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NEWSLETTER No. 15-14

February 18, 2016

Director's Message

This week has been a slightly unusual week for staff at Choice, and a great opportunity for me! Unfortunately, our Principal, Lynn Chartres, is away on bereavement leave and our vice-principal, Daryl Thomas, has fallen victim to the current round of flu/cold miseries! As often happens, what seems as a challenge becomes an opportunity and this time, I was the beneficiary. Rarely does a member of a Board of Directors get to spend an extended period of time in the school, but this week I am.

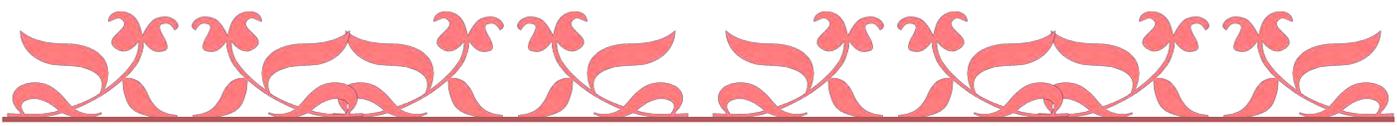
It has been rewarding to see our older students applying themselves to the Ministry of Education Foundation Skills Assessment tests scheduled for this week. Every one of them took this task very seriously in an effort to put their best foot forward. Thinking like scientists, Class B in their study of materials and structures, turned their inventiveness towards Eco Capsule design – a sustained environment that they informed me was not just for them, but for their families too! The school is alive with music as Mr. McLaren works with the Ensemble Group and is preparing all students for our Wizard of Oz production. When I joined in the singing, I did not make the mark and so was tutored in the correct words and melody for 'Ding Dong, the Witch is Dead'! A tree grows on a wall in Class D as the students read and explore relationships and character development as part of their novel study, 'Losers'.

It is a delight to be here during Choice Challenge. Not only does the school smell great thanks to the cooking class, but we have life in the fast lane down the main hallway outside Class A. The physics Challenge group planned and constructed a 'wall' roller coaster to test theories of velocity, force and momentum by racing marbles along their carefully designed coaster.

I am reminded everywhere I look, listen to our students and observe their efforts, why this place is so special! It abounds with energy, it thrives on questions worthy of investigation, it is a welcoming community for those just arriving from other places, and it flexes so all may find their place and have their talents and interests applauded. Truly a learning place and a place for coming to know oneself.

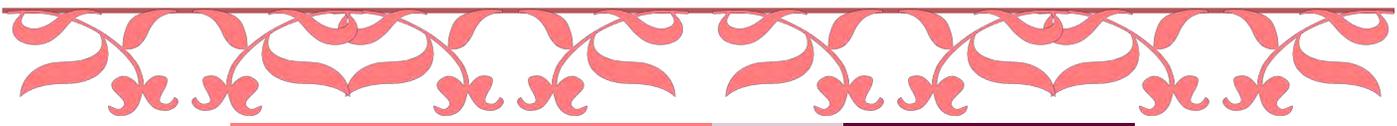
Maureen McDermid

Director, Choice School Board



Reminders

- Feb. 23 2016* Science and Math Expo (1:30-3:00 PM)
****Please note change of time and date**
- Feb. 24, 2016* Jump Rope for Heart (2:00-3:00 PM)
- Feb. 26, 2016* Choice School Open House (9:00-11:00 AM)
- Mar. 1-4, 2016* Focus Week: Science of Justice
- Mar. 9, 2016* Student-Led Conferences (1:00-4:00 PM)
- Mar. 11, 2015* Report Cards Out and Last Day of Term 2
- Mar. 14-28, 2016* Spring Break and Easter Weekend
- Mar. 29. 2016* First Day Back at School (Term 3 Begins)



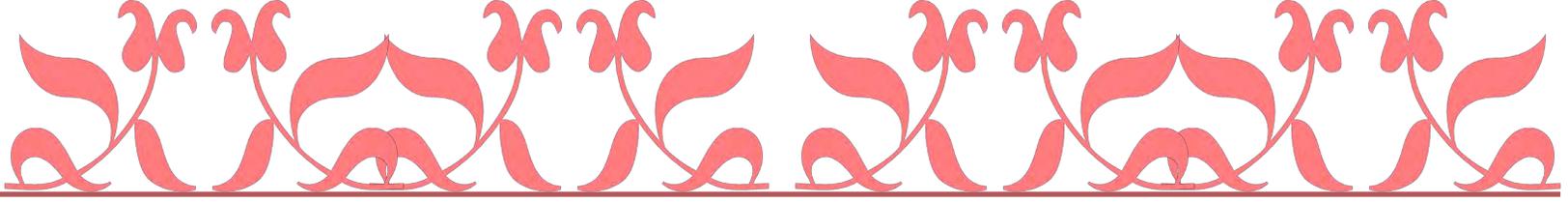
February Birthdays

This month, we wish a very happy
birthday to:

Emily (Class D) – February 12

Jaden (Class C) – February 14

Jack (Class C) – February 17



Congratulations,

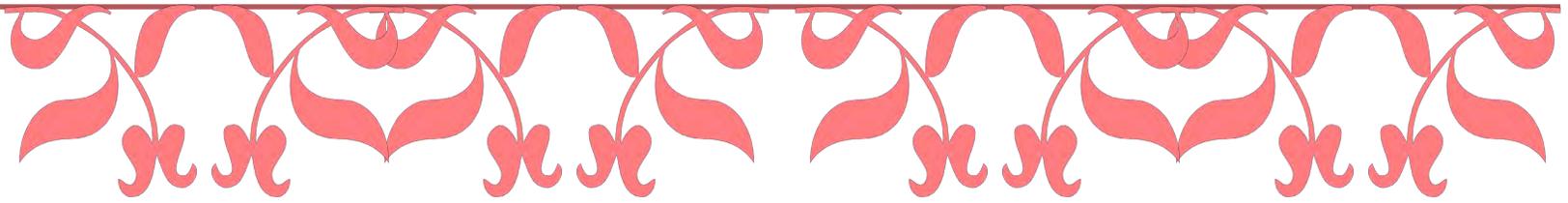
Mrs. Walli!

On receiving an amazing
opportunity to teach gifted children in

Beijing, China

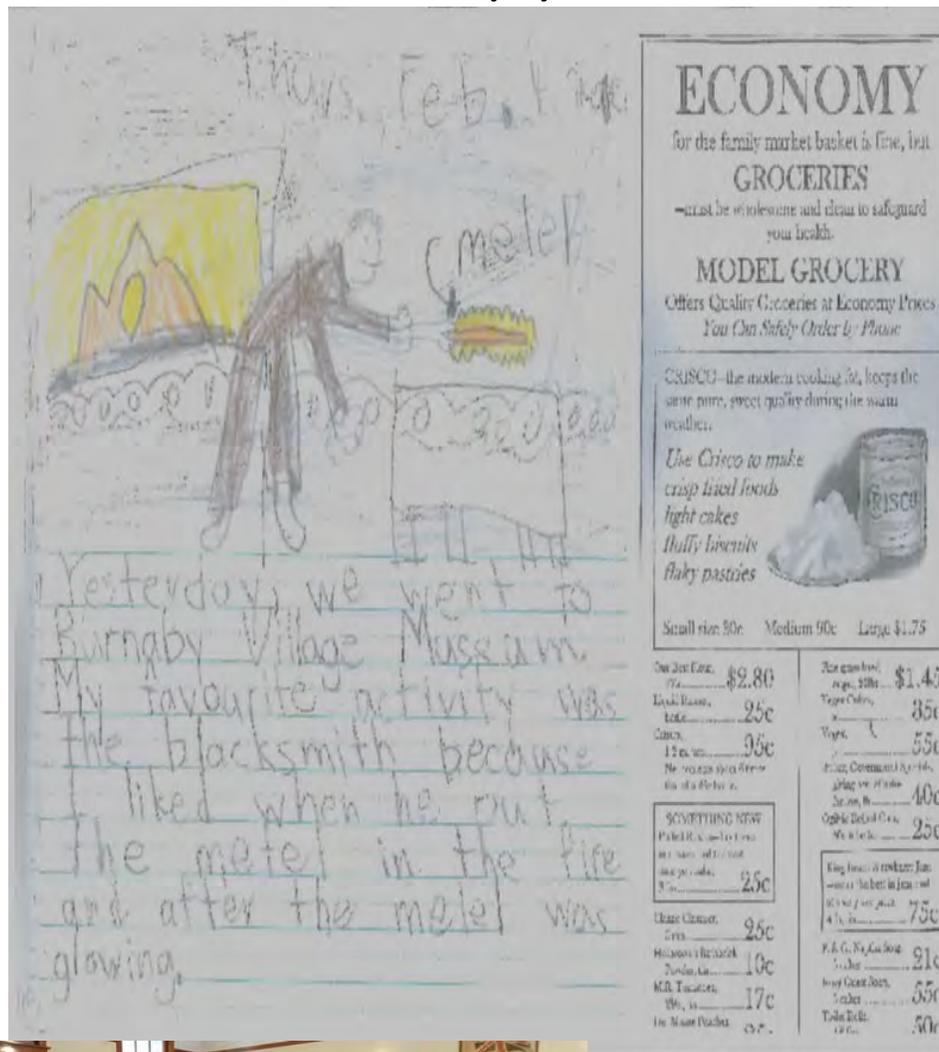
for the summer!

We are so proud of you and
wish you all the best on your summer
adventure abroad!



Class B's Visit to Burnaby Village Museum

Journal Entry by Alisha



Class B's Visit to Burnaby Village Museum



Sunny Outdoor Days

Tuesday was an absolutely gorgeous day outside, and students enjoyed it to the fullest on the playground and on the soccer field.



JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Choice School is participating in the Heart and Stroke Foundation's Jump Rope for Heart program. Our Jump Rope for Heart event date is **Wednesday, February 24, 2016**.

The important work done by the Heart and Stroke Foundation helps fund vital, life-saving research. This year, we have a new slogan: **"Jump for Mr. T."** As many of you are aware, Mr. T was diagnosed with a heart condition last year and was away for a few months.

Our goal is to raise \$1000 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. We will have the added satisfaction of knowing that our fundraising is helping someone in the Choice family.

Children have already brought home pledge envelopes, but we are also promoting ONLINE FUNDRAISING as a safe, simple and secure method of raising funds.

To sign up, all you have to do is go to www.jumpropeforheart.ca and select:

- ◆ British Columbia, then
- ◆ Choice School, then
- ◆ Enter your child's name

Once you are registered, you can start emailing family and friends anywhere in the world telling them about the important work your family is doing to keep our hearts healthy and ask them for a donation to support your child in Jump Rope for Heart. The best part is that when they receive their first online donation, children will receive a \$5 fundraising kick-start donation and a FREE skipping rope so they can show off their cool skipping tricks!

Please keep your donation envelope at home until March 4, 2016, when they can be returned to the school. Additionally, please let Mr. Sargeant know when you receive a donation so that he can update the progress poster, as we are keeping a tally of our running total to keep students motivated.

Please help us support the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Thank you!

