



Deroche Elementary School

# Newsletter



October 27, 2016

Mike Abercrombie, Principal | Tel 604-826-2360 | michael.abercrombie@mpsd.ca | [www.deroche.mpsd.ca](http://www.deroche.mpsd.ca)

## Dear Parent Partners:

Thank you for your support in the last two months, which, along with our great staff and volunteers, has enabled the students of Deroche Elementary to have an excellent start of the 2016/17 school year. I am proud of the opportunities for your children that you can read about in the following pages of this Newsletter but want to highlight a few.

1. Once again this year we have been able to do reading tests on all of our children and amazingly we have adults like Ted and Marilyn, Trudy, Elsie, Colleen, Janet and Cheyenne who are willing to come into to school for entire mornings to make sure every one of our children has a chance to be at grade level in the next few months.

2. Similarly, thanks to the generosity of the Deroche Store and due to our volunteers, Trudy, Elsie, Colleen, and Cheyenne and the leadership of Chrystal we are able to serve breakfast to students every day.

3. Our library classes this year include a focus on Aboriginal culture and, thanks to our librarian, Mrs. Titford, we have a Library Club for students to be involved at noon hour.

4. Thanks to several volunteers, we are developing outdoor education sites and Mrs. MacLean has started the noon hour Gardening Club to allow students to learn about caring for our gardens around the school and planting new ones in our outdoor classroom.

5. We have started a Leadership Club of Grade 5 and 6 students and our Aboriginal Liaison worker, Ms. Kristy meets with the students two

noon hours per week to plan Spirit Days, fundraising and to organize a schedule to help with noon hour supervision and with directing games for our younger students at recess.

6. Our cross country team did well due to volunteer leaders and Cheryl and Justin are again volunteering to coach our senior basketball team. Miss Olsen will be working with our senior volleyball team when the season starts.

7. Finally, our staff has agreed to provide music instruction to all our students in preparation for an evening Christmas Concert tentatively scheduled for December 15th.

In conclusion, in addition to the countless hours spent making sure excellent instruction and support in the classrooms occurs every day, I am humbled and impressed with the opportunities provided to our children by the volunteer hours of our community of parents, support staff and teachers. These efforts are making Deroche a great school! If you have not already done so, please come in to chat about how your talents and gifts can be used to benefit kids at our school. Together, we can make Deroche Elementary the best school in our District!

*Mike Abercrombie* – Principal

## The Great Pumpkin Raffle



Congratulations to Janine Turnbull who won the huge pumpkin in our Great Pumpkin Raffle! A special thank you to the Bateman family for donating the pumpkin and to all our families for buying tickets. Together we raised \$217.50 to put towards new playground equipment!

## Cross Country Running

We had several students participate in this year's Cross Country running events. The first meet was the Harvest Jaunt at Hatzic Elementary and the second was the Great Pumpkin Race at Heritage Park. We would like to acknowledge and congratulate our runners for their great effort. Our running team included Gavin Brandy, Grace Chambers, Angel Munroe, Ocean Morgan, Amaleia Pennier, Taylor Shepherd, Myrna Williams and Lauryanna Williams. Well done!

## Terry Fox Run

On October 7<sup>th</sup> our school participated in the Terry Fox Run to raise awareness and funds for cancer research. We set an initial goal to raise \$200.00 and were proud to exceed our goal and present the Terry Fox Foundation with a donation of \$250.20. Thank you for contributing to this worthwhile cause and for honouring Terry's dream.

## Weaver Creek, Chehalis and Kilby Field Trip

On October 19<sup>th</sup> all students enjoyed a Salmon related field trip to the Weaver Creek Spawning Channel and Chehalis Hatchery. It was an excellent opportunity for students to learn more about the salmon cycle and to see how the fish lay their eggs as they make their way up the spawning channel. Students also enjoyed a picnic lunch at Kilby Park on our way back to the school. It was a great spot to explore and learn about the Harrison and Fraser River. We are lucky and blessed to have such beautiful places to visit that are so close and connected with our school community.

### November Non-Instructional Days: Reminders .....

November 10: Students dismissed at 11:00  
November 11: STAT/Remembrance Day  
November 25: Non-Instructional Day

## Intermediate Basketball

Our basketball season is now underway and players have been practicing for their upcoming games. We play our first game after school today at Hillside Elementary. We'd love for you to come out and cheer the team on! Our November games will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> at Cherry Hill Elementary and on the 17<sup>th</sup> at ESR. Practices will continue on Monday and Wednesday's afterschool and during the occasional lunch hour. A special thank you to Mr. Abercrombie, Justin Laslo and Cheryl McDonald for coaching the team and for the parents who have volunteered to drive students to the games. Go Bears!

## Halloween Events



On Monday October 31<sup>st</sup> we have several Halloween activities planned for the school. Our Grade 5/6 class has been busy organizing a Haunted House and games rooms for some spooktacular fun in the morning. After lunch, students can dress up in their costumes for a Costume Parade followed by classroom activities. Parents are welcome to join us. The Costume Parade will begin at 1:00.

## StrongStart Program – Halloween Plans

Our Strongstart program will be closed on Monday October 31<sup>st</sup> but parents are invited to join the group at the Leisure Centre for their annual 'Halloween Hoot' event. Activities will take place from 10-1:00. Miss Julie will meet everyone there. We hope you can make it!

## Little Readers and Ready Set Learn

We had our first 'Little Readers' session on Friday October 7<sup>th</sup>. Families gathered in our StrongStart room to enjoy stories, snacks and activities together. Thank you Mr. Abercrombie for being our storyteller & joining in on the fun!

## School Assemblies

Our regular school assemblies are scheduled for the last Wednesday of every month at 1:30 in the gym. At the assembly we will recognize our 'Students of the Month' and talk about our goals and accomplishments. All of our assemblies are open to families and friends so please join us each month while we celebrate our achievements.

## Remembrance Day Assembly



On November 9<sup>th</sup> we will be having a special Remembrance Day assembly in the gym at 10:30. We will have special guests from the Legion in attendance as we pay special tribute

to the many soldiers who sacrificed their lives for us. Remembrance Day poppies will be distributed to students. We ask that you send a donation for the poppies on the day of the assembly. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## Me-To-We: "We Day" in Vancouver

On Thursday November 3<sup>rd</sup> our Grade 6 students will be going to "We Day" at Rogers Centre in Vancouver. Students will listen to several different speakers and performers. This is a one-of-a-kind event and part of an innovative program created to celebrate the power of young people to make positive changes in the world. Permission slips were sent home earlier this week with specific details about the field trip.

## Division 1 - Leadership Club

We are proud of our Grade 5/6 students for demonstrating their leadership abilities at the school. Students are improving their communication skills by making the morning announcements and strengthening their leadership skills by organizing recess and lunchhour activities for our younger students. Thank you Ms. Kristy for mentoring the group!

## Spirit Days

Our Leadership students are excited to organize and announce our Spirit Week plans for November. Please mark your calendars for the following Spirit Day events:

- Nov 21: Crazy Hair Day
- Nov 22: Backwards Day
- Nov 23: Hat Day
- Nov 24: Pajama Day (Students will be selling popcorn for \$0.50 and will have a movie in the gym over the lunchhour. All money raised will go towards a new swingset for the playground).

Our Leadership students are also having a Bake Sale over the lunchhour on November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Items will sell for .25 to \$1.00. Please support our fundraising efforts!

## Student Conferences and Report Cards

Report Cards will be going home on Monday November 21<sup>st</sup>. Parent teacher conferences are scheduled for Thursday November 24<sup>th</sup>. Further information on conference times will be sent home with your child soon.

## Photo Retakes



Vibrant Studios will be returning to Deroche on November 15<sup>th</sup> for student photo retakes.

## Breakfast for Learning

We are excited to announce that the school has been awarded a grant from the "Breakfast for Learning" Program. We will be able to use these funds to purchase food for our Breakfast Club to keep the program running. We would like to thank the Breakfast for Learning Program and Mission Superstore for sponsoring our school. We would also like to thank the Deroche Store for their weekly bread donations. Nutrition is a key part of healthy living which helps our students stay focused in class and improves their ability to learn.

