



2080 Tremerton Drive Kamloops, BC V2E 2S2 Phone: (250) 374-4545
Fax: (250) 374-6272
Website: <http://mcgowan.sd73.bc.ca/>

Principal's Newsletter to Parents and Guardians March 2015

Principal: Cori Wickes

Secretary: Heather Scollon

MISSION STATEMENT

McGowan Park School is committed to the development of the child as a unique individual.

March marched in too quickly! This month is one of assessment & report cards and a first ever two week spring break! (Reports cards will be distributed on April 2)

Winter Carnival – Wow!! Many thanks to our fabulous PAC and many other volunteers who turned our school into a very popular festival of fun on February 19! Your support and dedication to our school as helpers or attendees is very much appreciated. Congratulations to all of the winners of the baskets and goodies!

*Please have a safe and restful Spring Break!
We'll see you all back at school on Monday, March 30th!*

Kindergarten Registration

Registration for kindergarten students in our school catchment area took place during the week of March 2nd. We did not get in our anticipated numbers! If you know of any students who will be attending K in September but have not yet registered, let them know that they need to come into the school office asap!

School Planning Begins!

Following the break, school configuration planning for the 2015-2016 year begins. Staff will begin collaboration meetings in June to create classes that will be in the best interests of our students. Placing students in the most appropriate class for an academic year is a complex process for the school and will be handled carefully and thoughtfully. Fortunately, experience proves that the vast majority of students quickly accept their new teacher, become involved in

classroom routines and relationships and work towards creating a successful year.

Satisfaction Surveys

Parents of students in grades 4 and 7 are reminded to complete the 2014/2015 electronic survey provided to us by the Ministry of Education. The survey is a tool for performance analysis and decision making for schools, districts and the Ministry. We hope to have high participation by parents in this online survey for data collection purposes!

Jump Rope for Heart

Thank you, McGowan, for putting your heart into this event! The school raised an outstanding amount of \$8505 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation!! That is truly an incredible amount of support from our students and parent community. Thank you!!!
And many thanks to Ms Baerg for coordinating this event for our school this year!

Spirit Wear!

Thank you for your orders for school spirit wear!! We have a few extra pieces that were silkscreened to sell:

- 2 Youth Large light blue hoodies
- 1 Adult Large light blue long sleeve t-shirt
- 1 Adult Medium navy blue long sleeve t-shirt

We will put in a second order if you are still interested in purchasing clothing! Samples are available in the front hall of the school to try on sizes, etc. Show your school spirit by wearing McGowan clothing! Orders will be accepted until April 13th and will be delivered on or around the 1st of May.

Doors Doors Doors!

Students are asked to enter & exit the school at their appropriate class room doors. If late, students need to make sure to come through the front doors and sign in at the school office. Parents, please check in at the office when you enter the building so that we can ensure safety

for all of our students.

Safe Arrival Program

Just a reminder to parents to please call and leave a message at the school office if your child will be absent or late. An answering machine will take your message any time before or after school hours.

Also parents, if you are taking your child out of school early, please sign him/her out at the office and inform the secretary about any bus changes, if applicable.

Thank you!

Bikes, Scooters & Skateboards!

Yay – it's that time of year! However, bikes, scooters and skateboards are not permitted to be ridden on school property during school hours for safety reasons. They must be placed on the racks provided and locked, if necessary. Students should be bike, scooter and skateboard aware and wear helmets – now's the time for training!

Dress Code

With the warm weather approaching, students are reminded that clothing must be appropriate for participating in a clean, safe environment and not detract from the teaching/learning environment. McGowan Park Elementary follows the Dress Code outlines by School District Policy 612.1.

Lost & Found

Our bins are full – please come by after spring break to claim any lost items!

SCHOOL WEBSITE:

Please check out our website on a regular basis@<http://mcgowan.sd73.bc.ca/> or you can scan the following QR Code with your wireless devices for quick access to McGowan Park's digital newsletters.



1. The Board enjoyed a presentation on Math Expo projects from two grade 5 students, who were accompanied by their parents and District Math Coordinator Amanda Russett.
2. The Official Opening for the NorKam Trades and Technology Centre will be held on Friday, March 13, 2015 at 10:00 am.
3. The Board received an update from Superintendent deBruijn on the administration of the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) for the 2014-2015 school year.
4. The Board approved Board Authority Authorized Course entitled: Outdoor Education/Fly Fishing Advanced 11/12.
5. The Board approved an amended Out-of-Province Field Trip application to include Chase Secondary students to travel to Drumheller, Alberta, along with students from Valleyview Secondary.
6. The Board approved the 2014/2015 Capital Project Bylaw #126821 for school bus replacements.
7. The Board received a Notice of Motion on the following policies:
 - Revised Policy 204.1 Trustee Seminars
 - Revised Policy 600.1 Code of Conduct
 - New Policy 1024.7 Emergency Procedure: Cancellation of Classes due to Extreme Weather
8. **The next regular public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, March 30, 2015 at the School Board Office.**