



ARTHUR HATTON ELEMENTARY

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December 2017



Events Coming Up...

Friday Dec 1 st	Gary's Deli orders due
Monday Dec 4 th	Non-Instructional Day – no School
December 8 th	Report Cards sent home
Wednesday Dec 13 th & Thursday Dec 14 th	Primary Christmas concert at 1:15pm both days
December 22 nd	Santa visits
Winter Vacation	Dec 25 th to Jan 5 th
Monday Jan 8 th	School Re-opens
Wednesday Jan 10 th	PAC Meeting

As we move into December another event is on the horizon, the Primary Christmas Concert. We invite parents, friends and families of our primary students to join us on December 13th and 14th at 1:15pm as we celebrate their unique talents and give you another opportunity to come to the school and honour the successes we see on a daily basis.

The school is a positive place for your child and for you. We welcome your presence, encourage your participation in school events and ask you to join us whenever it is convenient to, because Arthur Hatton is a diverse, active and wonderful place to be. Let us continue to build a strong relationship with our various stakeholders; the students, the staff and the parents, and create a culture that is inclusive, welcoming and supportive of our community's most important people, your children.

Administrator's Message

At Arthur Hatton, we have put an emphasis this year to improve the overall culture of the school.

We started this process late last year when developing our School Plan, and decided that the overall culture of the school needed to be addressed. We want it to be more inclusive of our students, staff, parents and the surrounding community. The idea is to make Arthur Hatton a place where kids and their parents want to come and take part in the various events that occur over the year. That the building is a positive place for people to come, where they feel supported and appreciated.

We have started this process this year and have developed a wonderful working partnership with the school's Parent Auxiliary Council (PAC). In September, the Welcome Back Bbq/Meet the Teacher Night was a huge success and a great opportunity for the school to connect with parents. It also gave students an opportunity to give back to the community as they were asked to provide food for the event. In October, we had some classrooms hold Presentations of Learning in lieu of parent-teacher interviews to showcase student learning and allow parents to interact with their child in the classroom. These types of events invite parents into the school with the idea of celebrating the learning that occurs on an everyday basis so that parents feel more involved and connected to the school. In November, the PAC hosted their annual Christmas Craft Fair which brought in numerous families of students in the school, the surrounding neighbourhood and brought people from other communities in the city.

These types of events put Arthur Hatton in the spotlight and highlights the many strengths that the school has.

Library Message

There will not be any book sign outs during the last week of school before Christmas break. We are looking for all library books to be returned, at the very latest, by Thursday, December 21st. If your child has books out from early in the fall, please make an extra effort to find and return these books so others may borrow them.

Gingerbread Houses

On behalf of the school, we would like to say thanks to the PAC for providing each class with a gingerbread house for The Coast Hotel Gingerbread House Fundraiser. For every house that is entered into the contest, \$15 will be donated to the local Kamloops charity for holiday gifts. The gingerbread houses will be on display from Dec 1-23th. The winning houses will be announced on Dec 24th. During the viewings, each person will have a chance to vote for their favourite house, while enjoying a complimentary hot chocolate and cookie from ROMEO's Kitchen.

Report Cards: Advice for Parents

Your child will be bringing home a report card on Friday December 8th. A child's report card can bring feelings of joy, excitement, and pride: it can also cause concern, frustration, and uncertainty. In either case, the reporting period marks a new beginning to set goals and reflect on past work habits, achievements, and hardships. Most important, it is a time for you to communicate with your child and determine a path for future academic enrichment and social-emotional growth.

Focus on the Positive

Regardless of the grades your child brings home, you must first focus on the positive aspects of the report. This is not always an easy task. For some, this might mean highlighting strong effort or a specific assignment they did really well on, or praising an accomplishment they did at the school or a perfect attendance record. Starting on a positive note shows your child that you truly care about the accomplishments, and not only areas that need improvement.

Ask the Right Questions

Be careful not to overreact to low grades, or grades you view to be unsatisfactory. Grades are only one component of a report card. Look at the comments the teacher includes and then use this information and past performances and plan for the future. Talk to your child, ask questions to understand how they felt they learned:

- Was the work too difficult?
- Could the pace of the class be too fast or too slow?
- Does your child use their class time wisely?
- How can I, or the teacher, better support your learning?

Once the problem has been discovered, work can begin to create a solution.

The Next Step

Creating a plan to maximize future academic success is an important part of every child's education. Help your child set realistic and attainable goals for the next reporting period. Outline ways in which these goals can be met. Type the 'official plan' and post one copy in a prominent household location, another in your child's binder or planner, and forward another to the teacher. Involving your child gives them ownership and importance in this process, and this makes the report card important not only to you, but also to your child. As parents and teachers, we want the best for children, but in too many cases this is measured only by the number of A's and B's brought home. Emphasize to your child the importance of doing the very best job they can. Encourage them to succeed, and measure their progress in realistic terms, letting them know that you care and are available to help. Break tasks into small steps, so that even the youngest child can measure their growth, and the most advanced child can measure their progress. By reviewing the report card, and developing a plan for the future, you will help your child find the road to success.

Adapted from Pearson Education (2000)

Dress for Winter

A reminder to parents about helping to make sure their children are properly dressed for outside weather. Winter has just begun, and there is still a lot of cold to come! Students need to be prepared to be outside during parts of the day, and it helps to have boots, warm coats, gloves and hats.



Found 4 Kids

We recognize that sometimes providing winter clothing can be difficult for some of our families, but would like to point out that if your kids are attending an SD73 school and your family is struggling to provide clothing for your children there is an organization in Kamloops that can help. Found4kids collects clothing left in SD73 lost and found bins and washes and organizes them, then makes them available for FREE to families that can use a helping hand. The program is available through a referral system from any SD73 school. So, if you need some help with winter clothing for your children, please see Mrs. Piggini or Mr. Styles in the office for a referral slip. In any case, please send your children to school dressed in the most appropriate clothing you have for the weather. Thank you for your help with this matter!

Head Lice

Over the winter months, head lice outbreaks tend to occur as children wear (and share!) hats and scarves. Please make it a part of your routine to check your children's heads weekly for signs of lice (adult lice, nits attached to the hair follicles, and red areas behind the ears and on the back of the neck from scratching). If you do notice any live lice or nits, begin treatment immediately. There are a variety of treatments available for purchase at the local pharmacy. Reminders to students about NOT sharing hats, toques, scarves, etc., will help prevent the spread. Thanks for your support in this matter!

Parking at Arthur Hatton

Another reminder about where to park your vehicles at the school. The staff parking lot is for employees of Arthur Hatton and guests who work for the district. At no time should parents be parking in the staff lot or using it as a drop off zone. Also, we have designated bus areas. One on Schubert Drive which has signage indicating the no parking zone and one by the yellow gate on Vernon Avenue. The bus zone on Vernon Avenue has three different buses that pick up students at that location and would appreciate that parents not park there after school.

Kids Walking Home

As the weather becomes more wintery, students need to take extra caution when navigating the streets and roads around the school and neighbourhood. We have had a few close calls already as the roads become more slippery and icy. Please remind your child of looking before crossing roads and streets, using the sidewalk or walking areas if available and to not run out from behind parked vehicles or take shortcuts across streets.

Lost and Found

Our Lost and Found cart is overflowing. The clothes on the cart will be laid out on tables in the next week so that it is easier for students parents to find their belongings. We encourage you to label your child's clothes so that we can get it back to the right person. All unclaimed clothing will be bagged up during the last week of school.

Christmas Concert Plans

Our Christmas concert will take place at 1:15pm on Wednesday December 13th and Thursday December 14th and will look a little different this year. We will be having two performances for only our primary students (Kindergarten to Grade 3). We encourage you all to attend as we celebrate the unique talents of our school's youngest citizens.

Indigo Gift Card Blitz

A correction to the November newsletter, the amount earned at the Chapters night should have read \$190.00 instead of \$19.

We have an online fundraiser still in progress until December 22nd. Indigo will give us 20% of the sales of each gift card purchase, which will go to our school so we can purchase books for our library. Please use the link: <http://bit.ly/2yipYss> to visit our site and buy gift cards. Share this link with as many people you know, it is a great gift idea for Christmas or for the love of reading.

Meals - Lunch Program

Just a reminder to parents, that lunch forms need to be filled out each and every month. Do not assume that your child's participation one month will continue to the next. The payment should be included with the form or arrangements with the administration needs to be made. Please hand in the forms on the date specified as the catering company needs the totals to order the food.

Grocery Receipts

We continue to collect Independent Grocer receipts. For every \$5,000 in receipts, we receive a \$20.00 gift card which we use to support our breakfast, snack and lunch programs at the school. There are bins at either end of the school, or they may be dropped off at the office.

Scent Aware School

An important reminder that we are scent free school. We have staff members and students who are severely allergic to fragrant smells, cigarette smells, room deodorizer smells, among others. Please try to remember not to wear perfume or cologne when coming into our school.

Safe Arrival

Please remember that all student absences and late arrivals must to be reported by 8:30 am by calling 1-844-350-2647 or by visiting ktsd.schoolconnects.com. Please do not call the school directly. All absences or late arrivals that have not been reported before 8:30 am will initiate the School District's safe arrival system to call home and cell phone numbers up to 5 times until a parent is reached and a response is given.



"Working together
for quality
public education."

School District No. 73
(Kamloops/Thompson)
Student Absence Reporting

To report your child's absence
please call this toll free number
before 8:30am

1-844-350-2647

or visit ktsd.schoolconnects.com



Safe ARRIVAL

Breakfast Program Cook

We are looking for a parent or community member to come in three mornings a week to cook a hot breakfast for our Power Start program. The individual would need to be available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 7:30am - 9:30pm. An honorarium is offered for this position. If you are interested, please contact the office.

PAC News

The PAC has had a great start to the school year. We want to wish you a safe and happy holiday!

Some dates to remember:

Purdy's orders will go home on Dec 6th
Gary's Deli Fundraiser is due back by December 1st with delivery on December 12th.

We will be having a wonderful Christmas Basket Raffle going on. You can purchase tickets before the Christmas Concerts. Tickets will be \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

January 10th, 2018 is the next PAC meeting. It is held at 6pm in the library.

Don't forget to check out the Arthur Hatton Elementary PAC Facebook page.

Board Notes

Board notes are posted on the bulletin board located outside the school office. To view the board notes online please use the following link: <http://www3.sd73.bc.ca/> go to Board of Education / Board agendas and minutes.

*To all of you in the Arthur Hatton
community a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!*

From the staff at Arthur Hatton

