

Sunday, April 21, 2024

Good afternoon, Sardis Families. I don't know about you, but we're excited at our house that we have Canucks playoff hockey to watch, beginning tonight! It's been a long time coming and we're hopeful that it lasts longer than just the first round this time. Here are some things for you to know as we head into week #34 at Sardis Elementary:

- 1) Our Spring Concert is taking place this week (**Wednesday** for the Intermediates and **Thursday** for our primary classes; 12:45 and 6:00 pm shows) and the students have been working hard to prepare for their time to shine! For the evening shows, students can be dropped off at 5:40 at their classroom door and doors open to the gym at 5:45. Congratulations to the winners in our silent auction last week who scored themselves a pair of front row tickets or a parking spot! Your donations (\$1040!!!) will go towards an OmniSpin Spinner (see attachment in email) that will make our primary playground more inclusive and we appreciate your support. Thanks to Rae-Anne R for her work in getting that all organized and keeping track of the Facebook bids each day. We will be taking donations at the concerts to put towards the playground, so if you would like to contribute something there, we'll happily add it to the fundraising project.
- 2) This **Friday, April 26th**, is a Professional Development Day for staff so schools in Chilliwack are closed that day. We hope the students enjoy an extra day off for the weekend as our staff engage in learning activities and professional growth.
- 3) For those that would like to order coffee or Krispy Kreme donuts to support the Grade 3 trip to Camp Squeah, forms and money are due back by **Monday, April 29th** with pick-up being after school on Thursday, May 9th.
- 4) For those of you who have children who play hockey at school, the tennis courts at the back of the school are going to be closed in the morning. We have limited supervision and cannot monitor the play that is happening that far back. We will be sharing that with students but if you could also let your child know, if they like to play hockey, we appreciate your help in getting the message out.
- 5) I am attaching the notes from our April PAC meeting for your information. The final PAC meeting of the year will be Wednesday, May 8th at 7:00 pm in the library. This will also be the AGM where elections take place for our President and Secretary positions, so we'd love to see lots of attendees. We want to send out a special thank-you to **Mason C**, in Grade 2, and his family, for their donation to the playground fund. Mason brought in \$50 from his birthday party, which his family matched so \$100 in total, and presented it at the meeting!
- 6) We have a few staffing updates to let you know about. Ms. Sprott will be joining our Supervision Assistant team (as well as Mrs. Terry on Tuesdays) beginning in May. Ms. Wright is now working as an EA after Ms. Mclauchlin went on leave after Spring Break. Mr. Klassen retired from his position in January so we will have a new teacher joining our Grade 5 team in September.

- 7) We are still a few months away from beginning to think about tentative classes for September, but I wanted to share now that we won't be taking requests for specific teachers for next year. Concerns were brought to my attention from parents in the fall about this practice and how unfair it was that some got their request honoured while others did not. Teachers spend a lot of time creating classes, and they take many things into account when placing students. Trying to honour all the requests makes this work much more difficult, it's not possible, and then what appears to be favouritism results. Enrollment can change over the summer, with new students registering or current students leaving for another school, and that can cause the need for reworking of things in the fall; trying to keep requests in mind at that time further increases the complexity of that process. You can trust that your child's current teacher is going to make an informed decision and look out for them so they can have a successful year!
- 8) If you know that your family is going to be moving or your child is leaving Sardis Elementary and won't be returning in September, if you could please email to let me know I would appreciate it. The School District is looking at projected numbers for schools and how that could impact staffing and so it's helpful if we know if students won't be attending our school in September.

We had fun last Friday at the movie night in support of the Sardis Children's Centre and hope those of you whose children came enjoyed the evening off!

Mrs. Kasper