From Your Administrative Team
What was heard in and around the halls of PGSS in November?
Celebratory words and phrases surrounding our sports teams started the month off:
"PGSS Varsity Football Team are the City Champs!" - went on to compete in provincials
"PGSS Junior Girls Volleyball team are Competing in Provincials!"
"The PGSS Cross Country Team is heading towards Provincials!"
What a month for successes in sporting events all around. Well done to all of our competing Polar Athletes; you do PGSS proud.
Respectful words of remembrance could be heard from the walls of Vanier Hall, accompanied by singing and moments of silence. Thanks to a combination of hard work from our performing arts students, Mrs. Pighin's arts classes, Mr. Baker and his band, another beautiful Remembrance Day Assembly was hosted at PGSS with Sloane Vasko doing a wonderful job as the emcee. We had many outside guests and community visitors join us who commented on the beautifully respectful, and professional quality of the ceremony.
Student smiles and laughter could be heard around the halls following report card day on November 21st! Sweet treats in the form of Polar Cookies were enjoyed by all students with "Good" and "Excellent" Work Habits on their first formal report card of the year.
Music for the ears of young and old could be heard blaring from the walls of the cafeteria thanks to the Free The Children Club who worked to raise school spirit and culture through their efforts in organizing a Lip Sinc event. Many laughs were shared by students and staff alike, who equally participated in the competition. All proceeds went to third world countries and all donated food to St Vincent de Pauls.
Finally, in preparation for the festive holiday season, chitter chatter and the rustle of tree branches could be heard from room 646 where Ms. Finlay's Leadership class worked hard to enter a beautifully decorated tree in the Prince George Festival of Trees Contest (check it out on the next page).

Administration would like to take this moment to wish all of our staff and students a safe, happy, and healthy winter holiday. We feel nothing sums it up better than: PGSS is truly "THE place to be", thank you to all who make it so.

Happy Holidays!
All Nations Welcome Sign

Please come check out our new All Nations Welcome sign which was installed on Friday, November 17th at the front entrance of the school. This 2016/17 school project was designed and carved by our students with the support of our staff and local artist Clayton Gauthier. Please help us ensure that their work is honoured and respected.

Kindergarten Health Day Circuits

This is a short duration program aimed at students who are interested in all aspects of health services. Each year Northern Health provides health exams to all Kindergarten students of School District No. 57. Grade 11 and 12 students are offered short term work experiences assisting the healthcare professionals with the various immunizations and tests in areas such as hygiene, audiology, ophthalmology and general health care. These “Northern Health Circuits” occur in January and February. PGSS students involved this year are:

Quinlan Nowoczin  Cheyenne Garnot  Aalia Suran
Claire Virtudazo  Georgina Schulting  Danelle De Dios
Kaitlin Earl

What’s new in the Library Learning Commons?

PGSS Library Learning Commons now has a relax station. Come and help do the puzzle of the month. We will be changing the puzzle up each month.

We want your suggestions for new titles in the PGSS Library Learning Commons Collection. We have just done a huge overhaul of our graphic novels and we’re always looking for new and interesting books that you want to read.

Grad 2018

The Valedictory Ceremony will be held on Friday, June 1st. Valedictory fees ($90) are to be paid to the office by cheque or cash only.

Polar Express Christmas Tree

The “PGSS Polar Express” is a small tree that was decorated by the Leadership class for the Festival of Trees. People bid on trees in a silent auction at the festival from Nov.24th-Dec.3rd and the highest bid wins the tree and everything under it, including Christmas DVDs, popcorn, mini puzzles, coffee cups, etc. All of the proceeds go to support the Spirit of the North Healthcare Foundation.
Celebrating Student Success!

Congratulations to the Jr. Boys Volleyball team who came in 5th at Zones in mid-November!

Emmanuelle Jacob earned a gold medal for the highest score in BC on her Royal Conservatory of Music Grade 6 voice exam.

Noah Williams was awarded the BC Secondary Schools Football Association’s Subway Academic Player of the Year Scholarship in the amount of $2000.

Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to the following students who won Ministry of Education scholarships in 2017:

BEAUGIE, ERICA
BERNARD, GABRIELLE
CHIOU, JOHN
COLE, ERIN
DERKSON, KENNA
DOERKSEN, ABIGAIL
DOUGHERTY, MICHAEL
GAIRDNER, GRACE
GOERZ, RIVER
GRIER, JESSICA
HUXTER, CANDYCE
JOYCE, KAITLYN
KORNEIL, SALINA
MATTILA, MYLES
MINHAS, BALKIRAN
MORRIS, LOGAN
NGUYEN, CRYSTAL
O’ROURKE, ETHAN
OCBENA, AUDILLE
POWAR, JUSTINE
RANU, KEANNA
RICHARDS, BROOKLYN
ROGERS, CONNOR
ROGERS, HANNAH
RUD, ADAM
SANDHU, MANAV
STANDEVEN, BROOKE
STRIZICH, ALICIA
SUTTON, DEVIN
SUTTON, JARIN
THANDHI, AVREET
TRUEFITT, KAYLA
URBANSKI, MATTHIAS
VAN ROODE, ELIZABETH
VARAICH, KOMALPREET
VOHAR, KIERSTIN
WITIMEIER, JUSTIN

Important:
Allergies at PGSS

PGSS is LATEX, NUT, SCENT, and DAIRY AWARE.

Being “AWARE” involves:

☼ Using scent-free personal care products
☼ Avoiding bringing Latex products such as balloons, gloves and condoms to the school (Latex free condoms are available through counselling)
☼ Being aware that some students may need to stay away from dairy products, in particular microwave popcorn and pizza
Polar Coffee

Polar Coffee Co. was started as a way to empower students and raise funds for the LSC Program at PGSS. Partnered with North Roast Coffee, this Organic and Free Trade coffee was roasted specifically to help our students gain employment skills through prepping bags, bagging beans and selling the finished product. The LSC program at PGSS addresses a myriad of needs for Grade 8 through Grade 12 students who are considered at risk academically or socially. Our students come from various backgrounds, many being Aboriginal, some face dire challenges of living in poverty. Our program is sensitive and responsive to this reality. We draw upon their strengths to build confidence and then empower students to demonstrate their knowledge. Thank you for your support!

To place and order, please email kwittmack@sd57.bc.ca or rmcindoe@sd57.bc.ca