

## Principal's Newsletter to Parents and Guardians

December 2016

### MISSION STATEMENT

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

*December brings us a time for reflection of the months long past and hopes and wishes for the new year ahead. Classrooms are a hub of activity and educational pursuits and routines and structures are now firmly in place. At McGowan Park in December there is music in the air! I truly LOVE being your child's principal at this fabulous school.*

*As 2016 draws to a close, my very best wishes to you all for a wonderful and safe holiday this season. Take care of yourself, your family and your community!*

*Cori Wickes*

### Sliding Fun!

We anticipate that we will have more snow after the break! Just a reminder that our students are allowed to bring soft sleds (no hard plastic ones) from home for recess and lunch time sledding fun. We encourage students to share and ride responsibly. Unfortunately, sleds may not be transported on the Pineview bus as per SD#73 Policy. Sleds left at school are the responsibility of the owners.

### Early Drop Offs

Please note that the first bell is at 8:25am. Students should not be dropped off at school prior to this time as there is no supervision outside to ensure their safety.

### Staff Parking Lots

Please obey the signs that designate our two staff parking lots for staff only. School and district staff arrive throughout the day. We do recommend that you arrange to meet your children in the church parking lot after school to avoid the heavy traffic situation.

### Volleyball Season Ends!

Congratulations to all Tier 1 and Tier 3 students who participated on the school volleyball teams this season! Students worked very hard throughout the season with their coaches, making tremendous progress in their level of play and team work. Thanks TONS to all of the parent and teacher coaches who are willing to give some time to make these teams happen for our students!

### FSA Information for Grade 4 & 7 Parents!

Parent information on FSAs can be found at the following website. <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa>  
Please contact the school if you require any further information.

### Parent Curriculum Evening!

Information about the new provincial curriculum will be

presented at a parent evening in our library on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 7:00pm. We are planning to have a 'goodie' potluck – more information to come – stay tuned!

### Your Support is Appreciated!

Many thanks to all of our parents, guardians, and community members who support our school and whatever project McGowan has on the go! Your support of our school allows many activities and events to take place for our students! Thank you for being such an important part of our McGowan family!



### Absences

Please remember that we have now gone to the Safe Arrival program for all absences. Go online to [ktsd.schoolconnects.com](http://ktsd.schoolconnects.com) to register all absences or call 1-844-350-2647 before 8:30 daily. The app for your smartphone works even faster, download it from the app store.

### Popcorn and Hot Lunch Days!

Make sure to keep an eye on the calendar *and* your child's agenda for all of our upcoming hot lunch days, hosted by Ms O's grade 6/7 class and the IAC class.

### Art Club is Fabulous!

The grade 3 to 7 Art Club meets 3 times per week in Mrs. Abraham's room at lunch to be creative! Thanks to PAC for sponsoring any of the special materials we use! Students need to listen for announcements and if they like the type of art being announced, please feel free to join us. We have done some charcoal and pastel art, as well as some funky Christmas cards!

### More Clubs....!

During the cold winter weather that will surely be upon us after the winter break, we are looking for any parents interested in hosting a club of interest to students. Do you have a hidden talent or skill you'd like to share? Don't be shy! Come and see Ms Wickes at the office!

### Basketball Begins!

In January, the District basketball season will begin. As always, volunteers are required for all extra-curricular activities and coaches and referees are needed. If you are available to help out, please contact Ms. Oryschak. Thanks! Mrs. Underwood has 23 girls interested in Tier 3 Basketball but is seeking a coach. Please consider coaching this team.

### Science Fair!

Opportunity knocks! McGowan is hosting a science fair for students in grades 4-7 on Friday February 17th. It is about more than science; it is about igniting passion for learning! For more information, please have your child pick-up the information letter from the office.