



December 2025

Raven's Roost

Parkcrest Elementary School Newsletter



Principal's Message

Happy December! December has officially arrived and the weeks ahead are going to be packed full of learning, performances, and other fun-filled activities. You are invited to attend one of our two Winter Concerts - Wednesday, December 17th at 1:00 or Thursday, December 18th at 9:00.

Please be reminded that learning updates (report cards) will be published to the MyEd BC parent portal on December 12th. You can access your child's learning update using the following link:

<https://myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspn/logon.do>

Your username will be the email address you provided us and password is in the email that was sent to you when your account was created. If you have forgotten your password, you can click on the "I forgot my password" link and follow the instructions to get your password. If you have any questions, you can reach out to us at the school. Please let your child's teacher know if you require a print copy of the learning update.

As we head into the holiday season, I want to extend my warmest wishes to all of you. Whether you're celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, Winter Solstice, or simply enjoying time with family and friends, may your days be filled with peace, joy, and meaningful moments.

~Mrs. Deanna Steptoe



SAFE ARRIVAL

School District #73 uses the SafeArrival student absence reporting system to record student absences. Please report your child's absence in one of the following convenient methods:

- Phone: 1-844-350-2647
- Web: go.schoolmessenger.ca
- App: SchoolMessenger

Principal: Deanna Steptoe ~ Vice-Principal: Jason Nesci
2170 Parkcrest Ave, Kamloops BC, V2B 4Y1
Website: www.parkcrest.sd73.bc.ca



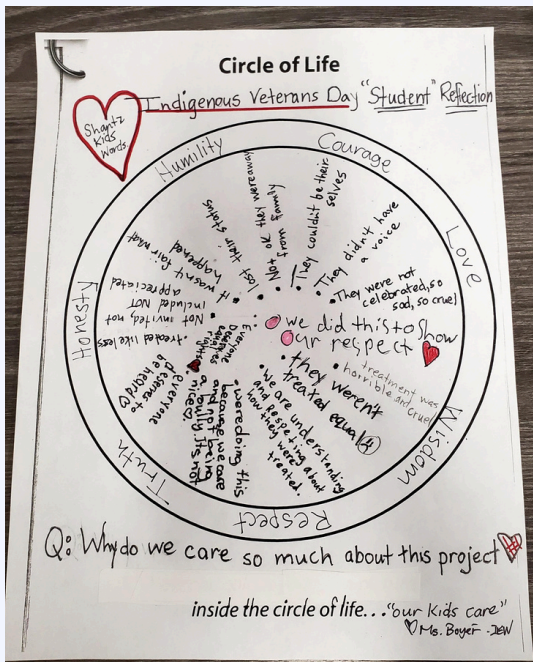
A Look at November

November was filled with beautiful weather and a lot of learning. Remembrance Day is a big part of November. At our Remembrance Day Ceremony, we had presentations from Mrs. Quast and Ms. Girodat's classes, Mrs. McDaniel's class, Mrs. Whalen's class, Mrs. Trestain and Mrs. Ellingsen's classes, and the Primary Choir.



We gathered together on Monday, November 10th to honour all of those who served our country. November 8th is Indigenous Veteran's Day and November 11th is Remembrance Day. A special thank you to our special guests, Retired Sergeant Steptoe, Trustee Karpuk and this year's student emcees, Alder, Lochlan, and Yvaine.

Poppies are a big part of Remembrance Day.



Following a class sharing circle with Ms. Boyer and Mrs. Shantz class, a group of students met with Ms. Boyer to discuss how the project made them feel. Here is a representation of their sharing.



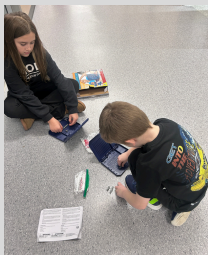
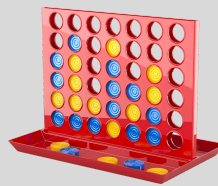
MORE NOVEMBER EVENTS



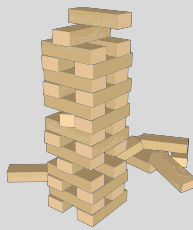
Volleyball

Congratulations to our two girls' volleyball teams on a successful season. You showed sportsmanship, commitment and were excellent team players. Thank you to our parents who got their players to early morning practices or picked them after the after school practices, drove them to games, and supported them in so many other ways. A HUGE shout out goes out to our coaches and teacher sponsors! We will be hosting the City Volleyball Championships on Wednesday, December 4th.

Board Game Day



November wrapped up with a school-wide Board Game Day. How are board games educational? Board games teach students many important skills including taking turns, sportsmanship, and cooperation. Many classes got together with their big/little buddies. This builds community across the school. Other benefits include having students think strategically and problem solve. Mrs. Shantz's class created their own board games that they played on Friday.



INDIGENOUS EDUCATION CORNER



Dearest Parents/Guardians:

Weyt-kp, Taanishi

I invite you to visit on Monday mornings from 8:30-9:30 to add your family name to my **"Medicine Wheel Mural Project"**. This will be our connection with each other while we are all living our busy lives. If you're unable to attend in person, no worries, I've got you covered. Simply send me your family name and I'll add you to the wheel myself. Please don't forget the Grandparents.

Example: Please add Gram _____ & Grandpa_____ add... (use the words you use at home, so your child will recognize it).

This will stay in my office, where your child will see it ❤️

Yellow- Baby & Child

Red- Teenagers (many are my past students so, please don't leave anyone out)

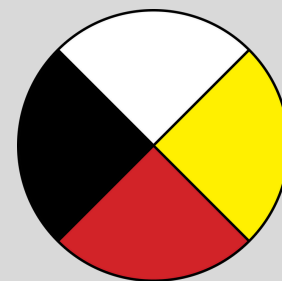
Black- Parents/Guardians (some parents are my past students also)

White- Elders - Grandparents & Grand- Guardians

Kukwtsetsemc, Megwich, Maarsii

In Spirit and with Kindness,

IEW-Christina Boyer



Metaphor Music



On November 25th, students attended the show *Metaphor Music - HIP HOP 101*. The show combined poetry, rap, beatboxing, turntablism, dance and interactive music to explore themes of identity, inclusion, exclusion, anti-bullying, anti-racism and acceptance. Students responded positively to the performance and its message.



A Look Ahead to December

It's that time of year when the halls start to hum with holiday energy! Our Student Leadership team has planned a delightful lineup of theme days to sprinkle a little extra fun and cheer throughout December. Students are invited to join in, play along, and help fill the school with colour, laughter, and a dash of December magic. Here's what's coming up:

- Dec. 3 – **Christmas Carol Trivia** - Eight musical clues will echo through the day—see who can name them all!
- Dec. 5 – **Grinch Day** - A burst of Who-ville vibes with red and green outfits.
- Dec. 8 – **Christmas Trivia Round 2** - Eight festive questions read throughout the day. Brainpower meets holiday cheer!
- Dec. 10 – **Christmas Sweater Day** -From classic knits to eye-popping creations—bring your best sweater energy.
- Dec. 12 – **Whoville Hair Day** - A celebration of wild, gravity-defying, wonderfully wacky hairstyles.
- Dec. 15 – **Toque Day** - Keep cozy, stay stylish, and rock your favourite winter hat.
- Dec. 17 – **Snowflake Challenge** - Paper snowflakes, will transform the school into a winter wonderland.
- Dec. 19 – **Pajama Day** -A comfy, cozy wrap-up to our festive fun.

We look forward to sharing the joy of the season!



Upcoming Dates

Mon., Dec. 1	Non-Instructional Day - No School
Wed., Dec. 3	City Volleyball Finals - Boys and Girls (4:00-7:30)
Fri., Dec. 12	Report Cards Sent Home Electronically
Wed., Dec. 17	Winter Concert (1:00 pm)
Thurs., Dec. 18	Winter Concert (9:00 am)
Fri., Dec. 19	Last Day of Classes Before Winter Break
Mon., Jan. 5	First Day Back After Winter Break
Fri., Feb. 6	Non-Instructional Day - No School
Mon., Feb. 16	Family Day - No School
Fri., Mar. 13	Last Day of Classes Before Spring Break
Mon., Mar. 30	First Day Back After Spring Break

Lost and Found

Our Lost and Found continues to be very full. When you are here for our Winter concert or any other reason, please take some time to look through it to claim any lost items. We want these items to go back to their rightful owners. Items left over the winter break will be donated.





Important Information



SD73

School Cash

We understand there have been some concerns and feedback from parents regarding the district's online transaction fee rates.

After a review of the transaction fee price structure with SchoolCash Online, the District will be reducing its transaction fee rates to a 2.5% charge for online payments.

On December 5th, the District will be working with SchoolCash to update the system's programmed rates for payments made online. This will require all current fees to be deleted and recreated under the new rate structure - online and cash payments cannot be processed during the transition on December 5th. Please also expect limited availability to pay online during the week of December 6th-12th.

Between December 15th to January 31st, 2026, the District will be working to process refunds to families who paid online, reducing their net charge to 2.5%. These refunds will be processed to the card used to make the original payment.

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding during this process.

Parent Engagement Session: Examining Eating Disorders

Join Child and Youth Mental Health Eating Disorder clinicians as they examine eating disorders, what they are and what you can do.

In this session, you will:

- Examine what an eating disorder is
- Review the signs and symptoms to watch for
- Explore what to do and how to respond
- Identify supports available in the community

This workshop will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. If you are interested in attending, please register in advance [here](#). Following your registration, you will receive the link to the meeting.



After School Programs

SD73 Kamloops Thompson
COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS AND ARTS INITIATIVE (ASSAI)

The SD73 ASSAI program is seeking arts and sports enthusiasts to join our team! We are hiring for Arts and Sports Leaders as well as Persons of Rapport positions. For more details on these positions and the program, go to <https://sites.google.com/gedu.sd73.bc.ca/sd73-3-assai-program/home>

GRADES 1-7

- ✓ Flexible Hours
- ✓ Training and Professional Development opportunities
- ✓ Fun and meaningful work

APPLY NOW!

Send your questions or resumes to Diana at dattermole@sd73.bc.ca

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport.

Fundraising

PAC Update

Get the latest on school news, events, reminders, hot lunch updates, and PAC meetings – all in one place!

Join our Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/parkcrestpac/>

Contact us anytime at:
pacparkcrest@gmail.com

PAC has started collecting items for the fabulous baskets that will be raffled off during our Christmas concerts.

Families can send items to school with their children any time before December 10th.

This year's themes for each class:

Lee/Blais & Whitmore - Coffee & Tea
Stuckey & Beeds - Movie Night
Dhaliwal & Quast - Game Night
Girodat & Sarrasin- Spa/Self Care
Trestain & Ellingsen- Dog
Whalen & Tondevold- Cat
Fuzzen & Kicia - Arts & Crafts
McDaniel & Shantz- Outdoor/Camping
Erichuk & McCrea- Baking

We profited \$391.33 from Growing Smiles greenery sales. Thank you to our families for your support!



Delivery is set for December 5th.
Parents can pick up their orders:

Friday from 2:15-3pm

Monday from 8:15-8:40am or 2:15-3pm

Tuesday from 8:15-8:40am or 2:15-3pm

Updates will be made on the Facebook page.



The next PAC meeting is December 12th at 8:30am. Volunteers would be greatly appreciated to help organize and wrap the gift baskets during the meeting!



Next PAC Meeting

What: December PAC Meeting

When: Friday, December 12, 2025 @ 8:30 am

Where: Parkcrest Library



BAND

TOGETHER



About BAND Together at Brocklehurst Secondary School!

BAND Together is an introduction to high school concert band.

Dates: Wednesdays between January 14th to February 18th 2026.

Time: 3:30 - 5pm

Location: Brocklehurst Secondary School Band Room

Cost: \$75 program fee (snacks and instruments are provided)

Lead Instructor: Jarrett Schill

Perfect for: This program is perfect for Grade 6 or 7 students who want to learn a band instrument and join concert band!

Register at:

www.KamloopsMusicCollective.info/winter-programs

Contact:

Kamloops Music Collective
236-425-4221
info@kamloopsmusiccollective.ca

Students registered for BAND Together will receive:

- ✓ Six weeks of introduction to band taught by Mr. Schill
- ✓ A chance to get acquainted with the Brocklehurst Secondary School campus/ band program
- ✓ A \$50 certificate for the Kamloops Interior Summer School of Music (KISSM) 2026!
- ✓ A snack each week!
- ✓ A chance to perform at our "squeak and squawk" concert on February 18th 2026.
- ✓ Use of an instrument for the full duration of the program

