



Grindrod Elementary School  
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**February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**

### **Formal Written Reports**

We are excited to be presenting our formal written reports to students and parents on Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Students and staff have worked very hard to learn new skills and information in many subjects. They have implemented their personal action plans to improve in their goals areas as well. We have seen amazing growth and sharing that with our families is very important to us. We appreciate getting feedback as this is a relatively new reporting process and timeline and so we will be sending out a simple questionnaire after the 14<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for all the support you have provided to our staff over this first half of the school year.

### **Winter Rec. was a Big Success**

The program has been a big success this year and we are especially grateful to our PAC, who provided hundreds of dollars of support to the program. This has allowed us to offer skating and cross-country skiing at no charge to families, as well as helping with the transportation costs for our downhill skiers. The school, with help from the PAC, has funded the bussing for these programs. By all accounts, our students enjoyed their Winter Rec. experiences and learned new skills that enhance their enjoyment of the winter season.

### **Staff Development and Family Day**

On February 15<sup>th</sup> our staff will participate in a regional professional development day. They will be out of the school to learn new teaching strategies and content to enhance our students' learning. This is a huge commitment but one that gives our students their best chance of success with learning.

On Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, British Columbia will celebrate Family Day. This means that families can enjoy a four-day weekend together.

### **Gymnastics**

Once again this year, thanks to PAC funding support, we are able to offer gymnastics to our students. Instructors from Momentum Gymnastics club in Salmon Arm will be here on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>. All of our classes are

involved and parents are invited to see what the children have learned on the final day. We thank our PAC once again for providing the funding to support this excellent program!

### **PAC News**

-Hanging Basket orders due back Tuesday, Feb 5<sup>th</sup>.

Pick up date is prior to Mothers' Day: date TBA.

-Hot Dog Day- Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>: \$2 for 1 hot dog and veggies and \$3 for 2 hotdogs and veggies.

-Fun Fair Planning Mtg-Tuesday, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30pm.

-Next PAC meeting Tuesday, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2:10pm.

### **Pink Shirt Day**

On February 27<sup>th</sup> we encourage all of our staff and students to wear Pink Shirts. From humble beginnings, Pink Shirt Day is now a global anti-bullying movement. Wearing a pink shirt signifies our united effort to eliminate bullying from our community. Although this is a one-day event, it is our hope that our community will stand up against bullying every day and that our students will understand the importance of respect, kindness and inclusiveness everyday of their lives. Read how Pink Shirt Day began below. The Pink Shirt Day Movement's Inspiration:

**"David Shepherd, Travis Price and their teenage friends organized a high-school protest to wear pink in sympathy with a Grade 9 boy who was being bullied [for wearing a pink shirt]...[They] took a stand against bullying when they protested against the harassment of a new Grade 9 student by distributing pink T-shirts to all the boys in their school. 'I learned that two people can come up with an idea, run with it, and it can do wonders,' says Mr. Price, 17, who organized the pink protest. 'Finally, someone stood up for a weaker kid.' So Mr. Shepherd and some other headed off to a discount store and bought 50 pink tank tops. They sent out message to schoolmates that night, and the**

next morning they hauled the shirts to school in a plastic bag. As they stood in the foyer handing out the shirts, the bullied boy walked in. His face spoke volumes. 'It looked like a huge weight was lifted off his shoulders,' Mr. Price recalled. The bullies were never heard from again." — **Globe & Mail**

### **Basketball Program Update**

Our basketball program is thriving. We have nearly 30 students from grades 4-7 participating. This is the first year in many that Grindrod has been able to field both a boys and a girl's team.

We feel very fortunate to have three coaches involved, with Mrs. Lyons and Ms. Berndt coaching the girl's team and Mr. Paré coaching the boy's team. The season runs from January until early March with weekly practices and games. Good luck to our teams this season!

### **New Uniforms for our Athletics Program**

After many seasons of wearing a mismatch set of uniforms, our school, with the generous support of the Florell family and the PAC, has purchased new uniforms. A sleeveless and a sleeved version of the jersey was purchased and we were careful to be sure that the sizing was right for our wide age-range of young athletes. The basketball team is very pleased to be able to wear new, lightweight uniforms in their games and we have enough uniforms for our entire cross-country team to wear as well.



### **District Art Fair in March**

Each year our district hosts a District-wide elementary art fair. This is the 25<sup>th</sup> consecutive art fair and it has grown into one of our largest elementary events. Grindrod School will be displaying a piece of visual art from each child in the art fair this year. Our students' work will be on display in Piccadilly Mall in Salmon Arm from Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> to Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. We hope you and your family have the opportunity to drop by the mall to see the many amazing art projects that have been completed by student all over the district.

On Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, we will be sending approximately 15-20 of our students to Piccadilly Mall to participate in art workshops, led by art experts from around our community. Students from grade 4-7 are eligible and the staff will select participants based on their art interest and aptitude. Consent forms will be sent home with selected students.

Reminder to those interested, **Unplug and Play** Participation Forms are due this Friday, February, 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Spring Break**

The last day of school before the start of Spring break will be Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. This is a full day of school. School starts again after Spring Break on Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, and no, we're not foolin! We hope you and your family are able to spend some quality time together during this school break.

### **Proper clothing for cold weather**

We encourage students to come prepared to be outside in weather that is -10 or warmer (unless there is wind). We ask that families make sure students are dressed in warm, layered clothing. Wear gloves, boots, toque, winter jacket and snow pants to be sure to be warm. When students are under-dressed, we use the supplies we have here to dress them for the weather but our sizing and quantity is limited. Please check that your child is dressed for the weather each morning. We ask that students take off your boots off at the door upon entering the school.