Public Open House.

This virtual event offers a convenient opportunity to learn about the 2025 Long-Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) and provide input that will help shape the district's long-term facilities strategy.

If you are unable to attend, you can still contribute. Email your questions or feedback to the Richmond Project Team at planning@sd38.bc.ca.

Scan QR code to register:



  | sd38.bc.ca/lrfp

RICHMOND
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38



Richmond School District

IPALS Sessions for 2025

For Families New to Canada with Preschoolers

SD38's IPALS (Parents as Literacy Supporters in Immigrant Communities) program provides strategies for families to support preschool aged children's learning in fun and interactive ways.

Sessions focus on learning through play and includes adult learning time with a facilitator with time for children to learn, play and have fun together. This program aims to support the development of language and literacy skills to prepare for school. Caregivers learn to support their children's learning and benefit from building social networks with each other.



Woodward StrongStart: 10300 Seacote Rd, Richmond (Room 104)



Every Tuesday from January 14, 2025 - March 11, 2025



9:00am - 11:30am

If you have any questions, please contact Megan Zeni at mzeni@sd38.bc.ca

Register Now!

<https://forms.office.com/r/bhg7D1BiC2>

Intake Session

Woodward StrongStart

Tuesday, January 7, 2025

9:00am - 11:30am



Funded by: Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Financé par : Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada



Parent Education Session: District Program Options Late French Immersion

The Richmond School District provides the Late French Immersion program beginning at Grade 6 at James Whiteside and John Diefenbaker Elementary schools. We invite families of current Grade 5 students to join us for a program information virtual meeting.

This informative session will include the following topics:

- Program Overview
- Student Experiences
- Registration Process
- Frequently Asked Questions



Virtual on Microsoft Teams
Meeting ID: 289 737 577 876
Passcode: FH3pm3Sg



Monday, January 13, 2025



6:00pm



Hosts: Brett Cameron, Linda Chau,
Brooke Douglas, Regina Vosahlo



THE MIDDLE YEARS DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT (MDI) IS COMING TO YOUR SCHOOL IN JANUARY/MID-MARCH!

The Richmond School District has partnered with the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at the University of British Columbia to measure and promote children's social and emotional development, health, well-being, and assets through the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI). The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) is a self-report questionnaire that asks children in middle childhood about their thoughts, feelings and experiences. The MDI is the first survey of its kind to gather information about the lives of children both in school, in the home and in the community, from their own perspective. The survey questions align with the BC Ministry of Education's K-12 curriculum, which includes a focus on promoting children's personal and social competencies.

Grade 5 students are invited to complete the MDI during class time between:

January 14th and March 14th, 2025.

For more information and to view the questionnaires:

<https://earlylearning.ubc.ca/monitoring-system/mdi/mdi-overview/>

Parent FAQs:

<https://earlylearning.ubc.ca/monitoring-system/mdi/parent-caregiver-info/>

If you don't want your child to participate, please contact your child's teacher, fill out the withdrawal form at the end of the parent/guardian informed passive consent letter, or contact the MDI project staff at mdi@help.ubc.ca.