



Grindrod Elementary School
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March 1st, 2018

Looking Back on February

February was an exciting month for Grindrod students. Below you can read about a few highlights.

In Early February, Grindrod students completed their Winter Recreation Program. Our 41 cross country skiers attended and won the Superintendent's Pirate Flag as the top participating school in the district! We were all thrilled with this achievement and proud of the effort and sportsmanship of our students!

We also formed two basketball teams with over 20 of our grade 5, 6 and 7 boys and girls playing on the teams. The teams have been highly successful and will play their final tournaments next week.

Momentum Gymnastics also ran their annual school program thanks to the generous financial support of our hard working PAC. The program was excellent and much enjoyed by our students.

To end the month, our students demonstrated their unity in our effort to eliminate bullying by pledging their support to this important cause. Torin Raglan, Owen Digness and Cassidy Laverentz did an anti-bullying skit at the assembly, and the grade 5/6/7 class produced an anti-bullying iMovie that we hope to post on our new website by Monday. It's called "Be a Buddy, Not a Bully". Special credit goes to Katie Cyr who was our lead editor and co-producer of this show.

Grindrod's Got Talent

Our annual school talent show will take place on Thursday, March 15th beginning at 12:00. This year we anticipate having about 15 acts from students of all ages. This is our third annual show and each year we are so impressed with the talent and courage of our young performers. Parents are welcome to be part of their child's act. Last year we had two dads supporting their children as they performed. Due to our increased enrolment this year, all acts must be well rehearsed to qualify for the final show.

A two-minute time limit has been placed on each act to keep the show flowing.
Parents are most welcome to attend!

Announcing Mrs. Sherry Salt's Retirement

After over 30 years of service to children and families in the North Okanagan Shuswap School District, Mrs. Sherry Salt has decided to retire. We are all most grateful for the contributions Sherry has made over the years. Next Friday, March 9th, we invite you to attend an assembly in Sherry's honour. The assembly begins at 1:30pm. We hope you can join us in thanking Sherry for her many years of dedicated service to our students and families.

Next Reporting in April

In keeping with the schedule of our new reporting process, our next interim report to parents will be in late April. This informal report will inform parents about how students are doing thus far in the term..

Parents are always welcome to make an appointment with their child's teacher whenever they would like to discuss how he/she is doing in the class.

PAC Update

The PAC is organizing an ongoing **Askews grocery cards fundraiser** for the school. These cards can be purchased in the office by cash or cheque made out to Grindrod Elementary School. Please speak to Mrs. Tessel, our secretary. The cards come in \$20, \$50 and \$100 denominations. The school receives 8% for every dollar sold!

The PAC sends a huge thank you to all those who participated in the **Frozen Pie fundraiser**. The profit was over \$1300 and the proceeds will be used to build a "ga-ga" ball pit as an addition to our playground! This is a popular choice made by our students.



Hanging basket order forms have been sent out and are due back by March 8th. These make great Mother's Day gifts and wonderful home decorations. Orders will be ready for pick up in the first week of May.



Our PAC is hosting its monthly **Hot Soup day** on Tuesday, March 13th. Chicken noodle and veggie noodle soup with a bun are on the menu for \$1.00. Please send a **loonie, a bowl and a spoon** if you would like your child to participate.

Next PAC Meeting Tuesday, March 13th, 2:10 in the library. All parents are welcome.

Dates to Remember

March 2 nd	Art Fair Display at Piccadilly Mall
March 7 th	Art Fair workshops- Piccadilly Mall
March 9 th	Retirement Assembly for Sherry!
March 15 th	Grindrod's Got Talent Show
March 16 th	Final day before spring break
April 3 rd	School re-opens

Gut Project Items Needed

We are making excellent progress on our Gut Project. The students know the form and function of the digestive system. They are creating t-shirts and a larger than life model of the system to demonstrate their knowledge. The project has been highly engaging and the students are learning a lot from the visiting experts that are sharing their knowledge with us!

We would still like to request more recycled materials for this project. We are looking for the foam that packs electronic gadgets in interesting forms, the packaging organizers in cookie packs and other food container and boxes, the lids and plastic bottles from a variety of shapes and colour of home products such as soap, detergent and food products. Please wash the items before sending.

Thank you to everyone who has sent in materials so far. We have quite a collection! Production of the model is just beginning so these materials are needed as soon as possible.

Breakfast and Lunch Program

We are finding that many students are utilizing our breakfast and lunch programs. We are happy to provide these meals to students who are unable to have a breakfast at home or prepare a healthy lunch to bring to school. We will communicate with parents when the program is being utilized by your child. In many cases, parents have asked us to let them know if their child does not have enough to eat at school or if their child doesn't eat their own lunch.

District Art workshops and Art Display

Our annual District Elementary School art display will be set up at the Piccadilly Mall in Salmon Arm this Friday evening. Families are encouraged to visit the mall and see all the amazing art work our students, and students around the district, have done this year. The display will be up until Friday, March 9th.

On Wednesday, March 7th, we will send over twenty grade 5, 6 and 7 students to the mall to participate in art workshops. If your child is participating, you will have received a permission form by now. We thank all of our volunteer drivers for their support!

New Website

Grindrod Elementary is updating our school website. The website will have an up to date calendar, current blog articles on school events, pictures, school goals and information and links to useful student, parent and staff sites. We anticipate this fresh look will provide better and more timely information for our community. The website goes live on Monday. Check us out at <https://grid83.wordpress.com>

Safe Arrival

Please let the school know if your child is going to be away for the day or will come in later. You can phone the school at 250 838 7579 and leave a message when phoning before school hours. You can also send a message by email: gri@sd83.bc.ca When students are absent and staff isn't notified, our secretary will do a safe arrival call between 8:30 and 9:00am.

Thank you for your help with this.