

HUSKY NEWS

Abbotsford Middle School
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ADMINISTRATION

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WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL?

Just send an email to Ms. Falk in the school office with "newsletter please" in the subject line.



Greetings Abby Middle Parents and Students!


As this issue goes to print teachers are working on report cards and arranging parent teacher conferences. Students have been in session for 55 days thus far and despite the H1N1 issues overall attendance at the school has been relatively good over the last several weeks. This brings us to an important point to consider as reports are nearly completed. We all usually jump to the grades sections of our child's report counting up the number of 'good' marks and positive effort. Our reports upon closer examination reveal many other important pieces of information one of which is attendance. Given there have been issues with 'flu', attendance still needs to be carefully considered and monitored. If a student is regularly averaging two days of absence per month, by the end of the school year they will have missed one month of instruction. When looked at in a combined sense, this translates to one whole month of instruction that is very difficult to make up. Consider the amount of material a teacher will cover in a day of instruction and the issue becomes very clear.

In order to be successful in our system, students first must attend and second need to work on improving especially in the area of **reading**. This is the other simple fact to do well in our system. Students need to be able to read.

Research tells us a great deal about how our children can be successful in school by tracking the successful students and learning from them.

Here are '8 things' high achieving students demonstrate:

1. Relationship with adults - High achievers spend 12-15 times more time with adults than low achievers
2. Specific achievement training - demonstrate skills, piano, sports, etc.
3. Predictable schedule - know what their day is like, what they are doing after school
4. Anticipatory behaviour - getting ready to do things so they are ready
5. Extended opportunities to read and write - learning to program a DVD player, run a computer program by reading a manual, read for pleasure
6. Sense of purpose
7. Productive use of leisure time
8. Have at least 5 hours of physical activity per week

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 D4	2 D5	3 D6	4 D1	5
6	7 D2	8 D3	PAC Meeting - 7 pm in the Library	9 D4	10 D5	11 D6
13	14 D1	15 D2	16 D3	17 D4	Term 1 Report Cards go home Newsletter Day 18 D5	19
20	21	22	23	24	 25	26
School Not In Session - Christmas Break						
27	28	29	30	31		
School Not In Session - Christmas Break						

TEACHING STAFF

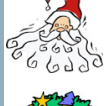
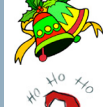
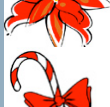
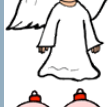
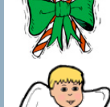
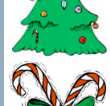
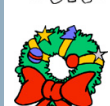
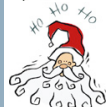
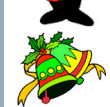
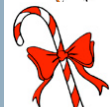
Gr. 6/Div. 1	Mr. R. Dool rick_dool@sd34.bc.ca
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Gr. 6/7/Div 5a	Mr. K. McAuley Kevin_mcauley@sd34.bc.ca
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Gr. 8/Div. 15	Ms. C. Loewen Carmen_loewen@sd34.bc.ca
Gr. 8/Div. 16	Mrs. L. Mactavish lauren_mactavish@sd34.bc.ca
Gr. 8/Div. 17	Mr. J. Beck jamie_beck@sd34.bc.ca
Gr. 7&8/Div. 18	Mr. D. Peters dean_peters@sd34.bc.ca

EXPLORATIONS

Art/Home Ec.	Ms. J. Seymour jennifer_seymour@sd34.bc.ca
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Music/Drama	Ms. N. Hasiuk nancy_hasiuk@sd34.bc.ca
Technology	Mr. M. Howe mike_howe@sd34.bc.ca
Aboriginal Services	Mrs. J. Lawson juanita_lawson@sd34.bc.ca

DID YOU KNOW?

You can communicate, via email, with any employee in our district by using the following format:
firstname_lastname@sd34.bc.ca



As the curtain falls on the first part of the 2009/2010 school year and we enter 2010 its a great time to rededicate ourselves to two essential elements that will impact our students' success. The first, as stated previously, is attendance and the second is providing and encouraging productive use of leisure time including opportunities to read.

While we are on the topic of reading, a huge thanks goes out to Mrs. Campbell and Mrs.Kling for setting up the Book Fair, all the parent volunteers who gave of their time to help run the book fair and

everyone who encouraged and continues to encourage our students to select books of interest they can enjoy reading. The book fair was a great success as usual. As this newsletter reaches you we will be rapidly approaching the winter vacation and as the season draws near may I take this opportunity on behalf of the Abby Middle Staff to wish you and all those you care about a very Merry Christmas, a happy Holiday and a safe and prosperous New Year.

Warm Regards,
Jim MacDonald, Principal

November Student of the Month



Every month an outstanding student is chosen by staff members for their great attitude and kind acts. The students chosen will be invited to a dinner with his/her parents/guardians at the end of the year in appreciation and recognition of this positive behaviour.

November's student of the month is Lyric Hooey. Lyric is a friendly, helpful, cooperative

and polite student who tries her best in all of her academic work. She is sensitive to the students around her, and can often be found smiling and chatting with her friends. Lyric was instrumental in helping with the Remembrance Day assembly. She is respected and liked by her peers, as well as by her teachers.

You rock, Lyric!!

CALLING IN YOUR CHILD'S ABSENCE

Due to the high number of absences occurring at the school the office is extremely busy. Every absence must be confirmed and we are asking that parents assist us by ensuring to call or email the school to inform the office of the absence as early as possible to cut down on the number of calls received between 8:00 am and 9:00 am.

If calling, please leave a message, **AS SOON AS YOU KNOW YOUR CHILD WILL BE ABSENT**, in the absence voicemail box, speaking clearly and loudly enough, giving your child's name, your relationship to the child, your child's division and grade, the reason your child is away (ie. Appointment, illness, out of town) and the duration of the absence (ei. 1 day, 3 days, all week).

If emailing, please give the same information in your email and send it to amsoffice@sd34.bc.ca

CANTEEN/BREAKFAST OPTIONS

Breakfast program has begun! Two local churches give of their time to make nutritious breakfast for any Abby Middle student wishing to be included. Breakfast is served on Mondays and Fridays from 7:30 am to 8:00 am. Students should enter through the multi purpose room doors.

Beef tacos (with lettuce, cheese, tomatoes) will be served on Tuesdays for \$2.50 each. **Pizza** (Cheese, & Pepperoni) is available on Thursday for \$1.50 per slice.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The library is looking for parent volunteers. Duties would include shelving books, circulating (checking in and out) books, displays, book repair, and processing (labeling, stamping, etc.) books. If you would like to help in the library for an hour, a morning, or an afternoon please call Sheri Kling, Library Technician.

School News



STUDENT PRICE CARDS (SPC)

Student Price Cards offer students 10-15% off at number of stores, restaurants, and services. The cards are \$8.50 for a limited time and they come with a \$10 off Bluenotes coupon. The cards are good for 1 year, Aug 1st - July 31st, 2010 and are available to any student with student ID (including college and university). Register your card online at www.spccard.ca and they will email specials throughout the year. SPC cards are available from Mrs. Kling in the school's library.



NOON SUPERVISORS NEEDED

Abby Middle is in need of a noon supervisor. This would be for 1 hour per day from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm, Monday to Friday (or any day(s) you are available). This position pays \$13.00 per hour. Duties would include supervising students during lunch break. If interested, please come to the school's office to fill out an application form and interview with Mr. Horton, our Vice Principal.



FEES NOW DUE

The 09/10 fees envelopes have now been sent home with each student. Fees this year are the same as last year in the amount of \$30.00 per student. For an explanation of what this fee covers please see our website at www.abbymiddle.org.

Please ensure that your payment is submitted to the school as soon as possible. A reminder statement will be sent out to parents each month. If you are experiencing financial difficulty at this time, please feel free to send an email to the principal at Jim_macdonald@sd34.bc.ca. To those parents who have already made payment, we thank you.



LOST AND FOUND

Parents are asked to come to the school to claim any lost clothing items from our lost and found.

Items are bagged up and donated to The Salvation Army at Christmas Break, Spring Break and then again at the **end of the school year**.



TOUGH ENOUGH TO WEAR PINK - LST fund raiser

The CHOICES program in room 109 have been selling "Tough Enough to Wear Pink" wrist bands for a donation of two dollars. We have raised, up to this point, \$110.00 for cancer research and will continue to sell the wrist bands until we are out of them. We have approximately 40 left, so if someone would like to purchase one or more, please see Mr. Kokot in room 109. Thanks to everyone who have been raising funds for worthwhile causes such as this.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP EVENTS

Candygram sales: Monday, December 1- Thursday, December 10th
Cost: .50 per candygram
Delivery Date: Friday, December 18th



Noon Hour Sockhop: Friday, December 11th
Cost: .50 per ticket
Tickets Available: December 7th - December 9th at lunchtime

Don't forget about Spirit Friday's...



IB MYP AT ABBY MIDDLE

The overall philosophy of the programme is expressed through three fundamental concepts that support and strengthen all areas of the curriculum. These concepts are:
***communication** (valuing language acquisition in at least two languages),
***holistic learning** (finding the connections across and within the subjects and grade levels),
***internationalism** (a growing understanding of a student's own culture coupled with an understanding and appreciation of other cultures).

Read more about the IB-MYP in your child's planner, abbymiddle.org and ibo.org

