



# Choice School

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## NEWSLETTER No. 16-03

Wednesday, October 26, 2016

### Principal's Message

Last Friday, October 21 was a Provincial Professional Day. Teachers from public and independent schools from all over BC met at conferences to share educational research and learn about innovative teaching practices. Several of us attended the Gifted PSA conference facilitated by a renowned gifted educator, Ian Byrd, who shared the many ways teachers can embed complex tasks and ideas into our curriculum. Other staff attended a conference on strategies for supporting sensory processing in children, or explored established mentoring programs. Ms King was invited to spend a very full week at the BC Legislature, learning extensively about government and history. For all of us it was a pleasure to spend the day learning and networking with other educators.

At conferences and meetings beyond our school we often find ourselves searching for a concise answer to the questions about the nature of Choice. We find the same thoughts recur in our responses: Beyond being an exciting place to learn, Choice is a community of acceptance, friendship and support. Every day, we witness a level of kindness and respect among our students that is extraordinary. Our students care deeply for their school, their community and their world, and we believe that it is our job to empower them to act on this caring in meaningful ways that will make a positive difference.

Such an opportunity for students to make a difference was offered to our senior students earlier this month. Shaheen, whose university degree in International Relations has made her keenly aware of world hunger and poverty, heard reports that the Greater Vancouver Food Bank is facing extreme shortages. These shortages are affecting its ability to provide food for Vancouver's struggling families. In response, Shaheen has invited Class E to plan a Food Drive. She presented the students with some powerful data that illustrated the financial challenges that too many of Vancouver's families face. Students heard that it is not unusual for a family to have two working parents and still live below the poverty line, and that throughout our city there are children who experience food insecurity and hunger daily. The Food Drive begins on Monday. Please see the notice that follows about how our families can help.

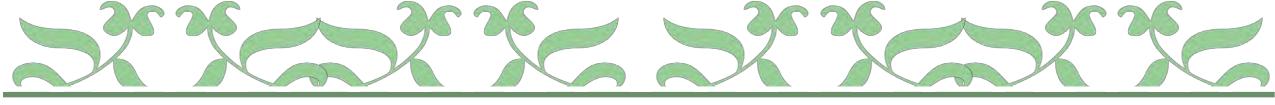
Also on Monday is the Hallowe'en Parade. Students may wear their costumes for the day, and will assemble in the gym at 2:00 PM for our annual costume parade. Parents are invited to join us for the fun. When you are creating your child's costume with them, we ask that they not dress as horror figures, zombies or anything that resembles blood or violence. It can frighten other students, and make what should be a fun experience terrifying for some. As well, please do not send candy to school with your child or allow them to over-indulge, as we know that sugar intake has a marked effect on our students' ability to be calm and focused on learning. Many thanks for your support in making Hallowe'en a great day.

Best wishes,

Lynn

### IMPORTANT MESSAGE

If your child will be late or absent from school for any reason, please make sure to call or email the office and let us know as soon as possible. It is extremely important that we know that your child is not at school.



## Reminders

Oct. 31, 2016	Halloween Parade (2:00 PM in the Gym)  *Please bring a food donation for the Greater Vancouver Food Bank - see next page for details
Nov. 8, 2016	Board AGM (6:30 PM)
Nov. 10, 2016	Remembrance Day Assembly (time TBC)
Nov. 11, 2016	Remembrance Day (school not in session)
Nov. 14-15, 2016	Reading Break (school not in session)



## October Birthdays

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

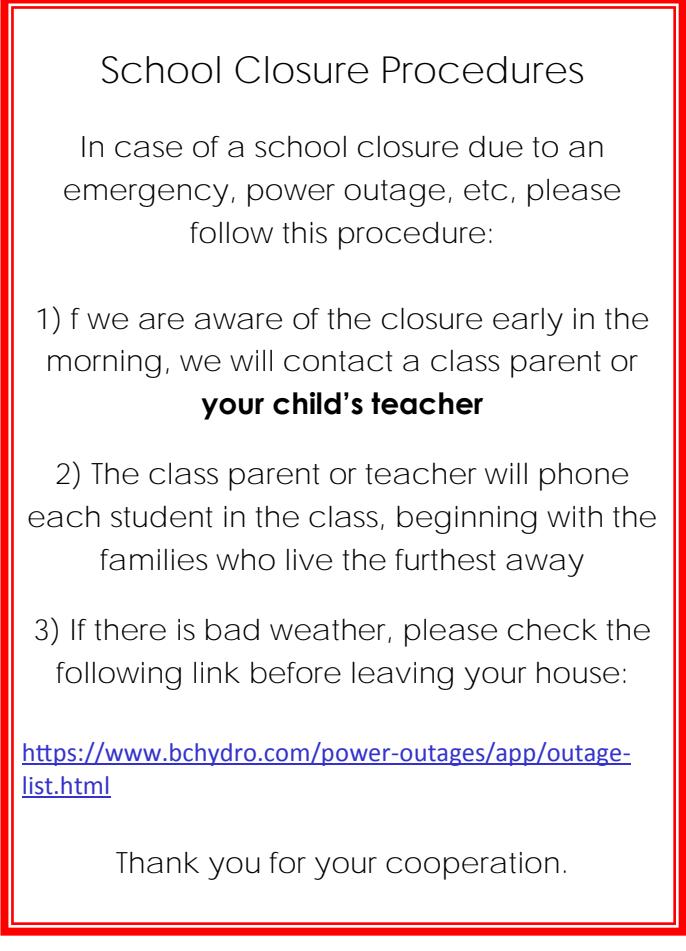
Aidan M (Oct. 1)

Gal (Oct. 8)

Dennison (Oct. 15)

Jackie (Oct. 21)

Ethan (Oct. 21)



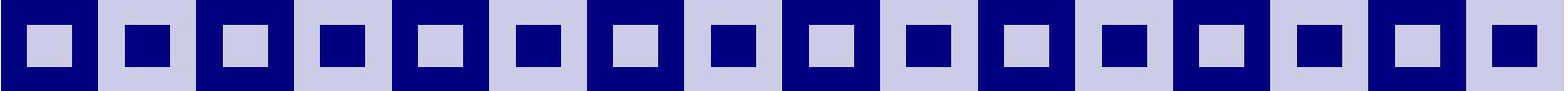
### School Closure Procedures

In case of a school closure due to an emergency, power outage, etc, please follow this procedure:

- 1) If we are aware of the closure early in the morning, we will contact a class parent or **your child's teacher**
- 2) The class parent or teacher will phone each student in the class, beginning with the families who live the furthest away
- 3) If there is bad weather, please check the following link before leaving your house:

<https://www.bchydro.com/power-outages/app/outage-list.html>

Thank you for your cooperation.



# **Choice School's Food Drive for the Greater Vancouver Food Bank**

Beginning on Oct. 31, 2016, Choice School will be taking part in a Food Drive. The Greater Vancouver Food Bank's stores are at their lowest levels in over 30 years, and Choice School wants to do our part to help our community by collecting donations of high quality, nutritious foods for families and individuals in need.

Class E will be presenting on Food Security in BC and basic nutrition to the younger grades, making posters to advertise, and decorating boxes for food donations. At the end of the Food Drive, Class E will take a field trip to the Food Bank and spend the morning volunteering in the warehouse, organizing food stores and learning about how the Food Bank operates.

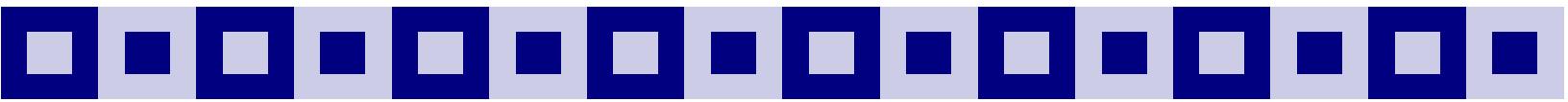
The Top 10 Most Needed Items, according to the Food Bank, are:

- 1) Canned Fish (Salmon or Tuna)
- 2) Canned Meat (Turkey or Chicken)
- 3) Canned Beans (Black Beans, Chickpeas, Kidney Beans)
- 4) Hearty Meals (Canned Soups, Stews, and Chilis)
- 5) Nut Butters (100% Natural Almond, Peanut, or Cashew Butter)
- 6) Pasta (uncooked and packaged)
- 7) Rice (uncooked and packaged)
- 8) Whole Grain Breakfast Cereals
- 9) Canned Vegetables
- 10) Canned Fruit (Packed in its own Juice or Water)

We will have boxes set up around the school for any food donations as of Oct. 31, 2016. If you are able, we ask that you please bring a food donation with any of the items on this list if you are attending Choice School's Halloween Parade, Remembrance Day Assembly, PAC Meetings, etc. or any other day you happen to be at Choice! Boxes will be set up until the end of November/beginning of December.

Thank you all for your support!

-Shaheen





## ARTSONIA ONLINE ART GALLERY



Dear Parents

We are starting to complete our first art projects in the art studio. I photograph the artwork post it on Artsonia Online Art Gallery. You will receive an e-mail invitation to have your child's artwork posted on this wonderful online art gallery.

### **What is Artsonia?**

Artsonia is the largest student art museum in the world! Every child can have an online art gallery and preserve their masterpieces for all time!



Whenever you place an order with Artsonia, 20% of the order is donated back to the school arts program. Not only are you receiving a high-quality keepsake with your child's artwork, but you are also helping the art teacher purchase additional art supplies and other needs for their arts program.

An Artsonia Membership is FREE and it takes only a few minutes to register.

Each student is identified only by a screen name which is usually the student's first name and number (e.g., Sarah22). Last names are never publicly posted on the website.

Thanking you in advance

**Ms. Cathy Kluthe**

Art Educator  
Choice School

SFU

FACULTY  
OF SCIENCE

# SCIENCE SPOOKTACULAR

featuring

Wicked science activities!

Spooktacular shows of Phantom Physics  
& Cryptic Chemistry!

Free family fun at SFU Burnaby!

Halloween, Saturday, Oct 29, 2016

Science demos and activities: 12:00 - 3:30 pm

Academic Quadrangle, 3000 level

Science shows: 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm

Shrum Science Centre, B9200 lecture theatre

Admission is free, but registration for  
the science shows is required.

For registration and more info:  
[at.sfu.ca/UQOmZg](http://sfu.ca/UQOmZg)

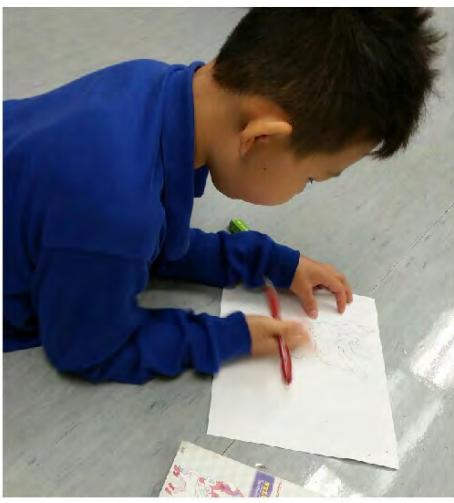
Open to all ages. Costumes are welcomed!



# Choice School's Family BBQ



# Rainy Day Recess



PICCOLAGE