

Rutland Elementary

620 Webster Rd, Kelowna, BC, 250-870-5126, www.rle.sd23.bc.ca



Principal's Message:

Dear Parents,

It seems like we have gone from September to December in a blink of an eye.... Thank you so much to the parents who volunteer their free time to come and run the hot lunch program. PAC puts in a great deal of thought and time to ensure the hot lunch program is affordable and has a good variety of choices for the students. You may have heard from your child that Mr. Fitzgerald and a few other volunteers will be starting up an intramural hockey league during the winter months. This is a huge endeavor as we are trying to involve as many students as possible. You can support us by having a conversation with your child(ren) about the importance of showing up for their games as students get really upset if their team doesn't have enough players and must forfeit their game.

Winter Concert: As you may have noticed in our last newsletter there are two concert times: December 14th at 12:30pm and December 15th at 9:00am. **Both concerts are exactly the same and we are asking parents to attend only one of the two concerts.** There are no tickets or limits on how many people from each family can attend but we do ask people to keep in mind this is a very popular concert and seating is limited. Please help all of us make this an enjoyable event by selecting only one concert to attend. The classes who are performing are the Kindies through to Grade 3. If your child is in Mrs. Ketesdi or Ms. Donkin's classes, they will be participating in the Spring Concert with the intermediates. The students are working hard to get ready to put on a great show for everyone!

On the next page you will see photos from Mrs. Beeger's Grade One/Two Class, who love Story Workshop! The materials are an easy access point to inspire all writers to overflow with thoughts, ideas, memories, and imagination. As everyone plays and creates, the class buzzes with the excitement of sharing those stories with peers while thoughtfully choosing the vocabulary they will use to write their stories. Often, the students can't wait to get their story onto paper! The Story Workshop structure of "create a story-orally share-write" supports language and literacy development for writers of all abilities and has helped the writers in their class truly see themselves as authors.

Principal, Gord Kirsch

Vice Principal, Jamie McEvoy

Dates to know:

December 8

Report Cards go home

December 11

Cowell/ Wilkison skating 8:35

December 14

Christmas Concert 12:30 PM

PAC meeting 7:15

December 15

Christmas Concert 9:00 AM

December 20

Ugly Sweater Day

Dec 21

Green and Red Day

Dec 22

PJ Day

Last day of class before break

Dec 23-Jan 7

School closed for winter break

Jan 8

School back in session

If you don't have the items for our spirit days, wear our school colors or your spirit gear!

Mrs. Beeger's Story Workshop



Winter Break

School will not be in session from Monday, December 25th through to Sunday, January 7th. We are back on Monday, January 8th. Have a wonderful holiday!

Rocks and Rings

We are pleased to have the local curling program, known as Rocks and Rings, return to our school again this year. During the last week of school before holidays all students will participate in a program where they learn about curling. This is a very popular event with our students and is supported once again by our wonderful PAC.

Cold Weather Reminders

The weather has been getting colder and probably will stay that way for the next few months. Unless the weather is extreme, students are expected to wait outside until the morning bell rings and they are expected to go outside for some fresh air at break and lunch time. Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed appropriately for the weather: warm clothes and gloves for the cold days and boots and rain jackets for the wet days.

Cold and flu season

One of the most important ways to prevent the spread of cold germs is to wash your hands! Thank you in advance for using the Safe Arrival School Messenger system to advise us if your child will be absent. Using this system saves our clerical staff valuable time. <http://www.sd23.bc.ca/schoolmessenger/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

Character Strong

This year, Rutland Elementary has begun to implement a program called Character Strong. This program focuses on Engagement, Well-Being, and Belonging for our students and school community. This term, we have focused on the characteristic of Respect. We kicked off our focus on Respect with a whole school assembly, and since then each classroom has spent time learning about what Respect is, as well as practicing the skill of being respectful. Students have been doing an amazing job, and we are so impressed with the respectful choices that are being made in the classrooms and outside at recess! We look forward to sharing a video during our Christmas Assembly of how each class demonstrates respect.



Lost & Found

Our Lost and Found bin and clothing rack is overflowing and items will be cleared out and **items donated on Dec. 22**. Please feel free to come in and look for your child's belongings in the bin.



Parking

A friendly reminder to not idle while waiting to pick up students. In addition, please do not stop or park in front of fire hydrants and city bus stop. Thank you to those parents who arrive a couple minutes after the bell at the end of the day to space out traffic congestion around the school.

Photos From November







Partners for inclusive Education (PIE) is a welcoming online space committed to supporting parents/guardians to learn more about the how students with neurodiversity, disability, support needs and/or diverse-abilities are supported in their neighborhood school.

PIE is a space where we come together as partners to champion inclusive education by learning and supporting each other as we navigate the school years together – we connect virtually five times a year offering workshops, speakers, and opportunities to connect with other parents/guardians.

The purpose of Partners for Inclusive Education can be found on the School District website under Parent Resources

Next Event Date:

The next Partners for Inclusive Education meeting is scheduled for:

Date: November 14, 2023

Time: 6:00 pm

Topic: Family Connections Centre

Location: Zoom: <https://sd23.zoom.us/j/8569391842>

Future Events:

January 15, 2024: "Transitions to Adulthood"

May 13, 2024: "Individual Education Plans"