



20451 Westminster Highway,  
Richmond, B.C. V6V 1B3  
Tel 604-273-2418 Fax -2419  
office@choiceschool.org

## NEWSLETTER No. 15-11

January 15, 2016

### Principal's Message

The students have returned from their holidays rested, renewed and ready for a very busy term. Term Two is short, a mere ten weeks, but full of exciting events.

Firstly, we are thrilled to welcome Ms Lauren Walter to our primary staff. Beginning next week, Ms Walter will be co-teaching the Grade 2 & 3s with Mrs. Maliowska. Ms Walter has a Master's degree in Reading as a Literary Specialist, and an extensive background in special education. She brings primary classroom experience, a wealth of creative ideas, a passion for her profession and already feels an affinity with our students. Ms Walter will be a marvelous addition to the Choice community. Please stop by to introduce yourself and join in our welcome.

On Wednesday afternoon, Choice was visited by the Richmond Fire Department's fire safety team. Students were introduced to the protective gear that firefighters wear and were instructed how to respond to an emergency by calling 911. Part of the teaching took place in the department's new trailer, where though simulated smoke and fires, students learned what to do in case of a home fire.

The popular Choice Chess Clubs resumed this week for all levels of players. Mrs Walli launched a lunch-time Book Club that meets in the library to share their love of reading; we were delighted to see a large group assemble to discuss their first book choice, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

Intermediate students represented the school well at this week's field trip to the Vancouver Art Gallery with Mrs. Kluthe to further their study of Canada's Group of Seven.

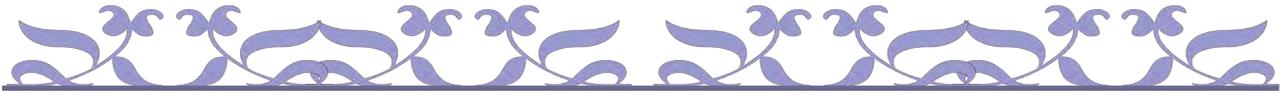
We had been honoured and were eagerly anticipating a planned visit to Choice by our new Minister of Education on January 19, but unfortunately Mr. Bernier has had to postpone his visit. We are waiting to hear a new date.

Next week students begin the term's Choice Major workshops, with an array of choices that include *The Artistry of International Cooking* and *Physics 101*. Thank you to parents for expediting the return of the sign-up forms.

Just a reminder that next Friday, January 22 is a Professional Development Day for teachers, and students will not be in attendance.

Best wishes for a lovely weekend.

Lynn



## Reminders

<i>Jan. 19, 2016</i>	Choice Major Begins
<i>Jan. 20, 2016</i>	Jump Rope for Heart Assembly
<i>Jan. 22, 2016</i>	Pro-D Day
<i>Jan. 27, 2016</i>	Barry MacDonald: <i>Boy Smarts</i> Seminar (6:30-8:00 PM)
<i>Feb. 5, 2016</i>	Chinese New Year Celebrations
<i>Feb. 8, 2016</i>	BC Family Day (School not in session)
<i>Feb. 10, 2016</i>	Save the Date - Gifted Lecture by Dr. Rob Williamson: <i>Learning with Learning Disabilities and Challenges</i> (6:30-8:30 PM)



### January Birthdays

Peter (Class B) – January 1  
Kaden (Class B) – January 4  
Nisha (Class D) – January 16  
Dev (Class B) – January 23



Calling all families! As part of the school fundraiser we're compiling a Choice family cookbook. Add your favorite family recipes as well as a picture and/or a blurb telling us why it's your family's traditional or favorite dish. Please forward all recipes along with the blurb and/or picture to Mrs. Walli by April 1st.

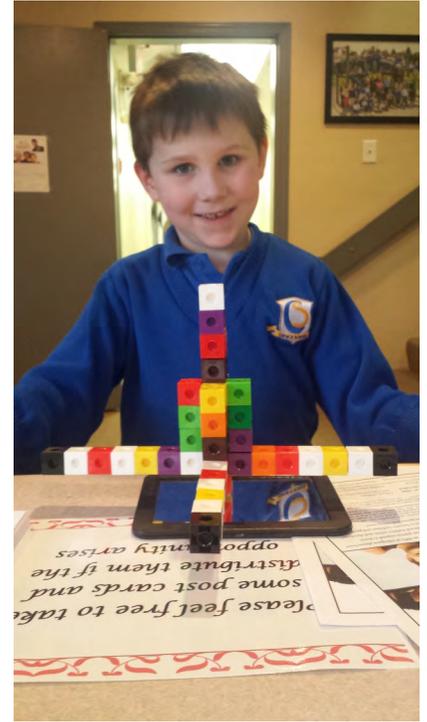
# Class B Learns About Architecture

Last week, students in Class B learned about architecture. Students studied and compared unique buildings from around the world, noticing different building materials, lines and functionality. Students also learned about the famous Spanish architect Antonio Gaudi.

Each student was given 20 pieces of paper, tape, and a stapler to create a unique building. Some students worked independently and some chose to work with a partner.



# Class A's Math Experiment on Space and Balance



# Fire Safety Education with the Richmond Fire Department



## Fire Department



# Class A & B's Visit from Mr. Ahmed of Richmond Martial Arts



# BOY SMARTS

It's better to build boys than to mend men!



- Why is ADHD overdiagnosed among boys? • Why are 80% of videogame players boys?
- What are the varied needs of boys and how can parents respond to them?
- How can we help boys navigate today's cultural realities online and elsewhere?
- How can we mentor boys to manage stress to become confident and productive?
- How can we help boys grow into courageous and caring men?



**BARRY MACDONALD** is an author, teacher, and counsellor who will lead you through the corridors of boyhood to make sense of these questions and more. A sought-after speaker, he has presented to thousands of parents and teachers and was also identified as one of *25 Influential People to Watch* by *The Vancouver Sun*. His best selling books, *Boy Smarts* and *Boys on Target* will be available for purchase and signing (payment by cheque). Visit [www.MentoringBoys.com](http://www.MentoringBoys.com)

*"Barry MacDonald's compelling presentation is one of the best I have ever seen. He offers a framework and an array of strategies that will indeed make a tremendous difference in the lives of boys. He should be heard by every educator and parent."* Dr. Avis Glaze, Former Ontario Education Commissioner

**WHEN  
WHERE**

**Wednesday January 27, 2016  
Choice School for the Gifted**

6:30pm - 8:00pm

20451 Westminster Hwy. N, Richmond BC

**TICKETS**

**\$12 + service fee of \$1.26**

Available online December 4, 2015 to January 21, 2016

Purchase at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/boy-smarts-tickets-19786051613>

**QUESTIONS**

Email [office@choiceschool.org](mailto:office@choiceschool.org)

Telephone 604 273-2418

# *You Are Invited*

to join our Gifted Lecture Series

Wednesday, February 10, 2016 from 6:30 - 8:30 PM

at Choice School for Gifted Children

20451 Westminster Hwy. North, Richmond BC, V6V 1B3

## *Dr. Rob Williamson*



### **Learning with Learning Disabilities and Challenges**

Children are unique and gifted children are extremely unique. Rarely do children come in neat packages with characteristics that can be listed in only one learning category. This workshop will explore the characteristics of gifted children that may also experience symptoms of ADHD and/or categorical learning disabilities. During this workshop, you will experience having ADHD and learning disabilities from the student's point of view. We will then discuss some practical ways to assist students that may experience these frustrating symptoms both at home and in the classroom.

### **About Dr. Rob Williamson**

Dr. Williamson began his professional career as a group-home manager assisting adults with disabilities in Davis, California. In the mid 1990's, he accepted a position with The Work Resource Centre in Cincinnati, Ohio where he worked extensively developing support programs designed to assist youth with disabilities and disadvantages to successfully transition from school to work. Several years later, he returned to California to serve as a Regional Centre Case Manager (Transition) and later as Director of the ACE-IT II Easter Seals adult disability support program in the San Francisco/Sacramento regions.

Upon moving to Memphis, Dr. Williamson resumed his academic studies while serving as a classroom middle school teacher for students with both severe-profound as well as mild disabilities. He earned his Master of Arts in Teaching degree and Doctor of Education through the University of Memphis. Currently, Dr. Williamson is serving as an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Education with Simon Fraser University in British Columbia, Canada.

His area of research involves individualized instructional methodologies within inclusive environments. Dr. Williamson has been honored to speak at numerous local, national and international venues and has authored numerous research articles related to his research interests. On a personal level, Dr. Williamson is the proud father for four children, two of whom have significant disabilities combined with giftedness.

**Admission is free and free childcare is provided**

**Please RSVP: 604-273-2418 or [office@choiceschool.org](mailto:office@choiceschool.org)**