

January 2018 - Newsletter



École Heather Park Elementary

“Heather Park is a community working together to foster passion for learning and the discovery of skills for life.”

7151 Heather Park Road, Prince George, BC V2K 5Y3

Phone: (250) 962-1811 Fax: (250) 962-1825

Keeping our school safe

Visitors please report to the office when inside the school. This includes parents/guardians who regularly pick up and drop off their children. If you are waiting for your child(ren), please wait outside their respective entrance. Things have gotten much better: keep up the good work as this ensures the safety of your child(ren).

Parking lot etiquette: There is absolutely no parking in the employee parking lot at any time. This parking lot is for School District staff only. Please ensure that you are parking in designated parking stalls in the parent / staff parking lot. Please note that the Elkscentre parking lot is another option for parents.

Dear Parents and/or Guardians,

Welcome to 2018, but not before thanking all those who ensured our 2017 yearend activities were successful:

- Merci to the PAC for hosting the well-attended Annual PAC Winter Wonderland Celebration and organizing the Gingerbread House display on December 8th.
- Thank you to Mrs. Beach, Mrs. McLachlan, Mrs. Heckley, Mme Brazeau and M. St-Denis for the wonderful kick off on Monday with the "Traditional December Concert"
- Merci to Mr. Laupitz and Mr. Marchlewitz for their Christmas village houses display in front of the library. Students loved looking at it and searching for specific items.
- Thank you to Mrs. Weisgarber and Mrs. Lalonde for planning and organizing the "Reindeer Games". The students had a great fun time. We could hear their happy "Reindeer" hooves tapping and dancing on our "roof top".
- Thank you to Mrs. K. Radway, Mrs. Harms and Mr. Mulligan for planning, organizing and delivering a cheerful and well attended "Sing-Along" that included performances from our Band and Choir.

- Thank you Mrs. J. Radway, Mrs. Grisedale and the leadership students for organizing the Christmas Hamper Collection. Thank you all for the many donations that were collected and sent to the St. Vincent De Paul and Elizabeth Fry Societies.
- Our Primary students enjoyed working on their "Traditional Crafts" on Friday, Dec. 15. Many thanks to the teachers and parent volunteers.
- Thank you all students, staff and families in celebrating "The Spirit of the Season" with us.

H: HELPFUL

E: EMPATHY

R: RESPECT

O: OWNERSHIP

E: ENGAGED

S: SELF CONTROL

Our December themes were humility and helpfulness... Our Heather Park Heroes were definitely able to shine in these areas. The bulletin board in the foyer is crowded with Random Acts of Kindness "Snowflakes". You make our school look great and we are very proud of you all.



In January, our HEROES Virtue is ENGAGED. At our school, it is paired with one of the Seven Sacred Aboriginal Teachings: COURAGE which is traditionally symbolized by the BEAR.

School is about stepping bravely into the unknown. The unknown is often uncomfortable. The braver we are, the more we learn.
BE BRAVE – PARTICIPATE TO PROGRESS

French Immersion Kindergarten Information Night

Parents interested in French Immersion are invited to attend a French Immersion School Program Information Evening on Monday, January 15th from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the Multi Purpose Room at École Heather Park.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration will take place on Tuesday, January 30, from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm online - <https://www.sd57.bc.ca/> Parents must provide the required documentation to the school office by Monday, February 5th at 3:00 pm. A Lottery (if necessary) will take place at 4:00 pm Tuesday, February 6th and parents will be notified of results.

On-Line Transfer Process

District Online Transfer begins at 9:00 am on Wednesday, February 7th and runs through to Wednesday, March 7th at 3:00 pm. Students wishing to transfer to another school for September 2018 must apply during this time. Parents will be notified of acceptance and non-acceptance by March 30th, 2018.

Lost & Found – Winter Wear

Please make sure you and/or your child check the Lost & Found regularly as snow pants, boots, mitts and hats accumulate in the bin... Students will be outside unless the temperature is colder than -20°C when combined with wind chill. An extra pair of mitts should be packed for those who love to play in the snow, so cold hands will not be a concern.

Learning Commons

On January 23rd, 24th and 25th the HR MacMillan Space Centre will be coming to our school to present to our intermediate students. This will give them a chance to work with Ozobots and Little Bits and develop some Applied Design, Skills and Technology skills.

School Sports Team, Parent Volunteers and Criminal Record Checks

Our grades 6 and 7 students will soon have the opportunity to join our Heather Park basketball teams. These students are willing to train hard and to travel to other schools to play games.

If you, as a parent / guardian, are willing to volunteer to coach one of the teams, please let the office know ASAP. There is a coaches meeting on January 15th that will need to be attended by the new coaches. Many parent / guardian volunteers are also required to drive our teams to other schools. District Policy requires that all people volunteering in schools complete a criminal record check before they work with children. To obtain a criminal record check, come to the school and pick up a volunteer package from the office. You must fill out the criminal record check form and bring it to the RCMP detachment office with a driver's license or other acceptable photo identification. The RCMP will then give you your completed criminal record check which you will have to hand deliver the **original copy** to the main School Board Office or drop off @ our office and we will forward it on to the SBO. Generally, the process takes between two and three weeks. Volunteer drivers will need to complete some paperwork at the school office as well.

We wish you a great season!

Important Upcoming Dates

Jan. 12	Hot Lunch – Panago
Jan. 15	French Immersion Kindergarten Info Night at 6:30pm in the MPR
Jan. 23	Fruit and Veg Program: Pears for snack
Jan. 24	Cultural Performance: Green Thumb Theater (9am)
Jan. 26	Hot Lunch – Subway
Jan. 29	Non-Instructional Day
Jan. 30	Kindergarten Registration Day
Feb.1 to 6	Québec trip for Grades 6 & 7 participants

*M. A. Beaulieu has returned to Québec for personal reasons. Mrs. A. Stephens will be our new French Immersion Kindergarten Teacher for Division 32. Please, give her a warm Heather Park welcome when you meet her! Merci, M. Beaulieu!

*Mrs. L. Maloney is now working 4 days a week. Each Friday, Mrs. N. Moore will be teaching the grade 5/6 French Immersion students in Div. 36. Mrs. Moore's Kindergarten and grade 1 students will be taught by Mrs. B. Campbell on Friday's. Many thanks to Mrs. Moore and welcome to Heather Park, Mrs. Campbell!

*Mrs. C. Hofferd is on leave at this time. Division 9 (Grade3) is currently being taught by a Teacher on Call until further notice. Thanks to Mrs. R. Shortt who taught the students from September to December 2017.

*Our Hockey Program will be taught by Mr. P. Griffiths starting in January. Thank you, Mr. Mangan, and welcome Mr. Griffiths.

We are looking forward to continuing this learning journey with you and wish you all the very best for 2018.

Sincerely,

Parrish Child, Principal

Corinne Larue-Madill, Vice Principal