

November 24, 2011

Volume 8, Issue 3

Mission Secondary Newsletter

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Where has the time gone? Next week we will be into December. As principal, I am extremely pleased with the effort of our students and staff. They are so focused on learning and teaching.

Over the last month Mission Secondary community has been extremely busy. We have had so many events that have brought our school community together. Our Remembrance Day Assemblies were outstanding. Our Drama department led by **Mrs. Brown showcased some outstanding poetry** and our Choir led by **Ms. Grant** sang a beautiful song. The Outdoor Club went on a long hike this month and is ready to take on snowboarding in the near future. The leadership class was instrumental in providing the school community with a Great Spirit week. Our volleyball teams were successful and our senior team made the Fraser Valley's, all our Football teams made the playoffs and this week our Jr. Team will play in the semi-finals along with the Senior Varsity. Finally, with winter setting in, please communicate with your child the importance of staying focused on learning.

This week is report card week. All of our students have received a formal document from the school. However these documents will provide limited information about the progress of your child. It is extremely important that you continue to communicate with your child's teachers in order to assess where they stand in their academic progress. The teacher may provide parents with study techniques for their children or organization methods that may improve their child's performance. If your child is having difficulty please make sure that you make contact with the teacher, counsellor or administrator so we can make a plan to support your child. Remember it takes an entire community to raise a child and us as a school can support the family in many different ways.

Sincerely,

Jim Pearce
Principal

School Hours

8:44 am – Warning Bell
8:47 – 10:04 – First class
10:10–11:27 – Second class
11:27-12:10 – Lunch
12:10 pm – Warning Bell
12:16 – 1:33 – Third class
1:39 – 2:55 – Fourth class

Following the final bell of the day, school buses are loaded very promptly at the bus loop on the east side of the building.

Counselling Office News

Semester 2 begins January 30, 2012 for students in grades, 11, and 12 on a semester timetable. These students are required to take four courses per semester from the eight courses they selected at the beginning of the school year. Students are reminded that the start-up of the second semester is not an opportunity to make course changes. Students should see their counsellor now if they are considering any changes for next semester.

Bad Weather = No School

In the case that schools are not open due to inclement weather, that information will be broadcast on the radio stations as early as possible in the morning of the closures. Please listen to **CBC Radio One, Country 107.1FM, CKNW 980AM, CKWK 1130AM, STAR FM 98.3FM** or the district website www.mpsd.ca for up-to-date information on school closures.

Drama News

MSS' Drama 9/10 students presented a 'Poetry of War' production for school and community audiences Nov 9th. They did the school proud! A big thank you to all the parents and community members who came out to support our students in their efforts. It is difficult to perform in such a somber setting and without recognition. Bravo!

On Nov 3rd and 4th our school was treated to a personal self portrait of war written by Ms. Henni Drenton-Rogoczi, a survivor of WWII in Holland entitled 'The Droning of Bombers'. She tells her story from the perspective a five year old girl holed up with her family on their Dutch farm while they hid victims and resistance fighters. A very moving and ambitious piece, Ms. Drenton-Rogoczi was kind enough to do a Q&A for students after her hour long monologue. Her first-hand experience responses were so very poignant and moving for students to hear about. We really appreciated her graciousness. She and her director, James Servizi, came to us from UFV's theatre department.

Be sure to mark on your calendar our current production of the hilarious 1938 comedy 'You Can't Take It With You' going up Dec 8, 9 & 10th. Tickets will be available from the school office by reservation or purchase next week. Call 604-826-7191 to secure your place!

Mrs. Brown, the Drama and Theatre production teacher at MSS was awarded the Muse 'mentor educator' award by our community on Oct 27th. She feels humbly honoured by the recognition and sends out a huge thank you for all the support she has received over the years. She has been teaching at MSS for 22 years and despite offers over the years to go elsewhere, she would not dream of working anywhere else in the world because she loves MSS so much. Thank you parents, students and community members!

Mother Bear

Nursery Rhymes, Songs & Aboriginal Stories



Based on Parent/Child Mother Goose

***Dates:** Tuesday, Oct. 25th - Dec. 13th, 2011

***Time:** 8:30a.m. for coffee, start@ 9:00- 10:00

***Place:** Deroche Elementary School in school library

***Contact:** Deroche Elementary 604 826 2360

This is a free program, and includes a lite lunch

Parent Information Forum: An Evening with Kelley Young

Young from the Provincial Outreach Program for Autism and Related Disorders will present and discuss challenges faced by individuals with Autism and other related disorders in the area of social skills. Why individuals with ASD have difficulties making friends and developing social relationships with others; what the challenges look like; strategies for the home, school and community.

When: November 30, 2011

Time: from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Where: Ecole Mission Secondary
School Cafeteria

Sponsored by Student Services

Scholarship Information

Grade 12 students should be coming to the counselling office to see what is available in the way of Scholarships and Bursaries as there is a lot of post-secondary money available. Not all of the scholarships and bursaries require a high academic standing. Simply showing an interest in something, being good at something, being a member of certain banks, your parents affiliation with a Union, may qualify you to apply. Please feel welcome to drop in and speak to Ms. Francis about all of the fantastic opportunities.

Mission Foundation Award applications will be available from Ms. Francis in early December.

IMPORTANT TO GRADE 12's

Post-Secondary Institutions (PSIs)

ALL Grade 12 students who are planning to attend a Post-Secondary Institution (University, College, etc.) after grade 12 **MUST** arrange for their final transcript to be accessible by the Post-Secondary Institutions. This "online" process **MUST** be completed by the end of **April**. Students who don't complete this task may be in danger of losing their admission status at the Post-Secondary Institution.

Go to the following link and follow the instructions.

<https://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/tsw/tsw/student>
(Notice "https" above.)

You will require your **STUDENT PEN NUMBER** which is printed on each report card - upper left corner.
Need help...? See Mr. Love, Mrs. Shaw, or Mrs. Janzen.

Dry Grad Parent Committee

Burger and Beverage Night @ Mission Springs Restaurant

When: Tuesday, November 29th

Time: 6:30 pm

Price: \$15.00 per ticket

Canucks PPV game will be shown!!

Tickets available @ the Grad Office or contact us at
us7hockeynuts@yahoo.ca



Thank you all for placing **Neufeld Farms orders**. The orders will be arriving and be available for pick up Monday November 28 at 4:30 at the main entrance of the school. Thanks for everyone who placed an order and supported Dry Grad.

We will be receiving proceeds from parking fees/donations from the racetrack location to the Christmas Parade.

Christmas Extravaganza was very successful. Thank you to all of the great parent volunteers and businesses that participated.

For information on any Dry Grad activities, meetings etc. please contact Katrina Lane at us7hockeynuts@yahoo.ca



Yearbooks

Yearbooks are on sale now **until the end of December** for just \$50.00. Following that, the cost goes up to \$55.00. The Yearbook class is working hard to produce another great edition.

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to the following for providing 38 boxes of gifts for Operation Christmas Child this year:
Global Initiatives
Student Leadership
Restorative Justice
Multicultural Club
and other MSS staff & students.

**Mission Secondary
School**

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://mss.mpsd.ca>

2011 – 2012 Year at a Glance

November 25, 2011	Regular Classes – Day 2
December 16, 2011	Last Day before Winter Break
Dec. 19 - Jan. 2, 2012	Winter Break
January 3, 2012	School Reopens
January 23- 27, 2012	Provincial Exams
January 27, 2012	Turn-A-Round Day – No Classes
January 30, 2012	Semester 2 Begins, Term 3 & Rotation 3 Begins
February 9, 2012	Report Cards Available for pickup
February 17, 2012	District Pro D Day, No Classes
March 16, 2012	Last day before Spring Break
March 19 – 23, 2012	Spring Break
March 26, 2012	School Reopens
April 6, 2012	Good Friday, No Classes
April 9, 2012	Easter Monday, No Classes
April 13, 2012	Term 3, Rotation 3 Ends, 1/2 Day Assessment
April 16, 2012	Term 4, Rotation 4 Begins
April 26, 2012	Parent Teacher Interviews (3:30 - 6:00, 6:30 - 9:00 pm) Report Cards Available for pickup
April 27, 2012	Non Instructional Day, No Classes Report Cards Available for pick up
May 18, 2012	Non Instructional Day, No Classes
May 21, 2012	Victoria Day, No Classes
May 25, 2012	Prom & Dry Grad
June 7, 2012	Commencement
June 15, 2012	Last Day of Classes
June 18 – 20, 2012	School Exams
June 20 – 28, 2012	Provincial Exams
June 28, 2012	Report Cards Available noon - 4:00 p.m.
June 29, 2012	Report Cards Available noon - 4:00 p.m.
June 29, 2012	Administrative Day

Music Notes

O Come All Ye Faithful! The Music Department will present its annual Christmas Concert on Tuesday, December 6th, 2011 at the Clarke Foundation Theatre, 7:00pm. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$2 for students and \$1 for children under 5. All of our musical ensembles will be performing at this event – your support is appreciated!

Also, a big thank you to all band students who participated in our first bottle drive of the year on Saturday, November 19th! A special shout out goes to Kevin Francis and Brian McQuade (both grade 12 students) who organized this event!! If there are any parents or guardians who have other fundraising ideas, they are always welcome! Please contact Ms. Grant at the school (kim.grant@mpsdc.ca)