



UPLANDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MONTHLY PARENT NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY, 2012

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Calendar At A Glance

Jan. 16 th – 25 th	- Drama Workshops for Students
Jan. 20 th	- CanWest School Spelling Bee @ 1:00 pm Div 1- 3
Jan. 25 th	- Grade 4-5 Basketball Game with the Lakers @ 11:30 am
Jan. 27 th	- Family Literacy/Read In with students (9:00 – 9:30), & Pajamas Day
Feb 3 rd	- 4:00 pm Deadline for French Immersion
Feb 9 th	- Farm Bag Delivery
Feb 14 th	- Valentines Day
Feb. 13 th – 16 th	- SMARTLearning Rounds
Feb 20 th & 21 st	- Early Dismissal at 1:40 pm for parent/teacher interviews
Feb 29 th	- Wear PINK in support of anti-bullying
March 8 th	- Farm Bag Delivery
March 11 th	- Daylight Savings Turn clocks ahead 1 hour
March 14 th	- Second Term Progress Reports
March 16 th	- Spring Break Begins – Second Term Progress Reports
April 2 nd	- Schools Reopen
April 5 th	- Farm Bag Delivery
April 6 th	- Good Friday (schools closed)
April 9 th	- Easter Monday (schools closed)
April 19 th	- Ready, Set, Learn
May 4 th , 5 th	- Family Photo Fundraising (after school Fri. and on Sat.)
May 18 th	- Talent Show
May 21 st	- Victoria Day (schools closed)
May 31 st	- Volunteer Tea @ 1:30 pm
June 6 th	- District Track and Field Meet
June 14 th	- Uplands PAC BBQ
June 22 nd	- Fun Day
June 27 th	- Grade 5 Farewell Ceremony
June 28 th	- Last day of School (students are dismissed at noon) Third Term/Final Progress Reports

Principal's Message

Uplands' spirit is stronger than ever, with our New Year off to such a positive start!

Below are a few Highlights:

- **Drama Workshops for Students:** *Thank-you PAC for sponsoring and Mrs. MacIntyre for coordinating it*
- **SMARTLearning in Action:** *Professional Development Opportunities and Action Research*
- **Hot Lunches and Fruit and Veggies program**
- **Grade 4/5 Basketball Team practices and games with other schools** - *focusing on skill development, teamwork and sportsmanship ☺☺☺*
- **Swimming Program for grades 3 and 4 students**
- **Lakers' Hockey Team visit and Basketball Game with our Grade 4/5 Basketball Team**
- **Family Literacy/Read In and Pyjamas Day on Jan. 27th**
- **FarmBag Fundraiser**
- **Music Theatre with Ms. Street**
- **Classroom and School Spelling Bees**
- **Everyday learning in *action***
- **Buddy Classes working together**
- **Mrs. MacIntyre class's visits with their senior buddies**

Many thanks go out once again for how our students, staff and Uplands' families are working together to provide meaningful, educational learning experiences for our students.

SAFE ARRIVAL

Please contact our office at 250-770-7678 to advise if your child is going to be away or late for school for any reason. Please feel free to leave a message on our answering machine before or after school hours. We also ask that you do not send your child prior to 8:30 in the morning, when outside supervision begins. All students are expected to leave the school grounds promptly by 3:00 pm unless they are accompanied by a parent or guardian.

INFORMATION CHANGES

Please make sure you let the school know, if you change your home phone number, work number, emergency contact, or address during the school year, so we have correct information on your child. Thank you.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Early dismissal days (@ 1:40) for Parent/Teacher interviews will be held on February 20th and 21st. Only parents who have been contacted by the classroom teacher need to attend parent/teacher interviews. If you have not been contacted and would like a meeting, please contact your child's teacher. Busses will run at normal times. Supervision will be provided for **bus students only**; all other students are **expected to leave the school grounds by 2:00 pm**.

KIDS CONNECTION

KIDS CONNECTION is now taking registration for Preschool; Daycare (3 to 5 years); All Day Jr. Kindergarten (9:00a.m. to 2:45p.m.); and Before and After School Care for the 2012/2013 school year. There is very limited space and we like to give children and families in the Uplands School area the first opportunity to attend our program. So, if you know of families in the area, or if you are needing care, please drop by our classroom #16 to pick up a registration form or check out our website at www.kidsconnectionpenticton.com which gives information regarding emailing forms.

We also have a few spaces available for over Spring Break! Sign up now and avoid disappointment because of shortage of space!

Thanks, *Tina and all the Staff at Kids Connection*

REPORTED SAFETY CONCERNS

Raccoons: Please be aware that there have been raccoons sighted in our area. These animals have been known to be aggressive so please take the necessary precautions.

Road Safety: If your child walks home afterschool, please remind him/her to use proper safety and walk responsibly on the sidewalk or well off the road.



CHILD IDENTIFICATION/FINGERPRINTING - PENTICTON RCMP

On Jan 21st, the Penticton Community Policing Office and the Auxiliary Police members will be at the Cherry Lane Mall to promote Community Police Programs and to fingerprint children for family identification. Fingerprinting is provided free of charge and the prints are retained by the family. No appointment is necessary. Hours of operation will be 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.

OPEN GYM

Open Gym is on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:15 am. Students are welcome to come out and practice their basketball skills. Many thanks to Mr. Beuselinck for sponsoring this activity for our students.

SWIMMING

Grade 3 and 4 students are involved in a set of five swimming lessons. These lessons are usually only supported by the District for Grade 3 students but Grade 4's missed it last year due to the construction of the pool. Mrs. Swaren's and Mrs. Street's grade 3 and 4 classes are currently involved in the program and Mrs. MacIntyre's grade 3's and Mrs. Irvine's grade 4's will begin on February 15th. These sessions are on Wednesdays. Parents are welcome to come and help out in the pool and on the deck.

BASKETBALL

Basketball season is going strong at Uplands. Practices for our grade 4/5 team are on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at noon and games are continuing to be planned with other schools. Mr. Scotchburn has also volunteered to provide an extra practice for our boys' team on Wednesdays after school – many thanks Mr. Scotchburn. Letters have gone home to the team with information about games and practices. Please contact Mrs. Johnston if you have any questions or concerns.



GRADE 5 CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

Uplands Grade 5 students will begin skiing at Nickel Plate on March 1st, 8th and 15th. Consent forms have been sent out; they are due back by January 25th. Payment for the event is due on February 23rd. A notice with further information will be sent out in the last week of February.

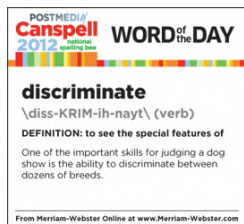
SENIORS VISITS

Mrs. MacIntyre's class is looking forward to their second trip to visit their senior buddies at Village by the Station on January 31st. Several of the seniors enjoyed coming to see our Christmas concert.

DRAMA WORKSHOPS

From January 16 – 25th each grade 1-5 class will receive 3 (90 minute) drama lessons by a trained drama teacher. Please ask your child what they are learning and practicing in these workshop sessions.

CANSPELL SPELLING BEE



Uplands is registered for this year's CANSPELL Spelling Bee. According to CANSPELL Spelling Bee rules, entrants must be 9 years old to participate in this event. We had a School Spelling Bee for Divisions 1, 2 and 3 today to determine our entrant into the Okanagan Regional Spelling Bee. Results were not available prior to the newsletter going to print. Thank you to all students who participated in this year's Spelling Bee.

CHESS CLUB

Uplands Chess Club is now operating Fridays from 12:25 to 12:55 p.m. We have had a very enthusiastic response so far! So enthusiastic, in fact, that we are looking for some parent volunteers to help supervise or even teach chess. No experience necessary! If you are able to help out, please contact Catherine at 250-770-1112 or cath6826@gmail.com, or put your name on the sign up sheet on the PAC bulletin board. Please also contact me if you would like to know about some great online resources to teach your child to play chess (even if you don't know how to play yourself!) All parent volunteers must fill out the criminal record check forms which are available at the office.

STUDENT VISITORS FROM JAPAN

On Jan. 10th, we were very honoured to have highschool students from Japan visit Div. 5 and 6 classes. They introduced Japanese language and played games with our students. In return Ms. Street's and Mrs. Buzikievich's classes beautifully sang songs for our visitors. It was a memorable experience for all! Many thanks go out to Mr. Guy, Vice Principal of Penticton Secondary, for including our school in the students' itinerary.

SMARTLearning ROUNDS

Uplands is very pleased to continue to host SMARTLearning workshops for teachers throughout the district. This is a process of learning that is being used in many classrooms at Uplands.

PAC

Meetings are held monthly in the school library. At these meetings decisions are made affecting your children, and your input is important. All parents are most welcome☺. The next PAC meeting is Thursday, February 16th at 6:30 pm.

As a “green” initiative, we would like to begin sending out newsletters by email! If you would **NOT** like to receive your newsletter by email but would rather continue to receive a hard copy, please contact the school office. Thank you!

BC FRUIT AND VEGGIE PROGRAM

BC Farmers Grow Food for You



More than 200 different commodities are produced on about 20,000 agricultural farms in BC.

Less than 5% of the land in BC is suited to agricultural production. It is included in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR). The ALR was put in place to preserve farmland and provide some guarantee that it would continue to be available to produce food for future generations.

Vegetables grown in BC include: asparagus, beans, beets, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, Chinese vegetables, corn, cucumber, eggplant, fennel, green onion, leeks, lettuce, mushrooms, onions, parsley, parsnips, peas, peppers, potatoes, rutabagas, spinach, sprouts, squash, tomatoes and watercress.

Fruits grown in BC include: apples, apricots, berries, cherries, cantaloupes, grapes, kiwi fruits, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, rhubarb and watermelons.

Look for Grown in BC when buying fruits and vegetables and support BC Farm families.

- * Pick a Variety of local fruits and vegetables
- * Wash Fruits and vegetables before eating
- * Enjoy the taste of local fruits and vegetables

Colour Your World with a Variety of Fruits and Vegetables.

The wide range of vitamins, mineral and phytochemicals found in different colours of fruits and vegetables are used by the body to stay healthy and energetic. Also, they protect against the effects of aging, help maintain healthy body weight, and may reduce the risk of cancer and heart disease.

There are five main colours:

Blue/purple – e.g., blueberries, prune plums, red cabbage, purple grapes, blackberries, purple carrots, purple peppers, eggplant

Green – e.g., green grapes, green pears, broccoli, romaine lettuce, spinach, green apples, kiwi fruit, brussel sprouts, green cabbage, green beans, green peppers, peas, zucchini

White – e.g., cauliflower, brown pears, mushrooms, onions, parsnip, white corn, potatoes, garlic

Yellow/orange – e.g., peaches, nectarines, cantaloupe, oranges, winter squash, pumpkin, yellow peppers, carrots, turnip, apricots, yellow potatoes, corn, yellow beans

Red – e.g., tomatoes, strawberries, raspberries, red grapes, red potatoes, rhubarb, beets, cranberries, cherries, red peppers, red apples

READY SET LEARN

Uplands will host the *Ready, Set, Learn Program* supported by the Ministry of Education, for families of **3 or 4 years olds** on April 19th from 9:15 – 10:30. School staff members will join together with a variety of community partners to present valuable information to parents/caregivers of 3 and 4 year olds, and provide fun stations/story telling for the children.

PARENT WORKSHOP SERIES

Date: Tuesday, January 31st, 2012 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Location: McNicoll Park Middle School

McNicoll Park Middle School is hosting a series of parent workshops for all parents in the district. All of these sessions are sponsored by DPAC. Please join us for this exciting session:

ETHICS AND PARENTING

Being a parent brings with it boundless joy, infinite patience and a lot of hard work. Along the way, you are suddenly faced with startling situations. Your 4 year old is old enough to know to tell the truth and is obviously lying; your 10 year old is desperate to be included in a birthday party but you are not certain that you want your child associating with some of the children you know will be at the party; your 14 year old is shutting you out and you are very worried about the emotional changes you are witnessing but you also have told your child repeatedly that you trust her. What do you do?

Based on Dr. Rushworth Kidder's book, *Good Kids, Tough Choices: How Parents Can Help Their Children Do the Right Thing*, this two hour interactive workshop is designed for parents and educators who want to:

- strengthen integrity and character in young people;
- provide parents with frameworks for thinking about ethical issues;
- and, build stronger collaborations between parents and schools around one of the 21st century's most urgent topics.

Participants will define shared core values, identify ethical dilemmas with children that arise when these values compete with one another, and explore various ways that an ethical decision making framework and a shared common language will assist in difficult conversations.

Upcoming Topics -

Date	Topic	Presenter
February 16	Helping Your Teen with Anxiety	CYMH worker or F.O.R.C.E (Jenn Wheaton)
March 8	Cyber-bullying and how to help your teen	Daryl Meyers
April 19	Community Connections	Penticton Rec Dept

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha)

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Children born in 2007 are eligible to enter kindergarten in September 2012. Parents, who feel their child is not yet ready for kindergarten, may defer enrollment for one year. Please contact Wendy Hyer (250-770-7700) at the School Board Office for information on this.

Placement in your neighborhood school kindergarten is based on your address and registration date. The earlier you register, the more likely your child will attend a school close to your home.

Register at your neighborhood school during regular school hours. **A birth certificate will be required as well as proof of address.**

TRANSFER REQUESTS

The window for students requesting transfers from their catchment area school to another school in School District No. 67 for the September 2012/2013 school year is **8:00 am, February 1st, 2012** to **4:00 pm, April 15, 2012**. Transfer requests received prior to February 1st will be date/time stamped as "February 1st, 2012, 8:00 a.m." and transfer requests received after April 15th may not be considered until September 2012. Although a sibling's attendance at a school will be given priority as per Choice and Flexibility Policy #305, it should not be assumed that the transfer is approved. A transfer request still needs to be completed and must go through the transfer process. If you are unsure, please check with your school secretary.

***IMPORTANT NOTE**

All grade 5 students who attend Uplands are automatically assigned to McNicoll Park Middle School. If another school is requested, the transfer must be received following the above guidelines.

FRENCH IMMERSION



FRENCH IMMERSION **Registration for 2012/2013** **INFORMATION MEETINGS**

For Parents of current Grade 5 students:

Information sessions for parents of Grade 5 students regarding registration for September 2012 Grade 6 Late French Immersion classes will be held as follows:

Wednesday, January 25, 7:00 p.m., KVR Middle School

Thursday, January 26, 7:00 p.m., Summerland Middle School

A letter regarding next September's grade 6 French Immersion classes was sent home January 16th, 2012 with all grade 5 students. This letter will outline the program and the application process. Application forms are available at all elementary school offices, the Okanagan Skaha School District No. 67 Board Office (425 Jermyn Ave., Penticton), or on the district website at www.sd67.bc.ca

Deadline for applications is 4:00 pm Friday, February 3rd, 2012

The program is available to all students residing in the Okanagan Skaha School District entering grade six in September of 2012. Students outside the district are permitted to enrol on a space-available basis (ie after Okanagan Skaha School District students have been accommodated).

Please note: these will be the only information meetings scheduled regarding French Immersion.



UPLANDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FEBRUARY, 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <u>Hot Lunch</u> <i>Hot Dogs</i> Gr. 4/5 Basketball at Lunch	2 8:15 am Open Gym Basketball Game: Wiltse @ Uplands at 3:00	3 Gr. 4/5 Basketball at Lunch <i>Chess Club @ lunch</i>	4
5	6 Gr. 4/5 Basketball at Lunch	7 8:15 Open Gym	8 <u>Hot Lunch</u> <i>Little Caesar's</i> Gr. 4/5 Basketball at Lunch	9 8:15 am Open Gym Farm Bag Delivery Basketball Game Uplands @ Kaleden at 3:30	10 Gr. 4/5 Basketball at Lunch <i>Chess Club @ lunch</i>	11
12	13 Gr. 4/5 Basketball at Lunch Basketball Game with West Bench	14 8:15 am Open Gym Happy Valentine's Day	15 <u>Hot Lunch</u> <i>Boston Pizza</i> Gr. 4/5 Basketball at Lunch	16 8:15 am Open Gym	17 Gr. 4/5 Basketball at Lunch <i>Chess Club @ lunch</i>	18
19	20 Gr. 4/5 Basketball at Lunch Early Dismissal P/T interviews @ 1:40 pm	21 8:15 am Open Gym Early Dismissal P/T interviews @ 1:40 pm	22 <u>Hot Lunch</u> <i>Taco Time</i> Gr. 4/5 Basketball at Lunch	23 8:15 am Open Gym	24 Gr. 4/5 Basketball at Lunch <i>Chess Club @ lunch</i>	25
26	27 Gr. 4/5 Basketball at Lunch	28 8:15 am Open Gym	29 <u>Hot Lunch</u> <i>Tim Horton's</i> Gr. 4/5 Basketball at Lunch Anti-Bullying Wear Pink Day			

SAFE ARRIVAL 250 - 770 - 7678

Students arriving after 8:50 am must check-in at the office! Thank you!