



December 2021

École Willow Point Elementary

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Dear Parents & Guardians,

Thank you for attending our student-led conferences in such great numbers and for following our safety protocols. We were thrilled to meet with parents inside the school.

Young Entrepreneur Fair: Our Grade 5s will be hosting their Young Entrepreneur Fair on Wednesday, December 15th. We cannot have public yet, but classes will be invited to go to the gym and do some shopping. Students are encouraged to bring money to school on that day for their shopping.

Nature-Scaping Plans We are beginning to work on the second phase of our plan, which is the creation of an outdoor classroom. Corinne Matheson, Mystic Woods Landscape Designer, has drawn plans for us **for free** which are included in this newsletter. As with any big project, it includes several steps: project application to the school district, grant application, search for volunteers, and planting plans which we are hoping to do in the spring. Several people are already involved: Luisa Richardson from HCTF (Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation), Chuck deSourcy from Greenways Land Trust, and Erin Nowak, parent. As usual, we will be looking for volunteers (digging holes, helping with the planting, finding stumps, etc). If you know of businesses or corporations who would like to support us by making donations, please let us know. The main items we need are soil, trees, shrubs and plants, and stumps to use as desks and chairs. We will keep you posted as we are moving along.

Heartfelt Thanks As we are getting closer to our winter break, we would like to thank our PAC for supporting our students in so many ways: funds for each classroom, recess equipment, Battle of the Books, Grade 5 year end activities, and ukuleles for the club. PAC is also organizing a collection of socks, mittens, and toiletries to give to Angel Tree, and is giving each class materials for the children to make cards which will go to senior homes. We are very fortunate to have such a supportive PAC.

We would also like to thank our staff: teachers, EAs, and our Administrative Assistant Jeannie for the dedication and hard work they do to support our students. Our custodian, Helga Matsen took a position at another school so we would like to thank her for taking such good care of our school. She was part of our team, and we were sorry to see her go. Our new temporary custodian is Dave Carlos, and we are happy to welcome him to our team.

On behalf of our staff, we would like to wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season!

Louise Guèvremont & Rachel Black

Knights of Columbus Hamper Drive

The Knights of Columbus delivers food hampers to over 1100 families in Campbell River each Christmas. 2021 will be the 48th consecutive year, as in previous years our school would like to help out and we are asking families to donate non-perishable food items as well as new toys or cash donations by **December 14th**. eTransfers to willowpoint@sd72.bc.ca can be used to make cash donations. Cheques should be made out to École Willow Point.

The Knights of Columbus make their deliveries to families in need on December 19th. Hampers are delivered to seniors, families with children and individuals who often are working but just don't have the extra funds required at this time of year to fill stockings or have a festive Christmas dinner. Hampers also go to people with disabilities and those on low and fixed incomes. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Collection boxes will be set up outside the front entrance. Our schools generosity was amazing last year, lets do it again!!



PAC INITIATIVES—COMMUNITY CARE

ANGEL TREE

The Angel Tree provides gifts to children and teens who are in need, for many this will be the only Christmas present they will receive. The Angel Tree has been in operation for approximately 29 years in Campbell River and we are excited to be supporting them again this year. We are asking if each family would consider donating one or more of the items below.

Please donate NEW items with tags: -

SOCKS -MITTENS/GLOVES -TOQUES -TOILETRIES (toothpaste, tooth brush, soap, shampoo, deodorant etc.) Each classroom will have a box for Angel Tree items, please leave all items unwrapped in a plastic bag. All items must be dropped off in the classroom no later than Monday, December 6th



CARDS FOR ELDER CARE

As a way to brighten the holiday spirits of seniors in residences, students will be making Christmas cards in class, using a card kit provided by PAC.

Cards will be delivered to several residences in Campbell River



76

EWP students are participating in
Battle of the Books!

Please check Teams regularly for
updates and news.





Library

Over the past month, classes have been using GarageBand to prepare podcasts, stepping up from Scratch Jr to more advanced coding with Spheros, learning how to code with Little Coder cards, board games and programmable mouse robots. We have been learning to use tech responsibly and thoughtfully - also how to share/take turns.

We have also been loving books and reading, talking about books with peers and teammates, creating with Makedo, making choices about learning time, listening to read alouds and thinking about how to extend our vocabulary when we read. We have sampled picture books and passed on recommendations to classmates.

We created a bulletin board for Canadian School Library Day - with every student adding a piece.



Working to make a culturally relevant, fun/interesting and diverse collection is an ongoing project.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY BOARD



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

Clara & Ocea 05

Landon C 07

Ava 08

Kai 08

George 11 Caleigh 13

Anna 13

Brady 13

Sophie 13

Olivia K 16

Avery 17

Olivia V 19

Raeya 20

Chase 23

Landon O 30

Gage 31

*Shelly Jepps really outdid herself this month! The Birthday Board
looks fantastic and festive!
Special thanks to Shayla for helping out with the board.*

**Young Entrepreneur Fair
December 15th**

**Some of the items that our students will be selling at
the YEF**

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Upcoming Events

**December 10th:
Tacky Sweater Day**

**December 17th:
School Wide PJ
Day**

**January 7th:
Fancy dress day to
celebrate the New
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Mme Kim engaging another student in the love of books!



Rainbow Club Starting in January!

Why?

Our province and district have a LGBTQ2S+ anti-discrimination policy. Having a rainbow club at Ecole Willow Point is one way of putting it into practice. Studies have shown that supportive schools and supportive adults make a very positive difference in the lives of students.

For whom?

The purpose of this club is to include everyone, regardless of how they identify (gay, straight, trans, genderfluid, Two-Spirit, etc.). At this time, we will invite our grade 4 and 5 students to be part of the club. Participation in this peer-led group will always be voluntary. Students will be invited to drop in and there is no expectation for ongoing attendance.

What's the purpose?

To create a safe space for every student, regardless of how they identify. It will be about finding new friends and developing leadership skills within our students.

Hosted by whom?

Joy Couttenier (Kindergarten teacher) and Rachel Black (Learning Support Teacher & Vice-Principal) will be hosting this club.

Where and When?

We will be meeting in the Library Annex on Fridays from 12-12:45pm. Students will be invited to bring their lunch.

What can families do if they have questions about this club?

You can email Rachel or Joy! Rachel.black@sd72.bc.ca joy.couttenier@sd72.bc.ca

LOST & FOUND

There are MANY items in lost & found: Mitts, hats, coats, water bottles, shoes, etc.

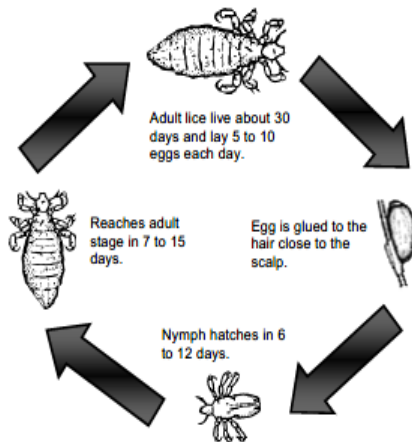
Please check the lost & found for any of your child's belongings. It is located just inside the front doors.

Any thing left on the last day before Winter break will be taken to the Salvation Army thrift store.



HOW TO GET RID OF HEAD LICE WET COMBING

LIFECYCLE OF THE HEAD LOUSE



HEAD LICE FACTS

- ◆ Lice are tiny insects about the size of a sesame seed.
- ◆ Anyone with hair can get head lice.
- ◆ Lice do not have wings and cannot fly or jump.
- ◆ Lice move quickly in dry hair and this makes them hard to see.
- ◆ Lice do not live long once they are off the head. They only lay eggs close to the scalp.
- ◆ Having head lice does not always make the scalp itchy.
- ◆ Lice commonly move to other heads when heads touch and rarely by sharing hairbrushes and combs.
- ◆ Lice are common where children play or work closely together.

- ◆ Once a lice egg has hatched, the empty eggshell stays stuck to the hair.
- ◆ If you find an eggshell more than half an inch away from the scalp, it is most likely empty.
- ◆ The eggshells are white and look like dandruff but cannot be brushed or blown away.

WHEN TO CHECK

- ◆ Regularly ONCE A WEEK after shampooing
- ◆ If your child's playmates have head lice
- ◆ When a family member has head lice
- ◆ When a person is scratching his or her head more than usual

WHAT YOU NEED

- ◆ Shampoo and white-coloured conditioner (low-priced is fine)
- ◆ Wide-tooth comb to untangle hair
- ◆ Towels and paper towels
- ◆ Lice comb - we recommend a narrow comb with fine teeth and slanted tips, such as a "Bug Busting" comb, that makes it easier to remove lice.
- ◆ Lice combs are available at many Public Health Units and pharmacies.



December 2021

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

| | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|---|----|---|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Ukulele Club Caroling | 9 | 10 Tacky Sweater Day!!  | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 Pizza lunch  Young Entrepreneur Fair | 16 | 17 Last Day of School For Winter Break! PJ Day!! PAC Hot Lunch | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25  |
|  | | | | | | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31  | January 7th Fancy Dress up day to cel- ebrate the New Year!! |



*Winter Break Dec 20-Jan 3rd
School re-opens on January 4th
Happy Holidays*

