

# Alwin Holland Elementary School Newsletter

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## Alwin Holland Elementary School

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## Important Dates

- Jan. 9 - Reading Contest Begins
- Jan. 19 - Basketball Bake Sale
- Jan. 23 - Jersey Day
- Jan. 27 - NID - No School
- Jan. 30 - NID - No School
- Feb. 13 - Family Day - No School
- Feb. 17 - PAC Meeting

## TEAM - Together Everyone Achieves More

Our Mission: We promote a growth mindset. Everyone is engaged and is working together as a community with unconditional acceptance for all.

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Children who will be five years old this year (born in 2012) can begin Kindergarten in September. If you have a child to register, please see Mrs. McAleney at the office. If you have neighbours that should register their child, please let them know. We need registrations to be completed as soon as possible, preferably by the end of April, so that we can determine staffing for next year.

To register a child you will need the birth certificate, immunization record and proof of address. Students not born in Canada need additional documentation and should contact the office. There is a "school locator" on the district's website which uses addresses to determine if you are in our catchment area. [www.prn.bc.ca](http://www.prn.bc.ca)

## STUDENT TEACHERS

Mrs. Dutchak, Ms. Gatt and Mrs. Petuh will have student teachers working with their classes between now and mid-April. Welcome to Kaitlyn Nelson Plews, Ida Lis, and Bronwyn Scott.

## READING CONTEST

All students and staff are challenged to read for fun at home during the month of January. Students can read or be read to and record the number of minutes for each day. The minutes of reading will be converted to kilometres and totalled by classroom. Classes have an emblem that will move throughout Canada on the map that is outside the library. Each student who participates will receive a certificate and be able to participate in the final event if their class travels across Canada.

More information and record keeping sheets were sent home with students at the beginning of the week. If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Hartman.



## SCIENCE FAIR

Students are beginning their Science Fair projects. For more information, contact your child's teacher or Ms. Gatt. The fair will take place Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>.

## FSAs

Grade 4 students will be writing Foundation Skills Assessment tests between now and mid-February. The BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils has information at:

<http://bccpac.bc.ca/resources/fsa-information-kit-for-parents/>

Sample exams are available at: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/eassessment/>

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

If you would like to volunteer to help out in classrooms and work with students, speak with Mrs. McAleney in the office about completing a Criminal Record Check. Speak with your children's teachers or the office to see if there are areas where assistance is needed.

The next PAC meeting is Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm in the library at the school. Feel free to join us!

### **BASKETBALL**

We have a lot of excellent athletes at our school—enough to create six basketball teams! Teams have their practice schedules and are working hard to prepare for their first games. Games take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The tournaments will take place on March 2<sup>nd</sup> (boys) and March 3<sup>rd</sup> (girls). Thank you to our staff and community coaches: Mr. MacKay, Mrs. Dutchak, Mrs. Hartman, Ms. Duncan, Ms. MacDonald, Mr. Dyke (with Mrs. Snow) and Mr. Brown (with Mrs. Morrison). Good luck, boys and girls!

Basketball Bake Sale - Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup> - players/parents should drop off their items for the bake sale Thursday morning. Make sure that all baking is peanut and nut free.

### **BADMINTON**

Badminton practices have started and they take place most Friday mornings at 8:00 am. There will be more practices after basketball ends and the badminton season begins.



### **MINGLE JINGLE**

Hundreds of students and their families came to the school on Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> for Mingle Jingle. It was a very enjoyable evening. Thank you to our staff who helped everyone enjoy pictures with Santa, cookie decorating, cake walk, ornaments, bingo, Christmas crafts, Christmas stories, Just Dance, floor hockey and coding.

### **COLOUR ASSEMBLY**

At the Spirit Assembly on Monday, students worked in their colour groups to help identify what respectful, responsible, and safe behaviour looks like in the different locations in the school. Ask your children what it means to them to be respectful, responsible, and safe!

### **LOST AND FOUND**

The lost and found boxes are overflowing. If you are missing something, please come and take a look! There is a lot of nice clothing waiting to be taken home!

### **INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY**

On Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, representatives from the Industry Training Authority and the Ministry of Education visited various school projects in the district. At Alwin Holland they spoke with Mr. MacKay and his class about building the tables in their classroom and the construction of the wall outside. Below are some of the comments from one of the visitors.

The students and teachers take so much pride in the items they have taken apart, fixed or built. Your principals too, seemed so engaged in the whole process of making, tinkering and using tools. Please pass on my thank-you to all the educators, principals and staff who helped make that day so enjoyable. Congrats SD 60!

Lisa Ayton, Youth Outreach Leader

### **HOURLY OF CODE**

Coding is in the curriculum for students from kindergarten to Grade 9. It is a way to teach problem solving, critical thinking, designing and communicating. There are activities that can be plugged in (use technology) and unplugged (without technology). Check out these websites for more information and for ideas of what you can do at home:

School District 60 - <http://www.prn.bc.ca/?p=2931>

Hour of Code - <https://code.org/learn>

### **KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE NEXT ISSUE...**

Information about Cabin Fever Day

More celebrations of learning! More upcoming events!