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NEWSLETTER No. 15-22

Thursday June 2, 2016

Principal's Message

June is a busy time at Choice. The warm summer weather energizes the school and students reap the rewards of their year's efforts and recognize how they have grown over the past ten months.

Last Sunday a number of students and parents represented Choice in the Ladner May Day Parade. We were very proud of their enthusiasm and exceptional behaviour. Many thanks to everyone who was able to attend; to Mrs. Eleanor Dwyer and Mrs. Anne Devolin, Mrs. Harker and Shaheen who assembled the brochures and seed packets the onlookers seemed very happy to receive; to Mr. Iain McLaren for leading the students in song as they walked; to Mrs. Maureen McDermid who drove her gorgeous Choice-blue BMW with the top down; and to Desi's parents George and Machi who offered their home as a meeting place and provided a feast for the excited participants. Choice spirit ruled the day!

The intermediate students are at Camp Potlatch this week and our fingers are crossed that they have sunshine for their adventures. The camp is in an exquisite setting on the edge of Howe Sound and provides campers a myriad of opportunities to learn new skills and gain deeper understandings of the outdoors. Experiences such as the school is having this week offer students a close-up view of the natural world that engenders a life-long appreciation for our planet.

Our primary classes returned yesterday morning from an adventure as well. From all accounts, their experience of sleeping next to the Beluga whales at the Vancouver Aquarium was one the students will long remember. Thank you to Mr. Greg Bakshi, Mrs. Rosie Nickerson and Mrs. Kerry Stachniak who were the tireless parent helpers during this event.

Our halls are echoing with the songs from the *Wizard of Oz* as the school prepares for the Thursday, June 9th and Friday, June 10th productions. We hope to see parents, siblings, extended families, friends and neighbours here! Tickets will be available at the office on Monday. A poster is attached as a reminder.

We had some wonderful news this morning! Choice School is the third place winner, nationally, of the CST Inspired Minds Learning Project. Of the hundreds of proposals, we are honoured and delighted that our school's proposal *Nurturing Nature, Growing Minds* has been chosen by a team of esteemed judges that included Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield. Our sincere thanks to everyone who offered the online support that moved us to the top ten judging round and to Mrs. Carmen Forsberg whose inspiring presentation was a winner.

Choice is fortunate to have the support of marvelous (and clearly talented!) parents. Parents offer their time and expertise for initiatives such as the swing set installation, the Ladner May Day Parade, the Aquarium sleepover and the CST project. Our Parent Advisory Council offers invaluable assistance at school events and offers input into the direction of the school. Please see the accompanying letter that describes the executive positions available on the PAC for 2016-7, and consider putting forth your name.

Please remember that tomorrow, Friday June 3rd, is a non-instructional day and school will not be in session. Enjoy a lovely weekend.

With best wishes,

Lynn



Reminders

- June 3, 2016 **Non-Instructional Day** (school not in session)
- June 9, 2016 **The Wizard of Oz Musical Premiere** (6:30 PM)
- June 10, 2016 **The Wizard of Oz Musical Premiere** (10:30AM)
- June 17, 2016 **Images of Greatness** (11:00AM - 12:15PM)
- June 24, 2016 **Fathers' Day Breakfast and La Fete**



May Birthdays

**This month, we wish a very
Happy Birthday to:**

- Nicholas (May 3)
Owen (May 7)
Desi (May 13)
Rayhan (May 21)
James (May 22)
Yikai (May 30)**

Thank You!

To our wonderful parents and staff volunteers who spent an entire weekend putting together a new swing-set for our students.



Dear Parents of Choice School Students,

It is that time of year and we are already starting to look ahead to next year.

We want to share with you some of the visions and goals PAC has set, as well as give you some practical information and suggest ways you can get involved. Our current PAC Executive runs with parents who have children in grade 6 and will be graduating soon. This is a great opportunity for parents whose kids are in younger grades to get involved and to learn over the next year.

We urge all parents or guardians to take a look and consider putting your name forward for one of the positions. If we cannot fill those positions that could mean that your children will not have any additional events that the PAC traditionally organizes or the many other services and supplementary supports the PAC can only provide with new volunteers.

What is the PAC?

The Parents Advisory Committee is dedicated to the education and well-being of the children and to helping the school provide the best education possible for its students as it works towards common goals. The role of the PAC includes:
supporting educational opportunities for students

- facilitating communication between home and school
- advising the administrative team of ongoing issues and concerns
- advising the administrative team/staff of parental views about school programs, policies and activities
- organizing parent activities and events (educational, special events, fundraising, etc.)

Who belongs on PAC?

ALL parents/guardians of students at Choice school automatically belong to and are voting members of the Choice School PAC. Parents are encouraged to participate in meaningful educational activities and decision-making to strengthen the role of families in education.

Executive Positions are available for the 2016-7 school year. The roles include:

Chairperson - convene and preside at membership, special and executive meetings; prepare and present meeting agenda; act as official spokesperson for the organization; and act as a signing officer for the PAC.

Co-Chair or Vice Chair- assume the responsibilities of the Chairperson in the Chairperson's absence or upon request; assist the Chairperson in the performance of his/her duties; act as a signing officer; and accept extra duties as required.

Secretary- record the minutes of all general, special, and executive meetings; keep an accurate and up-to-date copy of the Constitution and Bylaws and have copies available for members upon request; and issue and receive correspondence/minutes on behalf of the organization.

Treasurer- one of the signing officers of the PAC; receive all funds for the PAC; disburse funds authorized by the executive or members; maintain an accurate record of all expenditures of the Council; give a report of all receipts and expenditures at the general meetings; deposit all funds collected on behalf of the PAC in an account at a recognized financial institution; assist with any financial audits and ensure that the accounting procedures as laid out by Board of Directors are followed.

When Does PAC meet?

Parent meetings are held once a month and the principal Ms Chartres also attends. This is a time for all parents to hear the latest on happenings at Choice School, and to discuss parents' ideas and ask questions. The Choice School PAC meets on the **first Friday of every month at 8:30 a.m.**

Please consider becoming a voice and an active part in Choice School.

Sincerely,

Your PAC Executive