



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Thank you to everyone who supported our Movie Night! We appreciate all the time and effort put into making our first major fundraiser a success. We are well on our way to building our financial resources for our trip to Terrace in May. Grade 7's will be selling leftover chips and drinks all this week at recess and lunchtime.

We are now going to focus our energy on our second major fundraiser: Krispy Kreme doughnuts. We have to sell 250 boxes by the cut-off date of April 2. This is a major fundraiser for the Grade 7 soccer trip and graduation. If each student family sells an average of 10 boxes to neighbours, friends etc..., we should meet our target. Forms are available from the office or the Grade 7 classroom, and all orders must be pre-paid through the office. February is *Black History Month*. We will be exploring stories of notable experiences and the legacies of people who are part of our immigrant history. We begin the month with Catholic Schools Week, culminating with Mass at the Cathedral and an afternoon of basketball at UNBC on Friday. There will be a variety of fun activities for students to

participate in throughout the week. Then we will be holding our Multicultural Fair on Monday, 9 February. The students are asked to bring food from their ethnic background for a shared lunch. We're looking forward to trying new foods!

Our second field trip this winter is cross-country skiing at Otway with the Grade 6 class, on 12 February. This is an all-day excursion and a letter will be going home shortly with all the details and permission slips.

We will be preparing for Lent this month with a Pancake Lunch and Ash Wednesday Mass. Both the 16th and 27th February are non-instructional days for students.

### REMINDERS

- Please return all signed permission slips and forms as soon as possible.
- Students should be reading regularly for 15 - 30 minutes per night. This is a habit that should be well-established by the time students enter Grade 8.
- Please sign the homework planners every day. Students are encouraged to use their planners as organizational tools, noting any homework tasks, reminders and work due. They are also useful for communication between home and school. In Grade 8 their planners will be an indispensable organizational tool, as they learn to be in the right place at the right time. ☺

### WHAT WE ARE LEARNING

Math - We are learning all about transformations which includes translations, vectors, reflections, rotations, lines and planes of symmetry. We also connect math and science with a unit on geometry in nature. Student review basic facts on a regular basis with "math minutes".

Reading - We will be reading and discussing our novel, "A Wrinkle in Time". using a creative theatrical approach as we engage in a variety of class activities. Students have an opportunity to read independently for half an hour daily, plus group reading of the novel. Children are encouraged to choose books from the school library at their reading level.

**Writing** - Students are writing a five paragraph essay, using the following steps: brainstorming; outline/planning; first draft; peer editing; publish. They will continue with daily journal writing, and various grammar and vocabulary exercises.

**Art** - We will be finishing up our papier-mache models and starting a drawing unit called *Metamorphosis*. Students apply drawing techniques to transforming one object to another, using math skills like rotation, slides and reflection.

**Christian Education** - We will be reading and discussing stories from the Old Testament and applying lessons learned and morals taught, to our daily lives.

**Health** - Social media and online safety are our two main topics. Students will be working through a variety of real-life scenarios and drawing conclusions about how to apply internet protocols.

**Careers** - Students will research a chosen career and answer questions related to education and training, work environment, median pay, promotion outlooks and other information related to their area of work.

**Science** - *The Green Island Climate Change Project* offers students an opportunity to explore issues like sustainability and environmental stewardship. Students work with a partner or in a small group to create a thriving, self-sustainable island community.

#### **SOME DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR:**

February 2 - Assembly @ 11:15am

February 4 - Black History Month Assembly @ 11:15am

February 5 - Olympics Day (afternoon)

February 6 - Mass @ the Cathedral/UNBC Timberwolves (KODIAK Shirt Day)

February 9 - Multicultural Day

February 11 - Virtue Assembly @ 11:15am

February 12 - Otway Cross-country ski trip (Grades 6 & 7)

February 13 - Red/White/Pink Day

February 16 - Family Day - no classes

**February 17 - Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Lunch)**

**February 18 - Ash Wednesday Mass @ 0900am (Start of Lent)**

**February 25 - Pink Shirt Day**

**February 27 - Report Card Writing Day (no classes)**

**Have a wonderful month and enjoy our spring weather! We look forward to seeing you around the school. ☺**

**Jean Garcia**