



School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha)

**KVR**

Middle School/École Intermédiaire

300 Jermyn Avenue, Penticton, B. C. V2A 2E1

Phone: (250) 770-7600 Fax: (250) 770-7610

Principal: Steve DeVito Vice-Principal: Jennifer Wingham

**December 2016**



## ADMINISTRATORS' MESSAGE



December is upon us and with it comes a number of exciting events! We have our first term report cards being issued soon. Our hope is to have these sent home on December 14<sup>th</sup>. We ask that students and parents spend some time going over report cards, reading the comments carefully, discussing first term successes and then set goals for the rest of the year.

Also, our musicians and artists are madly practicing and putting finishing touches on projects for our Winter Fine Arts Night to be held on November 29<sup>th</sup>. We are very proud of our band and art programs and excited to hear and see the results of all the hard work of our teachers and students. Don't forget, too, that many of our grade teams and classrooms have plans for fun activities in preparation for the holiday season.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our families and volunteers that have contributed to making our community a great one! We hope that everyone enjoys a wonderful holiday season and restful break!

Steve DeVito & Jennifer Wingham

### PAC

Reminder to all parents, that our PAC meets every second Wednesday of the month, in the KVR library, at 6:00. There will be **No PAC Meeting in December.**

The next meeting will occur on January 11<sup>th</sup>.



### First Term Report Cards

First term report cards will be sent home on **Wednesday, Dec, 14<sup>th</sup>**. If you have any questions regarding report cards please contact your child's teacher.

### Yearbook Sales

Yearbooks are a great keepsake of your child's year at KVR. Our grade 8 Yearbook Committee is hard at work on our 2016-2017 edition. If a student wishes to have a yearbook, they must pre-order at the library with Mrs. Sandham or Mrs. Haukaas as there will be a very limited amount available for purchase in the spring. **The cost of yearbooks is \$40 until December 16<sup>th</sup>.**

### Winter Fine Arts Night – Tues. Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>

Students should be madly practicing for this year's winter concert. ... Thanks band parents for encouraging regular practice!



Doors open for our Fine Arts night at 6:30. Come and check out the art display in our Multipurpose Room. Band concert begins at 7:00 pm. Hope to see you there!

### Poinsettia Fundraiser

Thank you to all KVR parents, guardians and supporters for the generous orders of poinsettias and wreaths for our Poinsettia Fundraiser. Poinsettias will be available for pick up Tuesday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> 3:00 - 5:00 pm. All the monies raised will go towards our student leadership initiatives, as well as whole-school activities and fees for students who are experiencing financial difficulties. Thank you for helping our KVR community!

## **FARM BAG FUNDRAISER**

KVR's Farm Bag Fundraiser final pick-up date is Wednesday December 7th 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Thank you to all subscribers! If you cannot make the pick-up day, contact KVR's Farm Bag coordinator, Mme Sluyter at [jsluyter@summer.com](mailto:jsluyter@summer.com)

### **FSA Information for Parents of Grade 4 Students (or Grade 7 Students) January, 2017**

The Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) is an annual province-wide assessment of British Columbia students' academic skills, and provides a snapshot of how well British Columbia 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 and school planning councils to 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 Grade 7 students in public and provincially funded independent schools.

#### **FSA Requirements**

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. In accordance with the School Act, only the Principal has the authority to exclude children from participating in the Foundation Skills Assessment. Principals may excuse a student in the event of a family emergency, a lengthy illness or other extenuating circumstances. In such circumstances, parents must discuss their request with the Principal.

The following is an excerpt from the Ministry's 2016 "Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) Administration Instructions 2016" about participation guidelines:

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

#### **All students write FSA including:**

- All students enrolled in Grade 4 or Grade 7 of the English program, French Immersion program or Programme francophone, including students enrolled in a distributed learning program.
- All students enrolled in non-graded programs who were born in:
  - 2006 write Grade 4 level
  - 2003 write Grade 7 level
- English Language Learners (ELL) – formerly known as "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 student.
- Those students who are reported and funded as receiving English Language Learning (ELL) 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.*

*Principals of public schools are to send a list of excused students to their superintendent.*

## UBC Teacher Candidate at KVR

This year our school is hosting a teacher candidate from UBC-Okanagan. Ms. Teri Brant will be working in various classrooms, in particular with our band program, and getting involved in extracurricular events.

As part of their work at the school and under the supervision of their mentor teachers, teacher candidates may be collecting some basic interest and learning information about your child (for example: likes/dislikes, hobbies, subject area skills and knowledge). This information will help the teacher candidates understand your child's learning goals and preferences which, in turn, will help them plan appropriate lessons and other learning experiences.

All UBC-Okanagan teacher candidates have been informed of the BC Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and have signed a contract pledging that they will comply with parameters outlined therein. All information and student work collected will be treated as confidential. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact the school office.

## Winter Sports... in full swing!

It's basketball season! Currently we have a full slate of grade 6, 7, & 8 boys and girls basketball teams! Please watch our athletics bulletin for practice schedules for all board teams. A huge thank you to all of our volunteer coaches!



## Gr. 7 Team

The grade 7 team is excited to be connecting with Carmi Elementary School during the morning of Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> to facilitate a school-wide gingerbread house making event. Each of our grade 7 students will be paired with an elementary student in this fun community building activity.

All grade 7's are going to Apex for a "Tubing Adventure" **Friday, Dec. 16** (leave KVR @ 9 am, return 2 pm) Permission slips will go home a week prior to the trip.

Parents are welcome to join us!

## Yoga Club beginning in January!

Yoga club will begin in the second week of January and will continue until Spring Break. Times and cost will be announced later and registration forms will be distributed prior to holidays.

## Try-Something-New-Tuesdays!

A new weekly event at KVR is "Try-Something-New" Tuesdays. Each Tuesday at 12:30 pm, the Leadership 8 students put on whole-group activities in the gym. The activities are open to students of all grade levels and so far there have been over 75 students at each event! From games like Ninja that involves strategizing to Instant Insanity that require problem-solving, there's a game for everyone!



## Disability Parking

Please note that we have families in our school that need access to the handicapped parking stalls at various times throughout the day. We ask that, if you are requiring these spaces to have your decal clearly displayed.

**Please be conscientious and do not park in the handicapped parking stall as it is vital that it be used by those who need it.**



## French Immersion Information Night

There will be a French Immersion Information Night for new registrants (grade 6 next year) on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 7:00 pm at KVR in the Multi- Purpose Room. A letter, along with an application form regarding next year's Grade 6 French Immersion classes, is being sent home in January with all grade 5 students. Application forms will also be available January 19<sup>th</sup> at all elementary schools and the Board Office (425 Jermyn Ave., Penticton), or on the district website at [www.sd67.bc.ca](http://www.sd67.bc.ca) **Deadline for applications is noon on Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

## Snow gear donations needed in January

Do you have snow gear such as ski jackets, snow pants, and snow boots that you are thinking of donating? Do you have snow gear or mitts, tuques or scarves that your family no longer needs? Someone in our KVR community might be able to benefit from your generosity. The Grade 6 team asks that you save these items for our winter gear drive in the new year. Grade 6 students will be participating in a team-building snow day up at Apex in January, and we want to make sure that all students have the gear they will need to participate. Stay tuned for more information about how and when you can donate your snow gear! Thanks!



## Student Mural: This is what we believe.

You may have noticed a new piece of art on the walls of KVR. A mural painted by KVR students was recently installed on the Jermyn Ave side of the building. This painting was an initiative undertaken by grade 8 leadership students two years ago. They wanted to do something to brighten the school that also communicated what they thought KVR stands for. Of their own accord, they applied for the Youth Initiative Grant through the United Way. They successfully won the grant in 2014 with a design created solely by students and the mural has been taking shape ever since. We are very proud of our students for not only taking action for something they strongly believed in, but also for recognizing how important diversity is to our community. Way to go, KVR!



## **VOLUNTEER TUTORS NEEDED**



**ONE TUTOR, ONE CHILD, UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES**



As a volunteer with the **ONE TO ONE Children's Literacy Program**, you will help a child build reading skills and self-confidence. By dedicating just a few hours a week during the school day, you can help a child develop a love of reading.



For more information, please contact:  
Literacy Now South Okanagan-Similkameen  
Dannielle Hyde 250-770-0029  
literacynowsos@gmail.com

Our volunteers receive training and ongoing support. All you need is a love of reading and a desire to make a difference in the lives of children in your community.

Through one-to-one volunteer tutoring, we help children develop literacy skills to last a lifetime.

[www.one-to-one.ca](http://www.one-to-one.ca)



## **Upcoming Dates to Remember!**

- **November 29<sup>th</sup>** – Winter Fine Arts Night / Band Concert
- **Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>** -- “10,00 Tonight” Food Drive
- **December 2<sup>nd</sup>** Last day of term 1.
- **December 6<sup>th</sup>** – Poinsettia order pick up from 3-5 pm in our Multipurpose Room
- **Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>** – Gr. 6s Swimming in morning
- **Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>** – Gr. 6 Cyberbullying presentation in the afternoon & parent presentation at 7:30 pm in our multipurpose room
- **December 14<sup>th</sup>** – Report Cards home
- **December 15<sup>th</sup>** – Grade 7s to Carmi Elementary for gingerbread activity
- **December 16<sup>th</sup>** – Gr. 6 Gingerbread, Gr. 7s tubing at Apex & Last day of classes
- **January 3<sup>rd</sup>** (Tuesday) – Schools Re-open

**ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAY!**