

Stride Avenue Community School Community Room Updates

Winter 2024

WE'VE HAD A BUSY AND EXCITING WINTER SO FAR.

We have had a number of staffing changes at Stride. After 30 years of teaching and leading schools, our principal, Ms. Merani, has retired. A few celebrations were held in her honor. Mr. Tesan (head teacher) is now our (Acting) Principal. Mr. Hinmueller (teacher, Division 8) is now our head teacher. Ms. McEwen, counsellor, has gone on maternity leave. We welcomed the following new staff: Ms. Nelson (teacher, Division 8), Ms. Haddock (counsellor), Ms. Cabrilo (office support), Ms. Borbely (EA). We also welcomed back the following staff members: Ms. Pang (library) and Ms. Steele (EA).

December was a busy month filled with many holiday celebrations. Thank you Division 1 and 2 for organizing the annual Pancake Breakfast and to BC Hydro for lending us Santa for the morning. Thank you to our amazing music teacher, Ms. Bulanowski, for all her hard work and creativity with this year's winter concert. Divisions 1-6 performed music inspired by the book *Bright Winter Nights* by Alli Brydon. Thank you also to the Community Council for donating popcorn for the entire school during the holiday movie afternoons.

The month of December is a month of giving. Thanks to the kind and generous donations from BC Hydro Employees and the Burnaby School District Maintenance Services Department, we were able to provide gift cards and hampers to some families in need of support this season.



Office and Community Room staff with Santa

IMPORTANT DATES:

Feb. 28: Pink shirt day

Feb. 28: Community Council Meeting 7PM-ZOOM

March 18 to April 1: Spring Break

April 2: School Reopens

April 23 Early dismissal, Student Led Conferences

April 24 Early dismissal, Student Led Conferences

April 25: Community Council Meeting 7PM-ZOOM

April 29: Professional Day (No School)

May 29: Community Council Meeting 7PM-ZOOM



Musical Chairs at the Holiday Sing A Long Concert

THANK-YOU!!

Thank you to the following people and groups for their generous donations to our school. These donations made it possible for our students to enjoy holiday celebrations and for us to provide additional resources for our families over the holidays.

- Burnaby Elk's Club (breakfast club donation)
- Tzu Chi Foundation (breakfast club donation and volunteering at breakfast club on Fridays)
- Buy Low Foods (pancake breakfast donations)
- Burnaby Firemen Charitable Society (breakfast and snack program).
- BC Hydro Basketball Club (donation for pancake breakfast)
- Costco (weekly donations for food pick-up)
- Cobs (weekly donation for food pick up)
- Quest Food Exchange (weekly apple donation)
- BC Hydro Employees (giving campaign and lending Santa for the morning)
- Burnaby School District Maintenance Services Department (2 Christmas hampers)
- South Burnaby Metro Club (donation of basketball, volleyballs and soccer balls)
- Joan and Colleen (picking up and organizing the weekly Costco donation)
- The DUDES Club (moving the community garden)



COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATES

- Popcorn and Drinks. This weekly fundraiser happens every Friday in the Gallery. Cost is \$1 each and all funds raised support programs and supplies in the classrooms. The council is currently selling hot chocolate and will switch to slushies when the weather is warmer.
- Thank-you to all families who supported the annual poinsettia fundraiser by purchasing a plant. All funds raised go towards programs for students at Stride.
- Thank you to the Council for donating popcorn for all students during the holiday movie afternoons in December.
- Thank-you to Stride parents Madiha (DPAC Rep.) and Santoshi (Education Chair) for their informative presentation on Cyber-Security at the January Community Council meeting.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monthly meetings are held usually on the last Wednesday of every month. Meetings are at 7pm via ZOOM. Attending Community Council meetings is a great way to meet other parents, to learn about events that are happening at school and how to get involved in upcoming events.

- Wednesday, February 28
- Thursday, April 25
- Wednesday, May 29

A ZOOM link to the meetings will be emailed to families one week prior to the meeting.



Volunteers from the Rotary Coats For Kids program



South Burnaby Metro Club and their generous donation of sports equipment.



The DUDES Club helping to move the Community Garden

LOST AND FOUND

Reminder to all families to check Lost and Found in the Gallery. We have many jackets, hats and gloves that need to find their owners. On Friday, March 15th all unclaimed items will be donated to charity.



OUT OF SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Our Winter programs have begun. Reminder to all families to please pick up your children on time from their programs. Registration for Spring programs will begin at the end of April. Confirmation of enrollment will be sent home after Spring Break. Some programs will start in April and others will start in May. We are excited to be working with a variety of

COMMUNITY EVENTS FOR FAMILIES

On a regular basis we post information about local events and programs. Please look for posters and information on the bulletin board outside the community room and on the school website.

WET WEATHER AND MUD REMINDERS

Please ensure your children (Grades K-7) have a full change of clothes in their classroom or backpack. For the next year the school grounds will be very muddy due to construction and we are seeing more kids getting dirty or wet and needing to change clothes after being outside.

PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM

- Wednesday parent group with Souad Hage-Hassan. Once a month there will be a special topic presented (see posters for date or contact Sandy Krishna at 604-838-6280 for more information)
- Wednesday food distribution. If families need extra support for food, they can come to the side door off Griffiths on Wednesdays between 2:30pm-3:00pm.
- After Spring Break two new programs will start running in the Community Room. An English Conversation Circle will be held on Tuesdays and a Calm and Confident Parents group will be offered on Thursdays. More information about how to register for these programs will be available in the next few weeks.

STRIDE EARLY YEARS INFO

Burnaby Neighbourhood House can provide you with information about daycare spaces or pre-school at Stride. Call the early years program supervisor, Jasmine, at 236-308-1601

CONTACT US

Please contact us if you have any ideas for events or programs that you would like to see at Stride. We are also here to assist if your family needs additional support at home.

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