

Cold and Flu Season

Regular hand washing is our first line of defense! We are in the midst of the cold and flu season as the poor weather keeps us inside making it easier for the "bugs" to spread among people. The health authorities stress that regular and proper hand washing is an effective prevention process. Parents are asked to keep a child home from school if she/he is ill to prevent the spread of the illness and to provide proper rest and care.



Allergies & Medicines:

Please let the school know if your child has a very serious life-threatening allergy or if they regularly take medication so that we can discuss safety procedures with you. Medication may only be administered at school once a "Request for Administration of Medication at School" form has been completed by your child's attending Physician. Once this form has been completed by your Physician

the medication will be kept at the school office and the child will see Denise to have the proper doses administered. Please do not allow your child/children to bring any type of medication to school for if it gets into the wrong hands a serious injury could occur.

Home Contact:

Most of our safety procedures rely on our ability to contact you. Have you changed your home, cell or emergency phone numbers? If so please call Denise at

Extended Vacation Requests from Families during the School Year



absence or if there are students on a waiting list.

Just a reminder to families that if you choose to go on an extended vacation during the school year, teachers are **NOT** expected to provide assignments either before or after, or give any make-up tests or examinations. It is the student's responsibility for learning any content material missed and students will be marked absent during the duration of the time away from school. Please advise the school, by letter, stating the dates your child will be leaving and returning on; along with a contact number (in case the student does not return on the expected date). However, students who are absent for more than 20 days may lose their right to a place at the school if new students arrive during their



Windermere After School Programs

Term 2 of the Windermere After School Programs started this week! Our students are partaking in Lego Robotics, Junior Chefs, Mini Chefs, Piano, Voice and Fastbreak Multisport. Once again thanks to Windermere staff and student leaders!

Mission Statement

To provide a safe and respectful learning environment
For all students to achieve their full potential as lifelong learners and
to become responsible, contributing citizens in our ever-changing society.

School Code of Conduct

At Graham Bruce School we care for and respect:

- Ourselves
- Others
- Our Community

BRUCE PAC NEWS:

Multicultural Potluck: Graham Bruce Elementary has a reputation of welcoming families new to Canada and celebrating diversity. As there were even more new students this year at Bruce than expected, the Parent Advisory Council sponsored its first annual Multicultural Potluck on Friday, January 20, 2017 in partnership with the school. Many parents from the school volunteered their time and converted the school gym into a dining area and a stage. There were over 100 people at this event. As people came in, they dropped off dishes of food along the entire side of the school gym. The result was an unbelievable buffet with dishes from all over the world! Along with the food - there was entertainment! The evening started off with an African drumming circle led by professional musician Russell Shumsky. Students learned to drum traditional African rhythms in a free lesson with over 20 drums. The night ended with a performance by the amazing Dragon & Lion Dance Association of BC, a non-profit group with its head office in Joyce-Collingwood (<http://liondancebc.ca>). The group performed a baby lion dance with red and yellow lions. One of Bruce's own students, Eric in Grade 4, is a member of this group which performed for guests. But this event was more than simply food and entertainment. Families from different groups made connections with each other. Bruce Elementary made connections with its own community. It's a fresh start for many families in Joyce-Collingwood - what a way to celebrate new beginnings and a new year at Graham Bruce Elementary!

Bottle Drive Campaign: The Parent Advisory Council assisted the grade 7 students and teachers with the Bottle Drive at the beginning of January. The grade 7 students made \$100 in just two days of bottle collecting. All proceeds will go to their graduation fund.

We need your help now with the Carnival raffle: Each year, the Parent Advisory Council and the school partner to host a Carnival. This year, our Community Carnival will be on Friday, May 26, 2017. It's the biggest fundraiser for the school. Every dollar raised goes to support the school and its students. As part of the Carnival, the Parent Advisory Council organizes a raffle using prizes donated from local businesses. This year we need your help collecting raffle donations. Please print off the attached form and take it to businesses and ask them to donate to our school's raffle. The more prizes we collect for our raffle, the more money we can raise to support our school and programs for our kids. All donations must be received by April 1, 2017. We only have about 8 weeks left to collect prizes! We need your help!

Lego Robotics: The Parent Advisory Council is sponsoring a new Lego Robotics course to Bruce students! Using special Lego Robotics kits, students will build motorized models. Students will then learn computer programming to make their models move! The Vancouver School Board has hired a computer instructor to teach this "hands-on" workshop to our kids. This 7 week course usually costs about \$150. Due to the Parent Advisory Council's sponsorship, it's only \$60 per student. The course is after school on Wednesdays from January 25 to March 6. Students in Grade 5 can also register for this program now too! For more information, you may also call (604) 713-5885.

Next Parent Advisory Council Meeting: Our next PAC meeting is Monday, February 6, 2017 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the school library. Childminding is provided during our meetings.

School Website:

<http://bruce.vsb.bc.ca>

PAC Website:

<https://brucepac.ca/>

Superintendent:	Mr. Scott Robinson
Director of Instruction:	Ms. Ellen Roberts
Official Trustee:	Ms. Dianne Turner
Principal:	Mr. Sean Marlyn (604-713-4778)
Secretary:	Ms. Denise Meyer (604-713-4778)

February 2017

Thank you for helping us help your child/children have a great day at school by making sure they arrive by 8:55 a.m. each school day!

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2	3
6	7 Books for Me!	8 UBC Farm Friends come to Bruce's Div. 4	9	10
13 FAMILY DAY SCHOOL CLOSED	14	15	16 Kindergarten Vision Screening	17
20	21	22	23	24 PRO-D DAY NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
27	28			