



# Roosevelt Park Community School

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## École Communautaire Roosevelt Parc

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Newsletter #5  
Thursday, January 10th, 2013

Dear Parents, Guardians and Community Members,

### ***Welcome Back and Happy New Year !***

We hope everyone had an enjoyable time over Christmas and New Year's. It is good to have students back; they all seem happy to be here!

We are looking forward to teaching your children and know that these next few months are the most productive learning time of the year. Please do not hesitate to call your child's teacher if you would like to have an update on how your child is progressing at school or if you need materials or suggestions on how to support learning at home.

### **Parent Advisory Council - Thank You!**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of our Parent Advisory Council members who helped prepare for the Christmas concert. Without your help, our evening would not have been such a success! Well done! Your support is much appreciated !! The next P.A.C. meeting is scheduled to take place on **Monday, January 14 th at 7:00 p.m.** Babysitting and refreshments will be provided.

### **Canadian Parents For French**

The next CPF meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, January 17th at 7:00 p.m.** at Prince Rupert Middle School. All parents of French Immersion and French as a Second Language are welcome to attend.

### **All Day Kindergarten Registration– French Immersion and English Classes**

Kindergarten registration takes place during the weeks of **February 1st to 15th.** Children aged 5 by December 31, 2013 qualify to start kindergarten in September 2013. Please register your child at the school's front office. When you come to register your child for kindergarten, please bring their care card and birth certificate.

### **Third Annual Sugar Shack Festival D'Hiver– January 23rd to 26th.**

L'Association Francophones et Francophiles du Nord D'Ouest is pleased to announce that they will be holding their third annual Sugar Shack Festival D'Hiver on January 23rd to 26th here in Prince Rupert. It's a four day family festival that encapsulates the Francophone culture, including traditional food, Francophone entertainment, music and activities for children and youth. More information about this event will be sent home with students soon.

### **Carnaval**

This year at Roosevelt, we are going to continue to celebrate the winter festival from Quebec called "Carnaval". Students and teachers can expect a week and half of fun activities, entertainment and exposure to this festival celebrated each winter in Quebec. The actual dates of activities during Carnaval week at Roosevelt will be January 18th to January 30th . A musician named ***Angela Roy*** will be working with every class in the school to prepare a grand musical performance for the afternoon on January 25th. More information about Carnaval week will be sent home with students closer to the date of Carnaval.

Over.....

## **FSA Information for Parents of Grade 4 Students**

The Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) is an annual province-wide assessment of British Columbia students' academic skills, and provides a snapshot of how well BC students are learning foundation skills in reading comprehension, writing, and numeracy.

The main purpose of the assessment is to help the province, school districts, schools, school planning councils and Aboriginal Education Council evaluate how well students are achieving basic skills, and make plans to improve student achievement. The FSA is designed and developed by British Columbia educators. The skills tested are linked to the provincial curriculum and provincial performance standards.

The assessment is administered each year to Grade 4 and 7 students in public and provincially funded independent schools.

### **FSA Requirements**

Parents do not have the right to exclude their children from participating in the Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA).

The Student Learning Assessment Order (Ministerial Order 60/94 as amended) (the "Order") requires school boards to ensure that the FSA tests are administered to and completed by students in accordance with the assessment protocols, instructions, and invigilation procedures established by the Ministry of Education. The following is an excerpt from the Ministry's "Instructions for Principals and Teachers/Invigilators" about participation guidelines:

#### ***Who Should Write the Assessment?***

*All students write FSA including:*

- *All students enrolled in Grade 4 or Grade 7, including students enrolled in a distributed learning program, home-schooled students as well as students enrolled in French Immersion or Programme francophone.*
- *All students enrolled in non-graded programs who were born in:*
  - *2003 write Grade 4 level*
  - *2000 write Grade 7 level*
  - *English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) students.*
  - *Students with special needs who require adaptations, as documented in their Individual Education Plans (IEPs).*

*Students receiving learning assistance services.*

*Exceptions include:*

*students who have previously written the FSA. Students write the FSA for a specific grade once only. If a student is retained, s/he does not write a second time,*

*students who have IEPs documenting a disability that **significantly** impacts their performance in reading, writing, or numeracy and who cannot meaningfully participate in all or part of the assessment, even with adaptations,*

*students with IEPs who would need extensive adaptations or who would need such extended periods of time as to create a hardship for the individual students, or*

*those students who are reported and funded as receiving ESL support who have not yet reached a level of proficiency sufficient for them to provide meaningful responses to the reading or writing or numeracy sections of the FSA.*

*Principals identify which students, if any, are excused from one, two or all three components of the FSA. Principals must notify a parent or guardian if they intend to excuse a student from participating in one or more components of the FSA. Such notification should be made prior to the administration date by letter or telephone call.*

*Principals may excuse a student in the event of a family emergency, a lengthy illness or other extenuating circumstances.*

Information is available for parents on the ministry website including sample questions and tests. <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/info/welcome.htm>

Assessments will begin January 31st and end February 22nd.

**Over....**

**Talking Circle– Mr. Carlick**

Some of you may remember Mr. Carlick, he worked at Roosevelt School as an Aboriginal Family Resource Worker three years ago. We are very lucky that he has agreed to come back and once again facilitate “talking circles” for parents who have children who attend the Hub and children who attend our school. “Talking circles” gives parents a safe and supportive place to talk about parenting issues and concerns they are dealing with in their daily lives. Mr. Carlick has an extensive counseling background and has given numerous parenting workshops and facilitated many support groups at the school and in the community.

**The group begins next Thursday, January 17th at 1:00 p.m. and ends at 2:30 in room 206.** Please sign in at the Hub. Childcare is available in the Hub during the “talking circle” session. Please call Carrie-Ann at the Hub for more information at 250 627 - 8987.

**Lockdown drills and locked exterior doors( Westview Childcare Center)**

Our school has practiced one lockdown drill this year and is planning to practice again in the near future. After discussions with the Westview Childcare Center, and for the safety of our students and staff, we have decided to **“lock “the side entrance doors between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.** The main front entrance will be open from 8:00 to 3:45 daily. This will be **effective Monday, January 14th.**

**Head Checks for nits/lice**

We appreciate your support in making sure you check your child’s head regularly for nits/lice. It may help to choose one day a week such as Sundays to check your child’s head and treat if necessary before returning to school on Monday morning. Please call us at the school if you need assistance or information to treat your child’s head.

**District Parent Advisory Council ( DPAC) and School District #52-Prince Rupert**

A free parent education session with literacy and learning expert Faye Brownlie will be held on **January 29th at 7:00 p.m.** at the Crest Hotel. The topic is: Making a difference for our kids. Come prepared to engage and have fun– and leave with a renewed sense of your importance!

**Important Dates to Mark on Your Calendar**

Monday, January 14th, PAC meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
Friday, January 18th—Carnaval celebrations begin! Ends, January 30th  
Friday, January 25th at 1:00 p.m.—School Musical Performance with Angela Roy

Sincerely,

Kerri Levelton, Vice-Principal

Susan Kobza, Principal

I have read this newsletter and would like my child to be entered into the **Thursday, January 17th** draw.

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Name