



December 2019

Upcoming Events in December

- Dec. 5- K-3 Christmas Concert (Matinee @ 1:20 p.m., Evening @ 6:30 p.m.)
- Dec. 11- PAC meeting
- Dec. 13- Jingle Jog
- Dec. 13- Report Cards Home
- Dec. 20- Last Day of School before Christmas Break
- Dec. 23-Jan. 3- Christmas Break

happy holidays



École Qayqayt Elementary School

Principal's News

Dear Families and Friends,

Teachers are busy working on report cards and helping to coordinate the final touches on our K-3 Christmas Concert for this year. It is hard to believe that we have only 3 more weeks left until Christmas Break.

In October, we held our Annual Halloween for Hunger Food Drive. Through all of your generous donations, our school was able to provide the Greater Vancouver Food Bank with 706 lbs of food. When it comes to helping others, this community always steps up and we are so proud of everyone's efforts.

Our PAC held their first movie night on November 20th. It was great to see so many families spending time together and supporting the fundraising efforts of our PAC. It was one of the most successful Movie Nights that we have had in recent memory.

Students will be arriving to school on December 13th dressed in green, red, white, Santa hats, Reindeer Ears and bells to take part in our annual Jingle Jog. We are hoping that the weather cooperates as we take a few quick laps around the school to get us ready for the day!

As the term comes to a close and the holiday season approaches, we take pride in our culturally diverse community which includes a variety of beliefs and religions. So it is at this time, the staff at École Qayqayt Elementary School wishes you joy and much happiness as you spend time with your loved ones over the holiday season. See you in the New Year!

Karen Catherwood

Principal

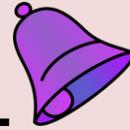


ABSENT AND LATE PROCEDURES

Please phone in student absences and/or late daily to 604-517-6050. Alternatively, you can also email the school at tmacera@sd40.bc.ca. Please include your child's name, division number or teacher's name, expected date/time of return and the reason for absence. You may leave messages outside of school hours.

Students arriving late must report to the office before going to class. This will help eliminate unnecessary and sometimes upsetting phone calls to parents who believe their child is at school. We are committed to working cooperatively with students and parents to ensure the students punctually attend each day. There is a significant correlation between good attendance and academic success.

If we do not hear from you, we call home and emergency contacts if necessary. This is a timely process. Please keep the office informed of your address and telephone number changes so that we can reach you promptly in the event of an emergency.



BELL SCHEDULE

8:55 a.m. Welcome Bell

9:00 a.m. Instruction

10:28 a.m. Recess

10:43 a.m. Instruction

12:18 p.m. Lunch

1:05 p.m. Instruction

2:55 p.m. Dismissal

VOLUNTEERS

If you are looking to volunteer at the school, please complete a volunteer form. (They are available on the website.) Please return this form to your child's teacher. You only need to complete this form once for the full 2019 - 2020 school year.

VISITING THE SCHOOL

We are looking forward to having many parents and visitors at the school this year! ALL VISITORS on the school site must wear identification so that they are identifiable to students, staff and parents as permissible visitors. If you are volunteering, visiting in a classroom, or attending a field trip, you must first sign-in at the office. You will be given a VISITOR tag to wear. Please return to the office to sign out when you are finished. In any emergency, we must be able to account for the whereabouts of all students, staff and visitors, on site or off-site.

Before and After School Alternative for Students/Families

The Stage Musical Theatre Academy wanted to let you know about new classes being offered for Qayqayt students and their families beginning January 2020

<https://www.thestagenewwest.ca/new-brightlights-school-years/>

**Report Cards Home
December 13th, 2019**

Scholastic Book Fair

December is fast approaching and among the regular hustle and bustle of the holiday season it is also Scholastic Book Fair time. Wednesday, December 4th to Friday, December 6th the library will be transformed into a book store offering books in French and English for all ages. We are open for business before school from 8:30 a.m. - 8:50 a.m., and after school from 2:50 - 3:30. In addition we will also hold our very popular afternoon and evening sales on Thursday, December 5th. The book fair will take place right after our afternoon performance, before our evening performance (starting @ 5:30 p.m.) and after the Christmas concert. The Scholastic Book Fair is an important fundraiser for Qayqayt and staff and students count on it to bring in new books to our library and other necessities throughout the school. Please come and check out the great deals on books and help support reading for our students!

Jingle Jog

Friday, December 13th, we will be engaging in more physical activity by walking and/or running a designated course around the school. Each student is encouraged to wear RED/WHITE/GREEN for our run. Students are also encouraged to wear Festive hats and bells!



K-3 Christmas Concert Ticket Information

This year our Christmas Concert will take place on Thursday, December 5th. As we have an occupancy limit in our gym, only 500 tickets can be sold for the afternoon and evening performances... **tickets will be limited to 2 per family (you must chose one or the other)**. **All children who are not in the concert require a ticket and cannot sit on an adult's lap**. There is no child-minding for either concert! **Tickets will not be available at the door!**

Afternoon concert @ 1:20 p.m.

Evening concert @ 6:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT TICKETS

Tickets have been available since November 25th- **2 per family only –first come, first served to afternoon or evening (you must chose one or the other)**. Ticket limits will be in effect until 3:15 on Monday, December 2nd. **Beginning December 3rd, if there are any unsold tickets, they will then be available for purchase by families requiring extra tickets, up to 4 extra tickets/family**. Tickets for the evening concert are \$2.00 and tickets for the afternoon concert are \$1.00.

Tickets will be available at the office during the following times only:

8:35 – 8:55 a.m. and 2:55 – 3:15 p.m.

Important Information:

As there is no assigned seating for the matinee or the evening concert....seating will be on a first come basis. **Doors for the matinee will open at 12:50 p.m. and Doors for the evening performance will open at 6:00 p.m. (students are to go to there classrooms starting at 6:00 p.m. for the 6:30 p.m. start).**

Educational Ideas During Holidays

Families often wonder what they can do to supplement their child's learning during school holidays. Below are a few fun and educational ways to reinforce learning.

- **Exploratory nature walks** are great- have your child collect a certain kind of leaf, rock or insect and list/describe the similarities and differences they notice. They can make observation charts, or even conduct a sidewalk chalk presentation for siblings or the neighbours. Having them think like a scientist is a great way to get them thinking through how things work in the world.
- **Working with real money**- when shopping for a single item or two, have your child calculate/estimate the cost of the item(s) and what the change should be if you play with a \$10 or \$20.
- **Create a scavenger hunt**- have your child create a scavenger hunt for a family member or friend, or write your own. They will be reading, critically thinking, and problem solving.
- **Develop observation skills** when driving around the city. Ask your child to find certain colors, shapes, or patterns along the way.
- Find opportunities to **read**- independent reading time when everyone sits down to read alone or read aloud together. After reading, provide everyone an opportunity to talk about what they've read.

The list and opportunities are endless.

Have a wonderful holiday

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

<https://qayqaytschool.ca/>

REDESIGNED CURRICULUM

Interested in learning more about the changes to the curriculum?

Check out:

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>

School Learning Plan (SLP)

Our staff has worked very hard at developing our School Learning Plan for 2019-2020. **Our focus is on Assessment and Communication.** As you are an important part of your child's learning as well as the success of our school, we would like you take a minute to read over the plan for this year.

<https://qayqaytschool.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Qayqayt-SLP-2019-2020.pdf>

Cold and Flu Season : We ask that parents continue to support the school by;

- Keeping children home when they are sick or have influenza symptoms.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick. If your child is sick, keeping your distance from others protects them from getting sick.
- Teaching children to consistently cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, and throwing the tissue away immediately.
- Ongoing reinforcement of effective and frequent handwashing with soap and water.
- Encouraging children not to touch their eyes, nose or mouth.
- Practicing other good health habits. Getting plenty of sleep, drinking plenty of fluids and eating nutritious food.

www.dobugsneeddrugs.org

HEALTHY EATING

Young children need nourishing food throughout the day for the development of sound minds and bodies. The staff encourages you to make healthy food choices with recess and lunches that you provide. A selection of nutritious snacks/meals will help your child develop healthy eating habits to last a lifetime.

Medical Information/Allergies

Allergies

There are adults and students at the school who have a variety of allergies. It is important not to send food to school for the class without checking with the checking with the classroom teacher first. **We are a nut-aware school.** Please do your best **not to send Nutella or Peanut Butter to school! Thank you!**



Breakfast Program

Our Breakfast Program is a great way to start your morning. Our CYCW, Caitlan Petruk, will organize and serve our food. This is provided to students who have not eaten breakfast on a school day or are still hungry before school starts. The program is for students only from 8:30-8:45 a.m. A donation of .50 cents would be appreciated. The students will enter the main entrance to the school starting at 8:30 a.m.



Parent Advisory Council

We would also like to invite all our parents to come out to our PAC meetings. These meetings provide parents with yet another opportunity to be involved in their child's school experience.

Our next PAC meeting will be held on:

Wednesday, December 11th, 2019
@
7:00pm
In the Qayqayt Library

School Newsletters

Newsletters will be posted to our website
<https://qayqaytschool.ca/>

French Immersion Program of Choice

Information Night

Parents of students registering for Kindergarten and Grade 6 are invited to attend an information session on the French Immersion Programs of Choice (EFI and LFI) on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at École Herbert Spencer Elementary.

Address: 605 Second Street, New Westminster

Canadian Parents for French

Furthering bilingualism by promoting and creating opportunities for students to learn and use French.



Grade K-3 Christmas Concert- December 5th

Matinee- 1:20 p.m.

Evening- 6:30 p.m. (Doors open at 6:00 p.m. for students to go to class and parents to find seating). **Tickets will NOT be available at the door!**

Book Fair is open after the Matinee and before and after the evening performance

Upcoming Events in January

- Jan. 6- First Day of School after Christmas Break
- Jan. 6-17- Rhythmn Resource (Drumming Classes)
- Jan. 15- PAC mtg

December						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5 Christmas Concert Grade K-3	6	7
8	9	10	11 PAC Meeting	12	13 Jingle Jog ReportCards Home	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 Last day of school before Christmas Break	21
22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	25 Boxing Day	26	27
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve			



École Qayqayt Elementary School

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Email:

qayqayt@sd40.bc.ca

Check us out on the web!

<https://qayqaytschool.ca>

Follow us on Twitter:

@QayqaytElem

COLD/SNOWY/RAINY DAYS:

With wet and cold winter weather upon us, we would like to remind families that whenever possible students will go outside for recess and lunch. **Please send your children with weather appropriate clothing and footwear for rain and snow— warm coats and boots. When it snows, we recommend students come to school with a second pair of mittens or gloves because, if they get wet at recess, students find them uncomfortable to wear again at lunchtime. We also suggest keeping a change of shoes and socks at school for wet & snowy days.**

All Newcomer Immigrant and Refugee Families:

What is the role of the Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS)?

Settlement Workers are stationed in schools to provide information and services for newcomer families and youth. SWIS Workers are employed by MOSAIC. We serve students of New Westminster School District (SD 40) and their families with Permanent Resident status. We assist newcomer students and their families to adapt to life in Canada through 1-on-1 consultations, workshops for children, parents, grandparents, field trips, volunteering opportunities for adults and youth, and leadership training for youth.

SERVICE Languages: English, Chinese, Farsi, Dari, Korean, Tagalog, Turkish and more.

Contact: Alin Arakelian (SWIS Worker) aaarakelian@mosaicbc.ca [778-773-2328](tel:778-773-2328)