



# SCHOOL NEWS #5

November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 38 (Richmond)

## HAMILTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

5180 Smith Drive, Richmond, BC V6V 2W5

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Principal: Mr. Mark Hoath

Vice Principal: Mrs. Kathy Pantaleo

School Trustee: Mr. Ken Hamaguchi

Web Site: <http://hamilton.sd38.bc.ca>

Dear Parents:

### IMPORTANT DATES

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Nov. 10         | Remembrance Day Assembly<br>10:45 AM (Parents welcome)      |
| Nov. 11         | Remembrance Day (Holiday)<br><i>(School Not In Session)</i> |
| Nov. 12         | Grade 7 parent meeting 6:15 PM<br>PAC meeting 7:00 PM       |
| Nov. 16         | PAC Japanese Lunch Day                                      |
| Nov. 19         | Earthquake drill 2:00 PM                                    |
| Nov. 20         | PAC movie night 6:30 PM<br>"Inside Out"                     |
| Nov. 25         | Immunization Day (K & Gr.6 only)                            |
| Nov. 30         | Pro-D Day<br><i>(School Not In Session)</i>                 |
| Dec. 4          | 1 <sup>st</sup> term Reports                                |
| Dec. 10         | PAC meeting 7pm   |
| Dec. 16 & 17    | Christmas Concerts 6:30pm                                   |
| Dec. 21 – Jan 1 | Winter Vacation<br><i>(School Not In Session)</i>           |

### GRADE 7 PARENT MEETING REMINDER



There will be a short meeting at 6:15 on November 12th to begin the coordination and planning for grade 7 year-end activities. Traditionally, there has been a themed lunch and dance on the last day of school which has been organized by the parents and PAC. If you are unable to attend this meeting, but would like to assist, please call or email the school ([hamilton@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:hamilton@sd38.bc.ca)). Thank you for your support!

### PAC MOVIE NIGHT REMINDER



Hamilton PAC is hosting a fun-filled, family Movie Night on **Friday Nov. 20, 2015 at 6:30 PM** where they will be presenting "*Inside Out*" (rated: PG with running time of 94 minutes). Admission is FREE.

The doors **will open at 5:30pm** for food concessions by cash/prepaid orders, face painting & nail polish stations by donation, neon bracelet sales, and combined 50/50 and door prize raffle tickets. More information and an order & volunteer form were sent home and emailed electronically to parents.

### PAC GIFT BASKET RAFFLE



The PAC will once again be hosting the annual Gift Basket Raffle in conjunction with the school's concerts. All families should have received their notices regarding donation requests for the gift baskets on

Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. Each class has been given a theme for their basket with ideas fitting that theme listed on the back of their notice (but please feel free to donate any item for any basket – all donations are greatly appreciated). We are requesting each family to donate an item in the \$5 range, cash or gift cards. The cash donations will be used to purchase missing or larger items for the gift basket.

All donations for the gift basket must be returned to the classrooms no later than **Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>**.

We will be assembling these beautiful gift baskets on the evening of **Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>** after 6:30pm in the school foyer. Please come out and help with this fun evening (as well as enjoy some homemade holiday treats!). These 16 fabulous themed Gift Baskets and a donated bicycle will be raffled off at the end of the Thursday Dec. 17th evening concert at the school (raffle tickets books will be coming out shortly). All proceeds from this raffle will go towards providing playground equipment and extracurricular activities for all the students. Thank you for your support and generous donations!

### NEW CURRICULUM INFORMATION – CORE COMPETENCIES

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, there are significant curricular changes starting implementation September 2016. Teachers throughout the school district have been learning about the changes at professional development sessions and staff meetings.

#### **What are the Core Competencies?**

The core competencies, along with literacy and numeracy foundations and essential content and concepts are at the centre of the redesigned curriculum and assessment. Core competencies are sets of intellectual, personal, social and emotional proficiencies that all students need to develop in order to engage in deep learning and life-long learning.

Three core competencies were identified:

**Communication** – the communication competency encompasses the set of abilities that students use to impart and exchange information, experiences and ideas, to explore the world around them, and to understand and effectively engage in the use of digital media.

**Thinking** – the thinking competency encompasses the knowledge, skills and processes we associate with intellectual development. It is through their competency as thinkers that students take subject specific concepts and content and transform them into a new understanding. Thinking competence includes specific thinking skills as well as habits of mind, and metacognitive awareness.

**Personal and Social** - personal and social competency is the set of abilities that relate to students' identity in the world, both as individuals and as members of their community and society. Personal and social competency encompasses the abilities students need to thrive as individuals, to understand and care about themselves and others, and to find and achieve their purposes in the world.

Core competencies are evident in every area of learning; however, they manifest themselves uniquely in each discipline. In the current drafts of the redesigned curricula, competencies are embedded and evident within the learning standards. Competencies come into play when students are engaged in “doing” in any area of learning. This includes activities where students use thinking, collaboration, and communication to solve problems, address issues, or make decisions. The ultimate goal is for learners to employ the core competencies every day in school and in life, and for the core competencies to be an integral part of the learning in all curriculum areas.

The core competencies can be found at <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/competencies>.

## **CHILDREN’S MEDICATION**

During the spring of 2014, School District 38 (Richmond), in collaboration with Vancouver Coastal Health - Richmond, revised the school district’s guidelines regarding the administration of medications.

If your child requires a short-term medication to be administered by school staff, you must pick up a form from the school office, have it filled out and attach a pharmacy label to this form.

We are now unable to administer any over the counter medications such as headache or allergy drugs. If your child needs these, it must be either administered at home before school or a parent/guardian will have to come to the school to administer the medication to the child. Thank you for your understanding



## **HAMILTON EARLY WARNING NUMBER** **(604) 668-6516**

We are asking for your support to maintain the health of all children by keeping your child home when they are ill. Their recovery will be speeded up when they have the opportunity to rest at home. A proper sleep and breakfast are essential to ensure children function well at school.

Please call our early warning line (24-hour line) with your child’s name and division number and reason for absence. Thank you.