



École Trafalgar Elementary School

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Principal: Mme Jacquie Lavoie

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PAC Co-Chairs: Tracey MacLeod & Jessie Chen

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Newsletter #12

Friday, February 16, 2018

Dear Parents,

Our overarching school goal this year is to build community within our school. Staff have been meeting and planning strategies and activities to achieve this goal. On Friday, February 9th, the four grade one classes participated in their first "Crafternoon".

The students of the four grade one classes were mixed into four groups and rotated through four activities that afternoon. Helping them with their activities were the students from Mr. Fleming's Grade 4/5 class and students from Mme Pascale's Grade 5/6 class. The goal of the Crafternoon was to have students meet other students from the various classes as well as staff, thereby creating one community. The students and staff very much enjoyed their afternoon, so much so that I hear other Crafternoons are being planned! Stay tuned for other activities and events that will surely continue to foster building our school community.



To all of our families who will be celebrating Lunar New Year on February 16th, we wish you a 新年快乐 万事如意 **XINNIAN KUAILE WANSHI RUYI**

Sincerely, Jacqueline Anne Lavoie - Principal

Professional Development Day Activities

A reminder that Monday, February 19th is a district wide Professional Development Day. The VSB Athletics Department is offering two sporting events, Basketball and Curling, for students. See details attached.

Saleema Noon Parent Presentation **Sex talk. No sweat.**



A Workshop for Parents

Not all parents are comfortable talking to their children about sex, but all parents can learn to be comfortable. During this open and informational session, parents will come to terms with sexual health, and understand how it fits into the lives of their children at this stage of life. Attendees will discover how to easily overcome embarrassment when talking about sexual health, learn words and concepts that are easy to use, and leave well equipped to clearly answer the questions children ask. The workshop is light hearted, but delivers straight and current facts on how parents and children can work together to promote good sexual decisions for a lifetime.

Where: Trafalgar School Library

When: Tuesday, February 20 at 6:30 pm

Grade 7 Fundraising

The English Stream Grade 7 students have started their first fundraising initiative for their grad trip to Timberline Ranch in May! Generous donations from the families of Div. 2 and 3 were made into themed raffle baskets such as Lego, Stuffed Animals, and even a Make Your Own Slime basket. Thanks to all students, parents, and staff who have purchased raffle tickets. The basket winners will be drawn on February 22nd!

Stay tuned for details of the next fundraiser – a movie night hosted by the English Grade 7s on March 8th!

Pink Day

Wednesday, February 28th is anti-bullying and anti-homophobia day, better know as Pink Day. Students, staff and parents are encouraged to wear pink that day as a symbol to stand up to bullying and homophobia. Trafalgar's Student Council is planning an assembly that day at 11:00 am, which special guest Dr. Shimi Kang. Please join us.

As we are aware, the word bullying is very prevalent in the media . We have attached a very helpful document on the difference between peer conflicts and bullying.

Also, the Ministry of Education has a website entitled "Erase Bullying" at www.erasebullying.ca which has a helpful section for parents. "The goal of Erase Bullying is to ensure that every child in British Columbia feels safe, accepted and respected regardless of their gender, race, culture, religion or sexual orientation" (p.7 of Preventing Bullying & Ensuring Safe and Caring School Communities).



Lunar New Year Gala

Tragalgar will be celebrating the Lunar New Year on **Friday, March 2nd**. Please join us for our Lunar New Year Gala

> 5:30pm—7:00pm Game and Food
> 7:00pm—8:00pm Lion Dance, Masks change Show, Star-wars music from the school band, musical drama and Costume show from School staff and parents. We will also have a photo booth!



> Individual ticket: \$5
> Family ticket: \$15
> Ticket sales will start on Feb. 23 before and after school

> Please mark the date in your calendar to join the fun and games and watch the amazing performances.

VSBC Gifted/Challenge Summer Programs

This summer the Vancouver Board of Education will again be offering the **Gifted / Challenge Summer Program** at Mackenzie Elementary School (960 E 39 th Ave). Families will be able to apply to participate in both morning and afternoon sessions each with courses approximately 3 hours in duration. Classes are available for students who have completed Kindergarten through Grade 7.

Courses based on BC curriculum are free for all students currently enrolled in BC schools. Students are limited to one free course but are able to register for an additional fee-based class to enjoy more of the program and to remain at Mackenzie for a full day.

The courses are not only designed for students who have been designated as gifted but also for those who have strengths in particular subject areas as Math, Science, Writing or the Arts. This also includes students who, for example may have difficulty with written output but excel in hands-on or creative activities such as aviation, experiments, LEGO robotics, computer programming, movie production, or art. Because of this, the program offers a wide variety of subject areas and styles of courses to meet these varying needs.

Application Forms

The application process opens on Thursday, March 1 2018. Applicants will be asked to complete an online application form and submit a copy of the student's most recent report card in PDF format.

Thank You from the The Terry Fox Foundation



"It was an honour to have your school join the Fall 2017 Terry Fox School Run helping to raise over \$1.4 million for much needed cancer research. It is interesting to think that Terry would have been in his 50s today and to imagine what his life may be like. There are so many great lessons that Terry teaches us about courage, empathy and humility; but he is also an example that just one person can make a difference in the world. If we follow Terry's

example of going for more difficult choices over all the other ones, our lives will take on a meaning greater than we might have dared hope."

"One thing we know, would not be the same if Terry had not done his Marathon of Hope, is the face of cancer research. Feel confident in knowing that Trafalgar Elementary's contribution of \$ 470.40 is also making a significant impact in the lives of those effected by this disease".

Picking Up During School Hours

If it is necessary for you to pick up your child during school hours, please remember to sign them out at the office. If you need to pick up during recess or lunch, we recommend you ask your child to meet you in the office or at a specific meeting place outdoors.



Basketball is going strong at Trafalgar



The junior boys' and junior girls' basketball teams have been working hard and improving skills for the past 6 weeks. The senior girls and senior boys are representing Trafalgar well. Good sportsmanship, close games and consistent improvement are some of the things that the coaches have noticed.



Junior boys' basketball team working hard in Yaletown versus Elsie Roy Elementary.



Senior girls' basketball team after a close 1-point win against Norma Rose Point.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Monday, February 19- No School-Professional Development Day**
- **Tuesday, February 20- PAC Meeting- 6:00-6:30 pm followed by Saleema Noon presentation 6:30-8:00 pm**
- **Wednesday, February 28- Pink Day- assembly 11:00 am**
- **Friday, March 2- Lunar New Year Gala- 5:30-8:00 pm**