



THE COAL TIPPLE

Coal Tye Elementary School Newsletter
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October 2011, Newsletter #2

PRINCIPAL: Mr. Robbie Dhillon

SECRETARY: Mrs. Jill Williamson & Mrs. Julie Nychuk

<http://www.coaltyee.mysd68.ca/>

Dear Parents,

I cannot believe we are already into October and 10% of the school year is already over! It seemed like just yesterday staff, parents and students were in the gym for our opening day assembly and homeroom.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge all the hard work our support and teaching staffs have put in to ensure the school year start-up was as smooth as possible.

From an academic standpoint, teachers have been very busy using diagnostic tools such as BENCHMARKS. These are brief tests/exercises that give teachers valuable information about strengths/gaps in their student's basic academic skills. It is hoped this information would guide some individualization of instruction for your child. Also, Mrs. Taylor, along with other school staff, has been busy with meetings for those students who require an Individualized Education Plan and these meetings should be wrapping up very soon.



A reminder during the week of October 24 – 27 students will be dismissed at 1:25 to allow teachers time to contact and/or meet with parents/guardians regarding the progress of students. **More information is included further on in this newsletter and the process will be different than in previous years.**

I am pleased to announce the opening of a new half time Student Support Room, which is staffed by Ms. Corthwaite (teacher), Mrs. Taylor (teacher) and Ms. Gallia (EA) and is primarily focusing on our Grade 5-7 learners who need a bit more time with their studies in a smaller environment.

I would like to thank Mrs. Galloway, Mrs. Patterson and Mrs. Adamson who all are currently sponsoring extra curricular athletic activities. As in previous years we can always use coaches for upcoming sports such as volleyball and basketball. If you are interested in volunteering please contact me.

Our school website is now linked from the main School District Website (www.sd68.bc.ca) or can be accessed at: <http://www.coaltyee.mysd68.ca/>. We did have some problems with the Coal Tye list serve at the start of the school year but I am happy to report the list serve is up and running. Messages are sent on the list serve either from the school or PAC (generally the message line will indicate whether the message is from the school or from PAC). All newsletters are on the school website. Since this service does seem to be working all future newsletters will be emailed out and may not be printed off on paper (to save on photocopying costs). If you would like to be added to our list serve please complete the final portion of this newsletter and return it to the main office. If you still wish to have paper copies of school newsletters please phone the office and let us know (your name, your child's name and class) and we will ensure copies are printed for you.

At our upcoming Tuesday October 11th Professional Day staff will be looking at our school goal of numeracy and many thanks to Mrs. Reynolds and Mrs. Taylor for looking after this day. This day was traditionally the district wide Professional Day we have had in September but it was felt it would be best to wait until the business of the opening month had finished

before the first district professional day. The October 21st Pro-D is the traditional provincial day and our staff will be engaged in activities either locally, or on the mainland, or other parts of Vancouver Island.

All of us want the best for your child. Home and school working together is key in achieving the greatest results.

Happy Thanksgiving weekend!

Yours truly,

Mr. Robbie Dhillon,
(Acting) Principal

TENTATIVE SCHOOL CALENDAR 2011 – 2012 Please note the BCTF job action may change or cancel some of these dates. Please visit our website for more information as it becomes known

Thanksgiving.....	Mon Oct 10
Pro-D (district).....	Tues Oct 11
PAC meeting (7 PM library).....	Wed Oct 19
Pro-D [province wide].....	Fri. Oct 21
Parent-Teacher conferences	Mon Oct 24-Thurs Oct 27
Early Dismissal (1:25) all week..	Mon Oct 24-Thurs Oct 27
Monster's Ball (PAC) 6:00-8:30 PM (gym).....	Fri Oct 28
Remembrance Day.....	Fri. Nov 11
Report Card 1 issued.....	Wed Nov 30
Last Day before Holiday.....	Fri. Dec 16
First Day back.....	Tue. Jan 3
Pro-D [district wide].....	Mon. Feb 20
Pro-D [school based].....	Tue. Feb 21
Report Card 2 issued.....	Wed Mar 14
Last Day before Spring Break.....	Fri. Mar 16
First Day back.....	Mon. Mar 26
Good Friday.....	Fri. Apr 6
Easter Monday.....	Mon. Apr 9
Pro-D (school based).....	Mon. Apr 23
Victoria Day.....	Mon. May 21
Report Card 3 issued.....	Wed Jun 27
Last Day of School.....	Wed. Jun 27
Pro-D Day (school-based).....	Thu. Jun 28
Administration Day.....	Fri. Jun 29

A NOTE ABOUT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES EARLY DISMISSAL FOR STUDENTS

As in the years past, students will be dismissed at 1:25 from October 24 to October 27. Teachers will be using this time to contact and/or meet with parents/guardians regarding the progress of students.

Due to the BCTF job action, the school office will not be involved in setting up appointments for parents. However, teachers will have ongoing connections with parents/guardians to make their own arrangements. Parents/guardians are also welcome to contact teachers directly, at any time, to receive updates on their child(ren)'s progress.

THANK YOU TO LEGACY METAL WERKS

We would like to thank Mrs. Jacqueline and Mr. Kevin Pieters for their generous donation to the school through their company LEGACY METAL WERKS. A donation of 2 DELL laptops valued at around \$1000 is being purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Pieters for the school.

PICK UP TIME

A reminder pick up time is 2:40 Monday to Thursday and 1:25 on Friday's. Supervision is out front for 15 minutes past this time. In terms of morning supervision it is also available 15 minutes prior to the start of classes, beginning at 8:35.

CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country is underway again this year. We have a keen group of grade 3 to 7 students that are running at 8:15 every Wednesday and Friday morning. We will be taking part in the Zone meet on Wednesday, October 19th at Neck Point Park. Our Tykes will run 1.5kms, PeeWee's 2 kms and Bantams 2.5 kms. The District Cross Country Meet will be held Thursday, November 3rd. If you have any questions regarding Cross Country please contact Mrs. Patterson or Mrs. Galloway. Good luck to our Team in the Zone Meet.

PARKING—SUN VALLEY DRIVE

Parents and the school took an active role in educating parents a couple of years ago about not using the front of the school (on Sun Valley Drive) as a place to park vehicles. This was to ensure student safety. As we know 300 students being dismissed or starting at the same time can cause foot traffic issues in front of the school and trying to minimize vehicle traffic and ensure a safer walk to or from home is paramount. Parents are encouraged to use this area as a "kiss and go" where vehicles do not actually park. If you need to park your vehicle please consider using the abundance of extra spots in the staff parking lot near the swings, or parking on Mountain Vista.



CHESS CLUB

Chess Club has started up, and will be running **Wednesday's** after school in the library. It will take place in the library from 2:45 pm - 3:30pm. There will be adult supervision by either/both myself, Tamara Mize and Greg Skala. All ages and experience welcome from kindergarten to grade seven - novice to expert! The goal is to learn in a fun environment, and hopefully improve ones' game. We look forward to meeting our Coal Tye Chess Club for 2011/2012. More information will be provided to those who sign up.

Thanks, Good Luck and Good Game!
Sincerely, Greg Skala and Tamara Mize

QSP PAC FUNDRAISER

The QSP magazine fundraiser will again be offered later this fall. If you (or friends or family) have a subscription which requires prompt renewal, you can do so easily online. Visit the QSP website (www.qsp.ca) and enter the School I.D.#: **32991** and password **Z9DW3VPG**. A portion of these renewals and new subscriptions will be credited directly to our school's account and used to benefit Coal Tye's library. Thank you for your ongoing support!



WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

Since our opening day assembly we have added a few additional staff members: Mrs. J Nychuk (secretary Monday, Wednesday, Friday), Ms. K. Van Shaik (Child Youth Family Support Worker), and Mrs. J. Thorkelsson (Counsellor). We wish all of our new staff members much success in their new assignments. Also congratulations to Mrs. Clemson on her retirement on October 1st. We extend our best wishes to her in a happy and long retirement.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

It is expected that students will dress in a manner that is appropriate and conducive to a positive and safe learning environment. Appropriate dress is safe; is free of any reference to alcohol, drugs, gangs, hate, obscenity, profanity, discrimination, sex and/or violence; is not disturbing or distracting to others within the school setting. Clothing should appropriately cover the body from the shoulder to the mid-thigh. Students who wear inappropriate clothing will be asked to change into acceptable attire, which may require being sent home. In this case, parents will be contacted.

BAND

Registration night has passed and the Gr 5-7 band program is off to a great start with a really vibrant group of kids. Although the class is nearly full, there are still a few spots available. If you've been bitten by the "BAND BUG" and have not yet signed up please contact our private band provider, Scot Rounding, right away to explore your options.....it is not too late. A reminder to students the entrance for band on Tuesday and Thursday morning is through the back of the school (near the gym) and to ensure you have your instrument with you.

Scot Rounding
250-618-2664
www.nrgrecords.ca

APPROPRIATE CLOTHING FOR WEATHER CONDITIONS

The cool wet weather will arrive and there will be many days students will ask the question "Is it an inside day?" The answer on most days is no. Students will be going outside to play at recess and lunch unless it is raining heavily. We thank you for ensuring your child comes to school with appropriate rain and cool weather clothing. At Coal Tye we believe in the importance of fresh air and outside play for all students and appreciate your assistance in this regard. It is also advisable students have a change of clothes in their school bags.

PHOTO RE-TAKES

Photo re-takes will be on Tuesday, October 17th in the afternoon. It is anticipated photo proofs will be at the school and handed out to students prior to this day.



TERRY FOX DONATIONS

This year Coal Tye raised over \$250.00 in donations for the Terry Fox Foundation. Thank you to all families who sent in donations.

SIGN UP FOR COAL TYEE EMAIL LIST SERVE

The purpose of this listserve is to email out information both from the school and from PAC. Also all newsletters and other office type communication will be emailed on this list serve. Newsletters can still be accessed at the school website (and you do not need to be a member of the listserve to access our website (see message in principal's opening comments). If you have not recently been receiving messages on our list serve and would like to, please complete the following information, tear off, and return to the main office ASAP. If you are unsure as to whether or not you are on this listserve already the October newsletter has already been emailed. There is a chance messages from this list serve will end up in your junk or spam folders. Please mark the message as "safe" if this happens and future messages should end up in your inbox.



Please add me to the Coal Tye List Serve

Please print neatly

Your Name:

Your Email address:

****please tear this portion above and return to the main office****