

KEATING ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER December 2009

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School email: keating_elem@sd63.bc.ca

School Website: www.sd63.bc.ca/schools/keating

Call Back: 250-652-1312

District Website: www.sd63.bc.ca

KHASA email: khasa63@gmail.com

KHASA Website: www.khasa.ca

KOSC email: KOSC@telus.net

KOSC Website: www.keatingoutofschoolcare.com



KEATING VISION STATEMENT

*AT KEATING WE ARE A CARING COMMUNITY OF
LEARNERS WHO
TREAT EACH OTHER WITH RESPECT, WELCOME
DIVERSITY AND CELEBRATE TOGETHER*

ADMINISTRATION

The first term has come and gone very rapidly and as December unfolds, please note the calendar for upcoming items. Due to the holidays, this is a short but very active and busy month. Charitable causes supported by students, families and staff, Christmas crafts and sing-a-longs, field trips and special performances, as well as very active classroom learning make this a fun and productive time for all. Watch the calendar carefully as December is chocker block full.

Teachers are very busy with report card processes at this time and reports should be arriving home no later than December 11th.

Upon reflection of the past three months, your children have provided you and us with many joyful encounters and examples of awesome citizenship. As well, we are thankful for your ongoing support of our school and its programs. Your involvement does make a huge difference.

On behalf of Keating Staff and Administration, please have a restful and Very Merry Christmas Season and a Happy New Year. Joyeux Noël et Bonne année a tous.

Sincerely,

M. Notte

Mr. Mark Notte,
Principal

DATES TO NOTE

- Dec. 8/15th Grade 3, 4, 5 Swim Club
Commonwealth Pool 3:15-4 pm
- Dec. 8/9th Fruit & Veggie Program
- Dec. 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18th
Sing-A-Long (times noted on page 3)
- Dec. 9th Students Tour gym; Winter Family
Projects
- Dec. 11th Hot Lunch
- Dec. 11th Report Cards home
- Dec. 14th Preschool Story time; 8:50 a.m.
- Dec. 15th Final day for Hamper donations
- Dec. 15th Hamper Wrapping (MPR)
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
(Volunteers needed...information attached)
- Dec. 15/16th Hampers delivered
- Dec. 16th Jingle Bell Run 12:30 p.m.
- Dec. 17th Movie Night
- Dec. 18th Whole School Assembly /
Sing-A-Long 12:45 p.m.
- Dec. 18th Last Day of classes(regular school day hours)
- Dec. 19th Central Saanich Fire Department
Food Bank Drive 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
(more info attached)
- Dec. 21-Jan.1st Christmas Break
- Jan. 4th School Reopens
- Jan. 5, 12, 19 & 26th Grade 3, 4, 5 Swim Club
Commonwealth Pool 3:15 - 4 p.m.
- Jan. 6th January Newsletter; will be sent electronically
- Jan. 7th Pajama Day
- Jan. 12th Buddy Run
- Jan. 13th KHASA Education Night; 7 p.m.
- Jan. 25th Preschool Story time
- Jan. 26th Fine Arts Presentation;
'King Arthur's Kitchen' 9:15 a.m.
- Jan. 28th Canspell; Grade 4's & 5's
- Jan. 29th Hot Lunch
- Jan. 29th Family Read-In

FROM THE OFFICE

✓ **Reminder that visitors to the school are to sign in at the office.** If you are picking up your child(ren) prior to 2:40 p.m., please check in at the office. If your child is late for school, please ensure that they sign in at the office.

✓ Please encourage your child to check the **Lost & Found** if you notice any items missing (located in the foyer by the gym). Small items (watches, glasses, earrings, etc.) are kept in the school office. **Found;** necklace with pink stone (can be claimed at the office).



INDOOR SOCCER

For the past 4 weeks grade 3, 4 and 5 students have been playing indoor soccer at lunch time. During these 45 minute activities students have practiced their dribbling, passing and shooting skills. We have had many spectators and great team spirit. Thank you to all the teachers who have helped coach and supervise these activities.

BADMINTON



This month all Keating students will receive badminton instruction by skilled coaches. Badminton BC Head Coach, Jeremy Cote (Mrs. Lee's nephew) will be spending four days at Keating teaching all students from K-5 the fundamental skills in badminton. We hope this will be an annual event for Keating students to try their skills in a new sport.

SWIM CLUB

On Tuesday, December 15th Swim Club will meet at the regular time. This day will be a Christmas Swim Party which will mean free time in the pool for swim club members only. Regular Swim Club resumes Tuesday, January 5^h.

Upcoming FAST meets: Sunday, December 6th 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

For more information see Mme Pinder.

JINGLE BELL FUN RUN Wednesday, December 16th

To celebrate the Christmas season and to promote physical fitness at Keating School, Mrs. Lee has organized a 'Jingle Bell Fun Run' for Wednesday, December 16th at 12:30 p.m. Every student in the school will get a jingle bell to wear as a bracelet while running the course. Children are encouraged to dress up for the run in their Santa hats, reindeer antlers or any other 'Christmassy' apparel they can find or make! Parents are welcome. The course will be set around the school and students will be permitted to complete up to 3 laps. A small draw prize will be given to one student from each division.

Thank you Mrs. Lee for your enthusiasm and helping to keep Keating School students fit!!

LIBRARY

- Family Read in on Friday, December 11th at 8:50 a.m. Bring seasonal stories or a family favourite and read all over the school.
- **Preschool Story time** is on Monday, December 14th. Please join us for some seasonal fun!
- **Books over the holidays** – due to a loss of data from the library computers we will need to do a full inventory in January when we return from the break. We ask that all families return their school library books prior to the holiday break (the only exception will be Red Cedar books).



Thank you for your help with this big job.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ELECTED SCHOOL PLANNING COUNCIL 2009 / 2010

Sheila Ayres, Rodger Dunn & Tracy Zeisberger

If you want to know anything that is going on with the SPC, please check with one of these individuals



SING-A-LONG

Your are cordially invited to join us for the signing of carols and songs for the Christmas season!

Schedule

Tuesday, Dec. 8 th	1:15 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 9 th	8:50 a.m.
Thursday, Dec. 10 th	1:15 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 15 th	1:15 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 16 th	8:50 a.m.
Thursday, Dec. 17 th	8:50 a.m.
Friday, Dec. 18 th	12:45 p.m. Assembly

FRENCH CERTIFICAT de MÉRITE or *CERTIFICAT D'EXCELLENCE*

As part of the monthly French Immersion Assembly, the following students were awarded a Certificate of Merit or Certificate of excellence to recognize their French speaking abilities:

Div. 002; M. Parent / Ms. Windle

Hannah Sullivan, Sunday Jeffrey, Percy Duffield, Gavin George

Div. 004; Mme Nicolson / Mme Pinder

Kira Hutchinson, Christopher Dunn, Katia Puritch

Div. 005; Mme Heron / Ms. Windle

Cailyn Campbell, Sapana Palmer

Div. 007; Mme Gautrais

Kitana Sivananthan, Natalie Veronneau, Lauren Hutchinson

Div. 009; M. Fraser

Mason Steele, Kaelyn Lindahl, Timmy Bowler

Div. 010; Mme Kinsella

Carlos Quintero, Liam Dagenais, Elise Giesbrecht

Div. 011; Mme Boltres

Joseph Zerr, Justin Davies, Breannah Bugslag

Div. 014; Mme Lord

Eden Hyldig, Johnathan Nakata, Breanne Powell

Div. 015; Mme Johnson

Matthew Campo, Nathan Truong, Julia Watson

Div. 018; Mme Haugen

Aiden Schandl, Olivia Dunlop

Div. 019; Mme Haugen

Abriel Mikkelson, Payton Cameron

Div. 020; Mme Gartrell-Yeo

David Armstrong, Sophia Teghtmeyer, Cohan Lyne

CANSPELL AND THE BEE

On Thursday, January 28th we will be holding the 4th Annual CanSpell Keating Spelling Bee.



This event is open to interested Grade 4 and Grade 5 students. Look for more information in the new year. It isn't too early to start practicing spelling! Watch for words in the Times Colonist. Drop in spelling practice is open to all Grade 4's and 5's on Monday at lunch time.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Central Saanich Volunteer Fire Department

Food Bank Drive; Join in the Challenge Help Firefighters Fight Community Hunger Saturday, December 19th 6 – 9 p.m.

Firefighters in our community will be driving around the streets of Saanichton, Brentwood and the Keating/Tanner areas picking up non perishable food items that you are willing to donate to our local Lion's Food Bank. Look for the trucks and firefighters coming soon to your neighbourhood. For more information call 250-544-4238.

Victoria Butterfly Gardens

Santa will be visiting.....
Saturdays and Sundays in December 11 – 2 p.m.
Save yourself from the lineups downtown, and a visit a tropical Santa close to home.....
For more information; www.butterflygardens.com

Wild Arts – After School 2010

Wild Arts encourages kids to adventurously explore and stretch their creative power and confidence through the free form Arts of Painting, Drawing and Movement. Wild Winter Thursdays & Fridays (at Breathing Space Studio, Brentwood) Jan. 7/8 – March 4/5, (8 weeks) 3:15–4:45 p.m.; Wild Winter Wednesdays (at Commonwealth) Jan. 13 - March 3, 4 – 5:30 p.m.; and introducing: Little Wild Arts (for Pre School) Wild Tropical Weekends (at Butterfly Gardens! In February and March). See www.wildartsvictoria.com or call 250-544-4057 for more information

IEOA Truck Light Parade & Food Drive

Saturday, December 5th

Start; 5:45 p.m.	Convoy leaves Ogden Point
Approx. 6:30 p.m.	Oak Bay Village
Approx. 7 p.m.	Yates & Douglas
Approx. 7:30 p.m.	Helmcken & Trans Canada Overpass
Approx. 8:15 p.m.	Western Speedway

PLEASE NOTE THAT TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE
Trucks are not able to pick up food on route
Additional information regarding designated food donation
locations and a complete route map
www.ieoa.ca

Peninsula Lacrosse Assoc. Registration

Panorama Recreation Centre
Concourse A (Arena Lobby)

For boys and girls ages 5 – 16

Sunday, January 17th, 2010

3 – 6 p.m. (returning players)

Monday, January 18th 5 – 8 p.m. &

Friday, January 22nd 5 – 8 p.m.

If you are interested in refereeing lacrosse e-mail:
penprez@hotmail.com

If you are interested in coaching lacrosse, call 250-652-8855

For further information: lori5612@telus.net or 250-652-8855

Holiday Gift Sale - Royal Oak Middle School

4564 West Saanich Rd., Victoria

Saturday, December 5th, 2009

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Browse through the MPR & Drama rooms for one-of-a-kind Christmas items.

Pampered Chef, Tupperware, Silver Rill Farms, Epicure Selections, Usana Health Sciences, Silver Peruvian Jewelry, Knife Pro, Handmade bracelets, and more....

ROMS Holidays Gift Sale supports the Girls' Circle and other leadership opportunities for ROMS Students. Admission: \$2.00 Wheelchair accessible.

PCEC "1000 x 5" Children's Book Recycling Project continues to seek donations.....

If you can donate gently used children's picture books, please leave them at the school office. They will be forwarded to volunteers at KELSET Elementary who process them for distribution to children and families on the Peninsula. For further information, please contact: Daphne Macnaughton, PC EC "1000 X 5" Project Leader dlmvictoria@shaw.ca

CANADA POST
Write to Santa at
North Pole
HOH OHO



Canadian Parent for French (CPF) Saanich Update!

Thank you to all the families who ordered Magazine Drive! Our final tallies are not yet in, so we will announce top sellers and prizes in the January Newsletter! *An important note to all orders that were submitted to the schools (versus online): a delay in processing beyond our control may cause some orders to come in after Christmas – our apologies for any inconvenience this may cause. Online orders continue to be processed immediately and are available 24 hours a day throughout the school year! To view the catalogue and order online, go to: www.qsp.ca and type in our group code: 16681.

We have a great new executive, including school reps and a socio-cultural/extra-curricular coordinator that will continue to work with the school staff to support French resources and programming, as well as coordinating French Socio-Cultural events at your school!

Thank you again for your support of the QSP Magazine Drive Fundraiser!

Breen Liblong, President CPF Saanich Chapter
Telephone: 250-514-2864 email: bliblong@gmail.com

ALL KEATING STAFF

*would like to wish
All Keating Families
a
Merry Christmas
and extend
Best Wishes for a*



Happy & Healthy Holiday

WINTER FAMILY PROJECT

Reminder for students to please return artwork / tree shape to the stage. Parent volunteers will be hanging the trees from December 1st through the 8th. Anyone willing to help can contact Helen Baxter at 250-544-4803 or email ahnbaxter@shaw.ca or Tanya Adam at 250-652-1663 or email dtadam@telus.net. Feel free to stop in to the gym and look on the stage and if there are projects to be hung, please do so.



LIFE-THREATENING FOOD ALLERGIES & SPECIAL DAYS

We recognize that special days are times of celebration with friends, family and food; however, there are students in our school with life-threatening food allergies and these students are especially vulnerable at this time. You can help to keep these students safe by celebrating with stickers, games or prizes and keeping peanut and nut containing products at home during and after celebrations such as holidays, birthdays, class and end-of-the-year parties. Refer to your school's policies and procedures around life-threatening food allergies for more information. For more information contact your local Health Unit @ 250-544-2400, your doctor or pharmacist.

UNICEF CAMPAIGN

Thank you to all the families
who contributed to the Unicef Campaign.

WINTER IS HERE

This notice is a reminder to parents/guardians that in the event of poor weather, poor road conditions or an unplanned event there may be a time when the school bus fails to arrive so please be prepared. Parents/Guardians need to have a plan for their children.

1. SD63 School Bus Schedule Updates (i.e. breakdowns, weather delays, route closures) 250-652-8437.
2. In poor weather/road conditions the school bus may be late (5 – 15 minutes) or may not arrive. Students should wait 20 minutes and if by then the bus has not arrived they should follow the plan laid out by their parents/guardians.
3. By 6:15am the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Keven Elder informs area radio stations (e.g CFA, The Q, CBC Radio and The Ocean) that School District No. 63 schools are closed and/or school buses are cancelled. NO ANNOUNCEMENT means schools and busing is open as usual.
4. There may be a reason for students (i.e. poor weather, snow) so please be prepared with a plan for your child in the event that this happens.

Also, please make sure that your son/daughter is dressed appropriately for the weather because frostbite can occur without appropriate protection.

Rules:

Never throw snowballs, ice or snow at the bus. Cold snow and warm windows do not mix and if windows shatter, glass fragments may cause injuries. Do not encourage or provoke others to throw snowballs at the bus.

Safety Precautions:

1. Stay at least 2 meters from the bus. Buses, due to road conditions can slide as they are stopping. Stay well out of their way as well as out of the way of cars on the roadway. Cars may also fail to stop, slide or lose control. Look out for your own safety as well as for the safety of your friends.
2. Be on your best behavior aboard the bus and at the bus stop. Drivers have enough to handle with "road problems".
3. Be careful as you get off the bus. Due to slippery conditions get well clear of the bus and be careful on sidewalks.

EMERGENCY CLOSURE

The emergency closing of a school is a rare occurrence; nevertheless, circumstances such as a heavy snowfall or an extended power failure can demand that such a decision be made by the Superintendent. If such a closure is necessary and the decision is made before buses are sent out for the day, local radio stations will be informed (CFA AM, The Ocean FM, The Q FM, CBC Radio FM and KOOL FM). If a decision is made while school is in session, the media will also be informed, and students will be permitted to leave school as per the notices sent home earlier this year (secondary students released to home if it is safe to do so; elementary and middle students released to parents or as previously arranged with parents). We know that independent of any decision to close for a day, there may be times when communication is disrupted to a school, such as in a power outage. If that is the case, we thank you for your patience and for your trust that your child is being well looked after.



Cut here-----



(Parent / Guardian Signature)

Parents/Guardians: Once you have read the newsletter, please sign and cutout this Keating Cougar. Return it to your child's teacher (oldest only to return). Divisions getting 100% of oldest only returned get a treat from Mr. Notte!



KINDERGARTEN IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

Immunization clinics for kindergarten-aged children are held at health units at various times throughout the year.

Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis and Polio: Most children in kindergarten are due for a booster dose of this vaccine. This vaccine protects against all four diseases in one shot.

Hepatitis B: Children born on or after January 1, 2001 should have received a 3-dose series of hepatitis B vaccine. If your kindergarten child has not completed a series of hepatitis B vaccine, it is recommended they receive the vaccine in the kindergarten year.

Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR): Children should have received two doses of MMR vaccine by eighteen months of age. If your kindergarten child has not had both doses of MMR vaccine, it is recommended they receive the vaccine in the kindergarten year.

Meningococcal C: Children born on or after July 1, 2002, should have received 1 dose of Meningococcal C vaccine. One dose after one year of age and a reinforcing dose in Grade 6 provides protection against this type of meningitis.

Varicella (Chickenpox): Children who have not had chickenpox vaccine or disease after one year of age should be vaccinated against chickenpox in the kindergarten year. One dose provides protection against the disease.

All these vaccines are provided free of charge by the health unit or your doctor. To check your child's immunization status or **to make an appointment**, phone your local health unit.

For more information contact:

- ◆ Your local Health Unit
- ◆ HealthLinkBC at 8-1-1 (a free call) or www.healthlinkbc.ca
- ◆ Your doctor
- ◆ www.immunizebc.ca

Health Units:

Esquimalt	250-360-5600
Salt Spring Island	250-538-4880
Outer Gulf Islands	250-539-3099
Sooke	250-642-5464
Peninsula	250-544-2400
Victoria	250-388-2200
Saanich	250-519-5100
West Shore	250-478-1757



BC HEALTHY KIDS DENTAL PROGRAM

Basic dental coverage is available for children through the Healthy Kids Program. Dependant children under 19 years of age may be covered for dental care if the family:

- ✓ Is approved to receive premium assistance for BC Medical Services Plan (MSP)

Children are eligible for up to \$700.00 per child for basic dental services per calendar year. This includes services such as exams, x-rays, fillings, cleanings and extractions. The program does not cover orthodontic treatment. Healthy Kids may not cover all of the costs and there may be additional charges for each visit. Before treatment begins, confirm that your dentist is accepting children covered by the BC Healthy Kids Program, and what part of the services will be covered.

To use the services, take your child's BC Care Card to the dental office and they will confirm coverage before each appointment.

To find out if your child is covered call:

- ◆ 1-866-866-0800 Press "4" and then "2" (have your child's Care Card Number handy)

Or access the website at www.eia.gov.bc.ca/bchealthykids/

For more information contact:

- VIHA Child, Youth and Family Community Health Dental:

Victoria	250-519-5100
Nanaimo	250-755-7855
Port Alberni	250-724-1281
Courtenay	250-338-6555
Campbell River	250-850-2124
Toll Free	1-800-663-7867