**December 2018 Newsletter**

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**Ms. Mervyn and Mrs. Herle’s Bake Sale Thursday**

Ms. Mervyn’s and Mrs. Herle’s classes will be decorating sugar cookies this week to sell on Thursday at Recess. They will be donating money to help sponsor a family in need during the holiday season. Last month they donated funds to help support a military veteran in our city. Cookies will be sold for one dollar. Thanks for your ongoing support.

**CM FINCH BOOK FAIR**

Mrs. Gray will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair in the multipurpose room from December 17th to December 21st . There will be a vast variety of books and other miscellaneous items for students to purchase. Money raised by this event will go towards helping the library to purchase new books. The Book Fair will be open during your child’s library time as well as Dec. 20th for Mingle Jingle Night from 6-8pm.

**Food Drive/Warm Socks and Toque Drive/SPCA Drive**

We will be collecting donations for the Women’s Resource Center (Food Bank), The SPCA and Warm Socks and Toques.

The SPCA helps to take care of local animals. Items required by the SPCA include: flashlights, canned cat food, cat kibble, cat treats, cat toys, cat litter, cat beds, cat blankets, cat trees, Gastro Kibble for dogs, specialty dog foods, pigs ears, pill pockets, bunny supplies, toilet paper, paper towel, laundry soap, dryer sheets, Canadian Tire Money, Gift Cards to places where they can get supplies.

**The Women’s Resource Center is in need of non-perishable food goods to help feed less fortunate people within our community**. Families are encouraged to send goods to the school. We will be collecting items until December 20th.

The students in Mrs. McCharle’s class are collecting warm socks and Toques for people in need to help keep them warm this winter. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**PARKING**

The church adjacent to the school allows us to use their parking lot as a courtesy. If possible when there are church events such as a funeral the church will give us advance notice of their need to use their parking lot. When we have to utilize more street parking you are asked to make sure that you park so that our neighbour’s driveways are not blocked. **The bus lane/loading zone that is in front of the flag pole is also an area where parking is prohibited.** When cars park in this zone it prevents the bus from pulling in which creates traffic and safety concerns at dismissal time. **Please do not park close to the crosswalk. By law vehicles cannot park within 6 meters (20 feet) of a crosswalk.**

Parents are asked to reinforce the use of crosswalks. There are two crosswalks on the road in the front of the school. It is far safer for students to go and use the crosswalks rather than walking between parked cars and traffic to reach their parents.

**APPROPRIATE CLOTHING FOR THE WEATHER**

With the arrival of winter, everyone is reminded to bring and wear appropriate winter wear to school. This includes: a winter jacket, snow-pants, gloves and a winter hat. We do have outside days at school up to -20 degrees. Student will also be taken outside from time to time with their classes to go sliding and snowshoeing. Please ensure that your child is dressed for the weather.

**MINGLE JINGLE NIGHT**

We will be hosting Mingle Jingle Night at our school on Thursday, December 20th from 6:30-7:30pm. This event includes a variety of holiday crafts and activities for everyone throughout our school community. This is a fun filled event put on by staff; we look forward to seeing everyone there.

**WINTER BREAK**

The last day of school before Winter Break will be on Friday, December 21st. This will also be Pajama Day students can wear their favourite pajamas to school for fun. School will be closed for two weeks and reopen on Monday, January 7th. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

**Purdy’s and Canadian Grind Fundraiser Thank You!**

Thank you to everyone that supported the PAC fundraiser. By supporting the PAC fundraisers you help to enhance our school community. These funds help PAC and the school by supporting extra-curricular activities, Artist Residencies, and New Playground equipment to name a few. **If you are interested in being involved in PAC the next meeting is Wednesday, December 12th at 7:00pm in the Library,** babysitting is provided.

**CM Finch Clothing**

CM Finch PAC online store, offers a wide selection of merchandise, apparel, sportswear and accessories with the CM Finch logo!

This is a great way to show school spirit and some of the proceeds come back to the PAC! Check it out!

[http://urstore.ca/schools/ca/british-columbia/cm-finch-elementary/](http://urstore.ca/schools/ca/british-columbia/cm-finch-elementary/" \t "_blank)

**Report Cards**

Thank you to everyone who has returned their student’s report card envelope, folder and comment signature sheet. We had a great turn out for interviews and open houses. Teachers like to talk about student progress, if you were unable to attend interviews or want to follow up please call the school to speak with the appropriate teacher.

**Dates to Remember**

**December 10- 20th Food Drive/ SPCA item Drive/Socks & Toque Drive**

**December 17- 21st Scholastic Book Fair**

**December 20th Mingle Jingle Night from 6:30- 7:30pm**

**Winter Break December 22nd -January 6th (First Day Back Jan. 7)**

**NID** **Friday, January 25th and Monday, January 28th**