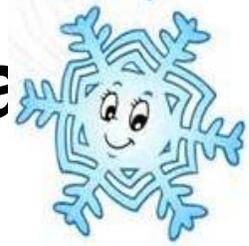




Howitt News Update

November 28th, 2022



Issue #6

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

- PAC Meeting- 6:30 pm in the library *November 28th, 2022*
- Book Fair in the library *November 28th to Dec 2nd*
- PAC Hot Lunch Day *November 30th, 2022*
- PAC Gifts for Giving day *December 9th, 2022*
- JOHN HOWITT CHRISTMAS CONCERT *Tuesday December 13th*
- Student Progress Reports go home *Wednesday December 14th*
- Winter Wonderland Skating *Friday December 16th*
- Last day of school before winter break *Friday December 16th*

CHRISTMAS CONCERT NEWS

We are excited to present to you our Christmas musical entitled "A Pirate Christmas Adventure!"

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, *December 13th* for two shows at 1:00 & 6:00 p.m. Tickets are required for the 6:00 pm show.



A more detailed newsletter about costumes and ticket information will be emailed/sent out soon!

PAC NEWS: Our next PAC meeting is Monday November 28th, 2022 in the library.



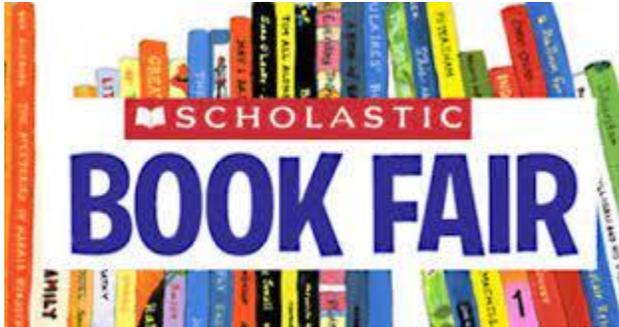
The PAC continues to provide of Read and Feed breakfast program on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Thank you, PAC!

Hot Lunch days coming up: Nov 30 (Wednesday)

Upcoming PAC meetings- all meetings start at 6:30 pm in our Library! Childcare is available through student leaders.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR AT HOWITT: NOVEMBER 28TH - DECEMBER 2ND

After three long years, the Scholastic Book Fair is back at John Howitt Elementary. Mark your calendars for the week of *November 28 to December 2*.



A variety of Book Fair favorites including posters, pencils, bookmarks, and more will be available. And of course, the latest editions of the most popular titles will also be on hand. **Check out the Book Fair in the library for your chance to win two \$25 gift certificates**, one for you and one for your teacher. While you're here, enter a guessing game or get caught reading in class for more chances to win awesome prizes.

If you won't be able to make it in person, you can still support us online through our virtual extension. Visit our school's [Virtual Book Fair](#) to explore featured books and watch new and exciting book trailers. Email Mr. Harper for more details at charper@sd70.bc.ca. See you at the Fair!



GIFTS AND GIVING Is Back Again on December 9th!

This is an especially exciting day for the whole school. Each student can choose one gift for their loved one and have it wrapped up to bring home. They love this day - their faces just light up!

We are counting on the generosity of parents to donate gently used or new items. We ask that you deliver the items during the week of *December 5th to 8th* and place them on the gym stage.



Examples of Items We are looking for:

- * Kitchen items * toys * jewelry * tools *
- * Christmas décor * recreation tickets
- * Grooming products * pet supplies *

anything else you think would be appropriate

Kids are asked to bring a **non-perishable food item - no money is required**. All items left over will be donated to local charities.

Donations of gift bags or tissue paper would be appreciated 🙏

Any Questions Please the school (250) 723-7521.

Thank you to all for making this happen for your amazing children!



TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS AT HOWITT



Thanks to Mrs. Mayes for helping to organize the John Howitt 12 days of Christmas (Dec 1st to 16th).

Please see the attached calendar.

GRADE 4&5 BASKETBALL

Practices for our Grade 4&5 team will be Tuesdays and Fridays at lunch time.

Games will happen Wednesday's afterschool (3 pm to 4:30 pm).

Nov 30th: at Haahuupayak School

JAMBOREE AT ADSS: FRIDAY

DECEMBER 9th

Grade 4&5 Basketball players will have their wrap up basketball jamboree at ADSS on *Friday December 9th*, with more details to come as we get the information.

Thanks to Mrs. Mayes, Miss. Jeffery, and Mrs. Davidson for all supporting our team!



REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY THANK YOU:

Thank you to Mr. Miller and the Choir for their performance at our Remembrance Day assembly.

Thank you to Mr. Harper for all his help with setting up our assembly and supporting our student leaders.

Thank you to Chelsea Jaeggle, Maci Cheetham, Emilienne Lenormand, and Joelle Servatius for taking part in our assembly as student leaders.

Thank you to our teachers and students for creating wreaths for our assembly. Great job everyone on one of our most important assemblies of the year!



DAILY HEALTH CHECK, COVID, AND FLU SEASON

Attached to our newsletter is the daily health check. We thank all families for keeping students' home when sick. Cold, respiratory illnesses, and flu season has arrived. We continue to see students and staff battling illness. We appreciate everyone staying home until they are feeling better.

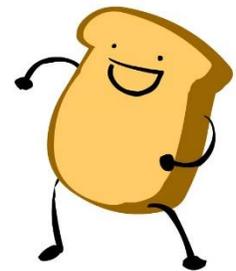
AFTERSCHOOL LEARNING CLUB:



Thanks to Ms. Lenormand for offering an afterschool learning club for students. The program is going to take a pause through December and will start up again in January for students in Grades 4 to 7 (January 12th, 19th, and 26th) We will look to make a change in February 2023.

PAC READ-AND-FEED BREAKFAST CLUB- TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS MORNINGS.

On Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:20 am to 8:35 am PAC volunteers will be providing healthy breakfast options for students in the main gym. Thanks to Mrs. Sally Anderson and the Read-and-Feed program for supporting our school with breakfast program food items. A big thank you to our Howitt PAC for volunteering their time to offer this to our students.



GRADE 6 IMMUNIZATIONS



Due to a scheduling conflict the date of our Grade 6 immunizations has changed to December 7th. VIHA staff will be here to provide Grade 6 immunizations. These are the annual immunizations for Grade 6 students. They are not COVID related.

While students are waiting after their immunizations, Island Public Health will be offering an optional questionnaire about Food and Nutrition.

From Island Health: Public Health will be visiting your elementary school for Grade 6 Immunizations over the next few weeks. They will be asking the grade 6 students to partake in a Food and Nutrition Questionnaire during their visit. The questionnaire is voluntary. We are hopeful to hear the students' voices regarding their thoughts and feelings about food and nutrition. We hope that you will discuss this with your child and encourage them to partake. Thank you.

A Reminder to Dress for the Weather



Just a friendly reminder to encourage your children to be prepared for colder wet weather. Boots, waterproof raincoat, and an umbrella will all be needed. We plan to go outside each day at recess and lunch!

- If possible, a change of clothes left at school would be advantageous, so students won't need to phone home if their clothing accidentally gets wet or muddy.
- If you have questions, please contact the office.

PACIFIC RIM SCHOOLS AND JOHN HOWITT ELEMENTARY APP FOR SMARTPHONES AND TABLETS:

You can now download the Pacific Rim School app to your iPhone, iPad, or android device. Search Pacific Rim Schools in the app store. It is very easy to set up, and you can select multiple SD70 schools. So, if you have students at Howitt and ADSS you can set up the app to receive information from both schools. You will be able to see the school calendar, news items, and more.



STUDENT SMARTPHONES AT SCHOOL:

We continue to have conversations and learning about the appropriate use of smartphones/cellphones at school. As a staff we strongly believe that the 300 minutes they are with us each day should be a cellphone-free time for students. Below is a reminder of our school expectations.



Morning:

- Once students arrive at school (i.e., by bus, car, or walking to school) we ask that cellphones are put away. We would like to see them socialize and talk to their classmates!

During the day:

- We ask that students have their cell phones put away. There could be a time when they are needed in class, but they will be used for an educational purpose and under the direction of their teacher (this would not be a regular occurrence!).
- There is no picture or video taking at school at recess or lunch (privacy issues).
- If a student needs to contact a parent, we ask that they speak to their teacher first, we will then find a way to support them in contacting home.

- If you need to get a hold of your child for an important message, please call the school (250) 723-7521. We will support them to phone you. Please do not text them.

End of the day:

- Students can have their phones out as they leave school. We understand that they may need to check texts or contact their families.

UPCOMING DATES

To assist you in your long-term planning the following days are listed as important events and days that will not be in session for students at John Howitt Elementary:

November 28 th	PAC Meeting 6:30 pm in the library
<u>November 28th to Dec 2nd</u>	<u>Virtual and In-Person Scholastic Book Fair at Howitt</u>
November 30 th	PAC Hot Lunch Day
November 30 th	Ready Set Learn Event at Howitt for 3-5 year-olds (4 to 6 pm)
December 1 st	12 Days of Christmas at Howitt starts
December 13 th	Winter Concert 1 pm and 6 pm shows
December 14 th	Student progress reports sent home
December 16 th	Winter Wonderland skating (AM)
December 16 th	Last Day of School before Winter Break
Dec 19 th to Jan 2 nd	Winter Break
January 3 rd	School Re-Opens (Tuesday)
January 16 th	Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)
February 17 th	Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)
February 20 th	Statutory Holiday: Family Day
March 10 th	Last Day before Spring Break
March 13 th – 24 th	Spring Break (two weeks)
March 27 th	School Re-Opens
April 7 th	Statutory Holiday: Good Friday
April 10 th	Statutory Holiday: Easter Monday
April 21 st	School Based Pro-D Day (no school for students)
May 15 th	School Based Pro-D Day (no school for students)
May 22 nd	Statutory Holiday: Victoria Day
June 21 st	National Aboriginal Day (school in session)
June 21 st	First day of Summer
June 29 th	Last Day of School

Sincerely,

Mr. S. Brown
Principal

Sincerely,

Mrs. L. Fryer
Acting Vice-Principal