



## Newsletter March 2013

### Arbutus by the Month- March

Have you penciled in "The Spring Gala" on your calendars for Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>? This is a PAC sponsored event with a very important focus of fundraising this year. This year we are fundraising to purchase and equip a storage container to serve as our Emergency Preparedness storage centre. The estimated cost for this storage centre is \$8000.

So, how can you help? Well first off you can show up at the event on the 26<sup>th</sup> (6:30 p.m. -9:30 p.m.). Another big way you can help is finding silent auction items for that evening. Make a list of all of the community members that you could call/email or ask for a donation to the Arbutus Global Middle School Spring Gala. After securing an item for the Silent Auction, please contact Kami and/or Jo at [arbutus.pac@vcpac.ca](mailto:arbutus.pac@vcpac.ca).

We will also be sending out official Spring Gala letters in the coming days.

On another note, if you are interested in staying completely up to date with the events at Arbutus Global, may I suggest three other methods (in addition to the Newsletter):

- 1) Our website and all of its updates <http://www.arbutus.sd61.bc.ca/>
- 2) Our blog which can be accessed on the website (left hand side button)
- 3) Follow my twitter account: [@smorganpowell](https://twitter.com/smorganpowell)

Sean Powell  
Principal

## March Events

**March 2** – Saturday, Music Bottle Drive

**March 5** – PAC meeting **CANCELLED**

**March 6** – Report Cards go home

**March 11 through March 22** – Spring Break – school is **NOT** in session

**March 25** – School RE-OPENS – 8:35 a.m.

**March 29** – Good Friday – school is **NOT** in Session

**April 1** – Easter Monday – school is **NOT** in session

## Global Update

We are quickly approaching the end of another exploratory rotation and with that another culminating event for our Global Action classes. The classes this term were very committed to trying to create a positive change for the neglected and mistreated animals in our community. As a result they chose to try to support the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) here in Victoria. This coming Thursday (March 7<sup>th</sup>) they will be having a bake sale in an attempt to raise money for the SPCA and then following Spring Break a representative from the SPCA will be coming to talk about the ways that the donation will be used to help local animals. Students from all classes are encouraged to bring donations of baked goods that can be sold or money to buy baked goods or if you would like to just donate to this worthy cause there will be a donation jar as well. Thanks to Divisions 3 and 9 for their work on this project and we look forward to a great event on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

**ACT**  
**(Arbutus Change Team)**

**Arbutus Loves Cassidy!**

ACT students were involved in promoting a fundraiser for 11 year old Cassidy Boland and her family during Valentine's. We filled the foyer with 1,094 pink hearts which were mailed to support Cassidy during her stay at Ronald McDonald House in Vancouver while she receives treatment for leukemia. ACT would like to thank The Arbutus community for showing so much generosity.



Student Photo taken for Outdoor  
Education Class

**ARBUTUS SPORTS**

All interested Field Hockey players please connect with Mrs. Straith in room 105.

After spring break we will be heading into track and field season! Listen carefully to the announcements, check out the sports white board across from the office and go to [www.lowerislandschoolsports.ca](http://www.lowerislandschoolsports.ca) for more info! Practices will begin after spring break and the track and field meets at UVic will begin at the end of April.

The Arbutus Biking Team is once again getting organized for another season after spring break as well. Listen carefully to the announcements, check out the sports white board across from the office and go to [www.lowerislandschoolsports.ca](http://www.lowerislandschoolsports.ca) for more info!

Rugby season is just getting started as well. Interested boys, please connect with Mr. Elsdon. Interested girls, please connect with Mr. Powell.

**ARBUTUS CLUBS**

We have many different clubs at Arbutus each year. Clubs can be started by staff, students or parents; if you are interested in starting a club, please contact Mr. Powell to set it up. All clubs require a staff sponsor.

So far this year, we offer:

**Wednesday @ 12:10 pm:** Environmental Leadership in the cafeteria

**Thursday @ 8:00 am:** Global Leadership ACT Room 115

**Thursday @ 12:10 pm:** Anti-Bullying Club (ABC) in cafeteria

**Friday @ 12:06 pm:** Dance Club in the Gym with Mrs. Watt

## PAC News

March PAC Meeting  
**CANCELLED**

### **School Hours:**

Monday: 8:30 – 2:45

Tuesday: 8:30 – 2:45

Wednesday: 8:30 – 2:45

Thursday: 8:30 – 2:45

Friday: 8:30 – 2:45

### **Contacts:**

Principal: Sean Powell  
[spowell@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:spowell@sd61.bc.ca)

Vice Principal: Aaron Maxwell  
[amaxwell@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:amaxwell@sd61.bc.ca)

PAC: Kami Bourgeois  
[arbutus.pac@vcpac.ca](mailto:arbutus.pac@vcpac.ca)

See our website at [www.sd61.bc.ca](http://www.sd61.bc.ca)

Call back Line 250. 360.0725  
Please call this line if your child will be  
arriving after school starts.



A number of students at Arbutus have severe allergies to peanuts, nuts, sesame, and peanut by-products that can be fatal. Peanut butter is particularly problematic as it is so difficult to wipe clean. For information on alternatives to peanut butter that you could consider, please see BC Children's Hospital website at <http://www.bcchildrens.ca> . Please be aware that this is a life-threatening allergy when you are preparing lunches, snacks and treats for classes. Please check with your child's teacher for specific information. Staff has been trained to administer the epipen in an emergency but there is no guarantee that an epipen will save the life of a person experiencing anaphylaxis.

*Your co-operation is critical as we work together to keep everyone safe!*



Student Photo taken for  
Outdoor Education Class