

February 7th, 2022

Newsletter # 9

We Are Nut Aware!

We Are Scent Aware!

EDGEWOOD NEWS

IMPORTANT DATES:

Tuesday, Feb. 8th
PAC Meeting – 7pm
Zoom

Friday, Feb. 11th
PAC Hot Lunch

Monday, Feb. 14th
Valentine's Theme Day
Morning Drum-In
8:10 -8:40

Wednesday, Feb. 16th
Full Moon

Monday, Feb. 21st
Family Day
School Closed

Tuesday, Feb. 22nd
Twin Theme Day

Wednesday, Feb. 23rd
Pink Shirt Day

Friday, Feb. 25th
Kindness Assemblies
PAC Hot Lunch

Monday, Feb. 28th
Non-Instructional Day
No school for students

Friday, March 11th
PAC Hot Lunch
Pajama Day
Last School Day Before
Spring Break

Spring Break
March 14-25th

Every Friday!
Spirit Day
Wear Your Spirit Wear or
Black!
(our school colour)

Office Hours
8:00 am to 3:30 pm
Monday to Friday

February's Bucket Filling Blitz Begins!

Principal's Message

Hadih - Bonjour - Hello, Parents!

Happy February! **Our apologies** for the delay in this newsletter that was meant to go out last week. Thank you for your patience.

According to our sources, we can expect 6 more weeks of winter after the ground hog saw his shadow February 2nd. For us at Edgewood, this is **good news** as students continue to enjoy playing in the snow, sliding, building structures and climbing over the many hills created from the snow plowing. This past Friday, intermediates, who chose to, enjoyed supervised "snowball fights". Mrs. Gill was the staff member under target this time while Mrs. Bryce stayed on the sidelines supervising. (She learned her lesson last time. 😊) So fun. Our month ahead will focus on our **new themes, love, kindness, and friendship** which were introduced at our recent monthly assembly. Ask your child what animal in the Aboriginal 7 Sacred Teachings symbolizes love. Hint: It's who we are at Edgewood.

If you have done so already, **thank you** for taking the time to complete the **parent portion of The Student Learning Survey**. If you haven't, the survey is still open and you can access via this link:

http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm. The link is also on the website. Please consider completing this survey. It is short but provides valuable data to help our school grow.

Lastly, we can not thank you enough for continuing to monitor your child's health, informing the school of absences, and supporting the protocols in place while we still journey through this Pandemic. It's been a long two years, with many life lessons and character development for all ages. Together, we have remained stronger. Our daily student absenteeism due to illness has remained slightly above our normal of 10%, averaging 12-14%. Our staff absences have been higher than normal the past two weeks. Our hope for February is less illness and more wellness.

Health and Safety Need to Knows:

Important Bussing Information

As mentioned in previous communication, **My School Bus Monitor** is an online notification system used by Diversified Transportation to report delayed and cancelled bus runs. This is available on all school websites and the District site. There is also an option to receive email notifications. We will push out on our School Facebook as soon as we hear a bus route is cancelled as another way to keep you informed. Bus 16 routes have been the one cancelled the most.

COVID - 19 Protocols Continue

Thank you for helping us by supporting the safety protocols that continue to be in place. We appreciate parent and student ownership over masking, distancing, hygiene, and daily health checks. Thank you for continuing to do a Daily Health Check for your child prior to attending school each day. All staff complete their own health check daily as well.

Handicap Parking Request

This is a friendly reminder that the two designated parking spaces for special needs are needed for those vehicles, with decals, that have occupants who need close access to the building. These are not stop and wait spots for students. If your vehicle has a decal and the driver or other occupants do not need to get out of the vehicle, please use another spot. Please leave the designated parking spots for those with mobility needs who are exiting and entering the parked car. Thank-you!

Coming Soon - More Fire Drills

We are hoping to get in two more practice drills before Spring Break. So far, we have done 2 of the required 6 for the year. It is a Ministry expectation that all schools complete 6 drills throughout the year.



Edgewood Eagles

SOAR

**Safety, Ownership,
Achievement, Respect**

Themes of the Month

Love,

(Lhk'etsi')

Kindness, Friendship

Safe Start

If your child is going to be **late or absent**, please call the school and leave a message, complete with your child's full name, grade, and teacher. Calls home are made for those students not in attendance to ensure their safety and whereabouts

Supervision

Morning supervision
8:15 – 8:30
After school supervision
2:27 – 2:42

4440 Craig Road
Prince George, BC
V2K 3P5

PHONE:
(250) 562-5381

FAX:
(250) 562-4204

WEBSITE:
www.sd57.bc.ca/school/edge

FACEBOOK
@ edgewoodpac
@ edgewoodelementaryppg

PAC News

We thank the following parents for taking on these important leadership roles for your child's school.

Chair: Danielle Davis
Co-Chair: Meghan McGibbon

Secretary: Marian Berg
Treasurer: Ethan Hoffman

Being a part of PAC is one important way to be involved in your child's school experience and help build community. There are many ways to be involved.

Please visit our school website for updated meeting minutes, financial reports, and agendas.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, February 8th, 7pm via Zoom Only
Zoom information available on the Website
Everyone Welcome!

PAC Hot Lunch Update

Orders are taken via the online order system called "Munch-a-Lunch". You can order for up to three hot lunches in advance. If you need help navigating Munch-A-Lunch or need an alternative, contact PAC or the school.

Munch-A-Lunch closes 11pm the Sunday before the hot lunch day.

Next Hot Lunches - February 11th and February 25th

Next Popcorn Day - TBA

Mable's Labels

Check them out on line at <https://mabelslabels.ca>
Click on the tab "support a fundraiser" and look for our school. Mable's Labels will help you label any and everything.

Save-On Foods Helps PAC

Don't forget that purchasing Save On gift cards (GCs) from any Save-On Foods brings money to our school. Consider using a GC to pay for your groceries, or **if you are purchasing any for Christmas gifts**, go to the Customer Service counter at any Save-On to purchase your GCs. Be sure to say you are with Edgewood and PAC receives a percentage of all sales of GCs.

BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program & BC Dairy Foundation

Deliveries have resumed. We have recently had two, apples and Kiwi.
We thank PAC for continuing to support this program for our school.

Indigenous Learning at EW

Did you know that required curriculum for students of all grades has Indigenous Learning imbedded in it? To help support this part of the curriculum, but also show our commitment to Truth and Reconciliation, our school has expanded its resource collection and embraces opportunities to enrich the learning with guest speakers, presenters, and field trip opportunities. It was very unfortunate the ice fishing field trips were cancelled in January. Onsite, we have had Indigenous Story Teller Francois Prince work with our grade 6/7 students. Patricia Lund brings both drumming opportunities and Lahal (a traditional Indigenous game) opportunities to classes. Our first morning Drum-In for our school was a unique event. The second one is scheduled for Monday, February 14th, Valentine's Day. Parents are welcome to come and experience this with us.

February Birthdays

Happy Birthday! Hoonust'I Whuzindli

We would like to wish everyone celebrating a birthday in February the very best wishes.



Merrick M., Levi Z., Addison M., Natalie D., Dylan P., Dominick D., Preston D., Mikey M., Shashelle J., Noah N, Dylan B., Hudson P., Myles R., Brandon S., Kayleigh J., Paxton N., Lillian D., Mrs. Turner

Students were recognized at our recent assembly and received special birthday pencils.

Call Out for CSL Envelopes!

Please return with your child!
You can request a meeting with your child's teacher on this envelope.

On-line Kindergarten Registration for September 2022

On-line registration is required for Kindergarten in all School District No. 57 (Prince George) elementary schools.

On-line registration opens: Tuesday, February 1st, 2022 9:00 am and remains open. This is the preferred option. *In-person registration can also occur. Please contact the school.*

Children whose fifth birthday falls on or before December 31, 2022 are eligible to enter Kindergarten in September 2022.

Upon submission of the online registration, you will receive an e-mail confirmation along with a link to additional forms requiring completion. Bring completed forms, along with a copy of the Birth Certificate, Care Card, and proof of address, to your catchment school at your earliest convenience.

Staff at the school will be available to assist you as required.

For more information please refer to Policy 5119 - School Catchment Areas, Registration and Student Transfers.

Please note that Edgewood is a "closed catchment school" which means only those students living in the school's catchment area are eligible for a spot in our school.

For more detail information, please check the SD57 Website.

District On-Line Transfer Process 2022

A student transfer to another school in the District may be requested. All transfer applications must be made using the electronic form available at www.sd57.bc.ca.

Application details are available at the general office of any District school or on the District Website. A time and date are automatically assigned to each application received.

Applications will be considered in order of receipt. For more information, please refer to the Student Transfer Policy available on the School District Website.

The On-line Transfer Process opens February 14th, 2022 and closes February 25th, 2022. This time is very important should schools be full.

All of our grade 7 students will automatically be transferred to DP Todd. Families with siblings in Duchess Park will need to follow the Transfer process if they want to request their current grade 7 child at Edgewood attend DPSS. There is no guarantee of a spot, but siblings will be considered after catchment student spots are filled.

Families who live out of catchment and want their child to attend their catchment high school need to follow the Transfer process.

Please call the school if you have any questions or concerns.

February's Themes of the Month: Love (Lhk'etsi'), Kindness, Friendship

Kindness is another word for nice according to Michele Borba, author of *Building Moral Intelligence: The Seven Essential Virtues That Teach Kids to Do the Right Thing*. She stresses that it is a very important virtue to instill in children. Borba defines kindness as: **demonstrating concern about the welfare and feelings of others**. She believes acts of kindness are what build civility, humaneness, and morality. She also notes that research shows that kindness is far from guaranteed. The traits of compassion and kindness must be inspired, nurtured, and taught. The sooner we do that in children the better. Borba worries we have become desensitized to unkindness due to social media, television, music, radio shows, magazines, the news media and video games. She wants us to bring back to the forefront the uplifting, compassionate acts people do and minimize the mean and negative messages we seem to be bombarded with. Borba outlines 4 ways to teach and value kindness.

1. Consciously model kindness

Children learn from watching and listening to the adults in their lives. This is why it is so very important that adults model what we want children to copy. Parents and caregivers must constantly demonstrate kind behaviour. As adults, we tend to do kind behaviours automatically and children may miss these, so when we can, we need to make kind moments, teachable moments

2. Expect and demand kindness

Borba emphasises that adults "spell out loudly and clearly their expectation that others **MUST** be treated kindly. This sets the standard for the child's expected conduct and in no uncertain terms lets them know the family values. Parents who express their views about hurtful and unkind behaviour and then explain why they feel that way tend to have children who adopt these views.

3. Teach the meaning of kindness

Borba believes one of the most important steps in teaching kindness is making sure children know what kindness means and what it can look like. This often gets overlooked. Find ways to define kindness. Point out to your child when you see or read about kind acts and talk about them. We learn best through repetition, so children must constantly be reminded and exposed to what we want them to learn.

4. Show what kindness looks like

This can be done anywhere, at home, the mall, a public event, on TV. Have your child specifically look for acts of kindness and discuss them. This follows number 3, but they can't do this if they are unclear on what kindness in fact looks like and sounds like, so the pre-teaching is essential.

Throughout this month we will focus on ways students can show kindness. Students need to see both and learn both to fully understand what kindness is. Understanding this virtue helps with understanding love and friendship, our other two themes for the month.

Student Leadership - February Events

It is going to be a very full month of friendship focused activities thanks to our grade 7 student leaders. We started the month with a Pajama Day to get us relaxed and ready for the month ahead. Here's what we can look forward to:

Bucket Filling Blitz

For the remainder of the month, we will focus on filling others' buckets with kind and selfless gestures. Students, staff, and parents can recognize any bucket filling acts by filling out a special ticket to recognize acts given or received. Tickets will be put in our special box, with random draws occurring throughout the month. This initiative is based on the popular children's story, Have you Filled a Bucket Today? There are many versions of this story that are valuable for character development.

Valentines' Spirit Day - February 14th

Let the spirit come alive for this day of love and friendship. There will be prizes for classes with the most spirit shown (colours of red, pink, white, encouraged) as well as individual class prizes.

22/2/22 - All Those Twos - Twin Day on February 22nd. This was a unique and creative idea, don't you agree?

Wednesday Walk-Abouts

At the beginning or end of any Wednesday this month, you may see students outside walking and talking. This is a connection building activity but also one for supporting a healthy heart.

Pink Shirt Day - February 23rd

Students are all encouraged to wear something pink to support friendship, kindness and anti-bullying. This is our Nation's Day to recognize and educate everyone about bullying - what it is and what it isn't. We will have our assembly on Friday, Feb 25th.

Some other activities we hope to also include are some skipping for heart health and some friendship stories shared by our leader readers. It's going to be a great month.

Communication of Student Learning Update - What Can You Expect?

Between now and Spring Break, students and parents can expect to receive communication about student learning, informally. Informal communication of student learning can come in a variety of forms, written Interim reports, unit final assessments, phone calls, student self-assessments with teacher input. As mentioned in previous newsletters, the Ministry of Education requires teachers to communicate a minimum of 5 times a year, 3 formally and 2 informally about student progress with their learning.

So far this year, you have received an informal communication via parent/student/teacher interviews in the fall and a formal written CSL in December. This year the next formal, written CSL will be sent out in April.

At any time, you are encouraged to contact your child's teacher if you are curious about your child's learning progress. The planner, which every child has thanks to PAC, is a great communication tool between home and school. The planner has the child involved in the communication as they are responsible for delivering it. Reviewing what has been written with them keeps them involved. Sometimes the reliance on email and phone calls, keeps the child out of the loop. Students benefit from being part of the communication whenever possible.

Here is a reminder of what you can expect for CSL for your child this year. This was printed in our October 18th newsletter. This is the minimum you can expect. Many teachers go above and beyond this.

CSL at Edgewood 2021-22 - What You Can Expect

- A minimum of 5 communications for math, English Language Arts (ELA), and the student as a learner
- A minimum of 2 communications for all other subjects (this includes the June Summative)
- A formal written CSL sent home before the last week of Winter Break in December - (subjects included will also vary - math, ELA and the student as a learner will be included for sure)
- Parent/teacher/student phone check-ins - (this was done in October)
- A formal, written CSL sent home in April - (subjects included may vary - math, language arts and student as a learner will be included for sure)
- A formal, written CSL sent home the last school day in June for all subjects and with student self-assessments on the Core competencies

The next CSL writing day is Friday, April 8th for Divisions 1,2,3,4,5. No school for students in these divisions.