

École Willows School Newsletter

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www.sd61.bc.ca/school/willows/

November 30, 2018 Volume 11 Issue 6

## Vice-Principal's Message

As the first term draws to a close, I look back and ponder where the time has gone. From the outset, I have been welcomed and made to feel a valued member of this community, and I greatly appreciate this. Willows is a school with a great sense of community. It is a true learning community. Students are excited by all the opportunities open to them including, but not limited to, strings, choir, coding, passion projects, inquiry, exploration, twelve book challenges during school time, great clubs (sketching, cricket, chess and We club) and sports (swimming, cross-country, basketball, thus far) during recesses and after school.

The staff is committed to both extending their students' learning and engaging in their own learning as well, with each member committing to an area of professional growth in inquiry, math or writing. Book clubs for each have been formed and portions of Pro-D days and staff meetings are devoted to discussion and sharing.

It is clear that parents are wanting to understand what their children are learning in the revised curriculum and are happy to engage in the learning journey with them. What wonderful conversations we had during parent/ teacher interviews that allowed parents to learn more about their children as learners and we teachers to learn more of their students as individuals.

The energy in this place is palpable (even in the relatively exhausting reporting period!), and I look forward to the Christmas festivities as we celebrate both the holiday and all that we have accomplished together in these first few months of the year.

#### Dianne

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#### Dates to Remember

- Fri. Dec. 14—Pizza/ Sushi Day
- Tues. Dec. 18 and Wed. Dec. 19 in school Christmas Concerts 1:00
- Thurs. Dec. 20 Evening concerts at Oak
- Fri. Dec. 21—Last day of classes,
- Tues. Jan. 7—First day of classes

## **Christmas Concert Information**

Our Christmas concerts are fast approaching, and all of our choir and strings students are working hard to get ready. We will have one daytime performance in our gym on Tuesday, December 18th at 1:00 p.m., featuring the Bowker Senior and Discovery Junior choirs; and another on Wednesday, December 19th at 1:00 p.m., featuring the Estevan Senior and Estevan and Chatham Junior choirs. No tickets are required for these daytime shows.

We encourage those who would like to bring young family members to a performance to choose one of the daytime shows.

Our evening performance is Thursday, December 20th in the OAK BAY SECONDARY THEATRE

The performances are as follows:

Thursday, December 20 at 6:00 p.m. - Bowker/Estevan Senior and Estevan and Chatham Junion choirs.

Thursday, December 20 at 7:15 p.m. - Bowker/Estevan Senior and Discovery Junior choirs.

Tickets (free) are required for the performances at the OAK BAY THEATRE. Two tickets have been allocated per family but order forms must be submitted to the office as quickly as possible. Additional tickets can be requested but are on a first come/first served basis. (See green information and ordering sheet that will come home next week.) Please choose carefully to ensure that you are selecting the show that your child is performing in.

Please note that if you have a child in Junior Choir and a child in Senior Choir there will be ONLY ONE performance in which they will perform together. If you have children in different JUNIOR choirs please let Mrs. Evans know which performance you would like to attend and she will move one of your children to that performance.

All performers are expected to attend the performance/s for their choir. Children need to be in their uniforms of white shirts and black from the waist down. If this is difficult for you, please contact Mrs. Evans at the school 250.592.2486. Red vests will be given out to, and collected from, Senior choir members at Oak Bay. Vests do not go home. Students need to arrive at Oak Bay High 15 minutes before their performance time. They will be met at the front door and directed, along with you, to the right locations. Parents will pick students up at the same location after their final performance.

> There will be a silver donation at the door. This year monies donated will be given to the United Way to help local families.

We thank you in advance for your generous contributions.



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Last day of classes is Fri., Dec. 21st.

Classes begin again on

Mon., Jan. 7th.



## November 30, 2018



Pizza / Sushi Day on Friday, December 14th.

### Swim Club

We have now had several practices at Oak Bay Rec and are off to a good beginning. Students have all been assessed and training is underway. Please remember that students are dismissed from the pool deck at 4:15 pm. Please ensure that you are there to pick them up. Thanks to our lovely staff members for being our sponsors, and dedicated parents for doing so much organizing. We are looking forward to a wonderful season of swimming.

# PAC Contributions

It is not too late to drop your PAC contribution donations in at the office or go bution at willowspac.ca. The thermometer online at willowspac.ca. The thermometer in the front hall is climbing toward our goal. We can do it if we all pull together. You can help the PAC continue to support the kids and staff as well as the projects

currently on the agenda.

We appreciate anything you are able to donate.



### arly French Immersion Parent Information Session

This is an information evening for parents looking to learn more about Early French Immersion. Come and get program information and ask your those burning questions.

For more program details please visit:

www.sd61.bc.ca/programs/french-immersion/early-french-immersion/

WHEN: Tuesday, December 4th

FROM: 6:30-7:30

WHERE: Richmond Elementary School

2780 Richmond Road.

### Early French Immersion Registration Week

Registration for French Immersion <u>Kindergarten</u> and French Immersion <u>Grade 1</u> will take place the week of Mon. Jan. 14 to Fri. Jan.18, 2019.

Registration during Early French Immersion Registration Week is important. Families who register during the week of January 14 – 18, 2018 have priority for placement.

To register, go in person to your Immersion catchment school. Since Immersion is a district program, space is not reserved for catchment families that might arrive later in the year.

There is no advantage to being first to register with respect to entering French Immersion at your catchment school.

Registration is <u>not based</u> on a first come first served basis. Placement of students will take place in accordance to the priorities below. For schools where there are fewer spaces than the number of applicants, a lottery system will take effect and students will be placed in accordance with the priorities listed below. Wait lists will also be established according to the draw order

- 1. Re-enrolling Students
- 2. a catchment area sibling
- 3. a new catchment area child
- 4. a non-catchment sibling
- 5. a non-catchment area child currently in pathway
- 6. a non-catchment area child currently not in pathway
- 7. a non-school district child

Please see the District website for more detailed information.





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### November 30, 2018

Thinking about French for Grade One?

If your son or daughter is currently in one of our **English Kindergarten classes**, and you were hoping to transfer into a **Grade One French Immersion** class for **September 2019**, you <u>MUST</u> re-register for that program during **French Kindergarten Registration Week beginning Monday**, **January 14**, 2018.

Information

Whether or not your current Kindergarten child has a sibling at Willows, if you are not in the Willows School catchment for French Immersion you must re-register for Grade 1 French at your catchment's French Immersion school. Your French Immersion catchment school is determined by your residential address. The correct French Immersion school for your address can be found on the district's website. During the K-12 Transfer period you can then apply for a transfer to the school you wish to attend.

If you live in the Willows School catchment for French Immersion you must re-register at Willows.

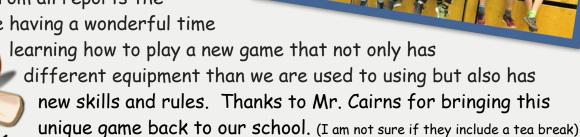
It cannot be assumed that because you are currently attending Willows that you can simply transfer into a French Grade One class. **Moving from one program to the other, even within the same school, is not guaranteed unless there is room available**.

If you have any questions please call Ms. Holob at the school.

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This is the first year, in a long time that Willows has had a Cricket Club. I would like to thank Mr. Cairns and Mrs. Auld for sponsoring and coaching the team this year. From all reports the students are having a wonderful time

Cricket



# Movie-Night

Come and watch "Northpole"

Gr. 3-5 Wednesday, December 5th K-Gr.2 Thursday, December 6th

Doors open at 6:00 and the movie starts at 6:30. <u>FREE</u> <u>popcorn.</u> Please make a donation of a French or English book for students. See you there.

# Please Remember to Dress for the Weather.





## DECEMBER 2017 DÉCEMBRE 2017



SUN DIM	Mon Lun	TUE MAR	WED MER	THU JEU	FRI VEN	SAT SAM
						1
2	Intermediate performance 1:00	4 Swim Club 3:30 OB Rec.	5 PAC Movie 6:00 pm Gr. 3,4 and 5	6 PAC Movie 6:30 pm K, Gr.2	7	8
9	10 Primary assembly	Swim Club 3:30 OB Rec.	12 Staff Meeting	13	14 Pizza Sushi Day	15
16	17 Immersion assembly	School performance of Christmas concert@ 1 pm Swim Club 3:30 OB Rec.	School performance of Christmas concert@ 1 pm	20 Christmas Concert at 6:00 and 7:15 at Oak Bay High	Last Day of classes Report cards go home.	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					