



Newsletter May 2013

Arbutus by the Month- May

I wanted to begin with a few thank you(s) for events past. Thank you so much to all of the parents that contributed to the PAC's Spring Gala/Silent Auction. A special thank you to Jo Ann Clar, Linda Adams, Barb Sweeney and Kami Bourgeois for being the driving force behind the event. A good time was had by all and \$3000 was fundraised to go towards our Emergency Preparedness Container.

Thank you also to all of our parents/guardians that have sent me class placement letters. Your input is invaluable and I do appreciate you taking the time to write the letters. They will certainly be used as part of the class building process. I have extended the deadline to submit letters until this Wednesday, May 8th.

This is the season for increased activity, which means that many of our students are cycling (and skateboarding/skootering) to school. Our grade seven students have just completed a bike training session which included a theoretical component and an "on bike" component as well. Our grade eights will be trained in early June. Even with the increased awareness by students, I am asking that those that drive their children to school be even more cautious on the roads.

Thank you,

Sean Powell
Principal

Month Events

Tuesday, May 21 - PAC meeting-
Library 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 14 – Provincial Election
Polling Station - Arbutus Gym – 7:00
a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 16 – District Orientation
Day - 1: 00 p.m.

Friday, May 17 – Pro D Day – school is
not in session

Monday, May 20 – Victoria Day –
school is not in session

Wednesday, May 22 – Talent Show –
7:00 p.m.

PRINCIPAL EVALUATION

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff,

Your principal, Sean Powell, is participating
in a performance assessment this year.

I would like to invite you to share your
opinion by filling out a short, anonymous
online survey that will be sent to you by
email on May 10, 2013. If you do not receive
an email invitation to participate, please
contact Ms. Carbery, your School
Administrative Assistant, in the main office:
phone 250-477-1878 or
bcarbery@sd61.bc.ca .

Please note that you can fill out the online
evaluation form anytime between May 10
and 26, 2013.

On behalf of the school district and Mr.
Powell, thank you for your time and
assistance.

Sincerely,
Sherri Bell
Deputy Superintendent

ACT

Arbutus Talent Show Fundraiser for Cassidy Boland

This evening will be filled with Arbutus singers, musicians, dancers and a variety of other acts which are sure to entertain. ACT is raising money to support Cassidy Boland's family while she receives treatment for leukemia and they rebuild their home. Cassidy Boland is the daughter of Mrs. Walker, a 15 year veteran teacher from Arbutus.

Wednesday, May 22, 7:00 p.m. - admission by donation

NEW FRIENDS IN THE COURTYARD

We have a dark-eyed Junco nesting in our courtyard.

Mama Junco has chosen a sunny corner to make her nest.

We are eager to see her 4 eggs hatch.

(Incubation = 12-13 days)



Student Placements for Next Year

In May Grade 6, 7 and 8 students will be placed in tentative classes for 2013 – 2014. These class organizations may change prior to school starting, but they give us a starting place for next year.

There are many factors that teachers consider, such as academic needs, social interactions, emotional needs, etc. Placing children in classes is a huge endeavor and there is tremendous thought and effort put into class placement. At this time of year, we invite parents to provide us with input that we may not be aware of, such as a child's desire to be with a particular friend, a child's need for structure, etc. You can outline if your child works well or does not work well with a particular student. Please do not request a specific teacher.

We cannot guarantee that we can honour your request, but we do our best to keep parental input in mind when making placements for next year.

If you have input that you would like us to consider, **we must receive written input from you by May 8, 2013.** Please address your letters or emails to Sean Powell at spowell@sd61.bc.ca.

Intentions for 2013 – 2014

If you are planning on moving next year, please contact the office as soon as possible.

PEANUT AND NUT ALLERGIES IN OUR SCHOOL

Just a reminder, that a number of students and some staff at Arbutus have severe allergies to peanuts and nuts. Please be aware that this is a life-threatening allergy. Please be respectful of this serious situation and keep food items containing peanuts, nuts or nut and/or peanut products at home. Thank you.

Global Action

Well we are quickly approaching the end of another exploratory rotation and with that a couple of culminating events for our Global Action classes. The classes this term were very committed to trying to create a positive change and highlight how we consume resources. As a result they have identified two projects that they are culminating next week. Division two has created a contest called "Jazzing up those Blue Bins" where classes are invited to take some time and decorate their blue recycle bins. On Monday all participants will be asked to bring their decorated bins to the cafeteria for judging. Division 8 is really interested in solar energy and they have created a "Solar Oven Cooking Contest" where groups of students are challenged to create a solar oven and use it to cook some sort of food item. This coming Tuesday (May 7th) all of the groups will be asked to set up their solar ovens at Nutrition Break in an attempt to cook their item by lunchtime. Please ask your son or daughter if they are involved in either or both of these events and if you are interested feel free to visit the school on Tuesday to see what the students have created.

CAMP THUNDERBIRD Grade 7 Students

"Any parents of Team 7" students willing to cycle to and/or from camp please contact Carrie Krigolson at ckrigolson@sd61.bc.ca"

Dates for your calendar:

May 24 – Bike training in the morning for the following classes:

Ms. Krigolson, Mr. Sanschagrín
Mr. Friese, Mr. Ferrier
Ms. McDougall, Mr. Larocque

May 30 – Parent Meeting – Library – 6:00 p.m.

May 31 - Bike training in the morning for the following classes:

Ms. Krigolson, Mr. Sanschagrín
Mr. Friese, Mr. Ferrier
Ms. McDougall, Mr. Larocque

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

Vice Principal: Aaron Maxwell

amaxwell@sd61.bc.ca

PAC: Kami Bourgeois

arbutus.pac@vcpac.ca

See our website at www.sd61.bc.ca

Call back Line 250. 360.0725

Please call this line if your child will be arriving after school starts.

PAC News

PAC Meeting

Tuesday, May 21

7:00 p.m. – Library

Last Friday was our Second Annual Spring Gala – an evening of fun for the adults and parents of Arbutus Global Middle School. This year was even more successful than last year, raising over \$3,000 for our emergency preparedness plan. A huge thank you to everyone who came out to support our event, who supplied awesome prizes for our Silent Auction and slaved away with preparations and clean up.

PAC Elections

Our **final PAC meeting** of the year will be on **Tuesday, May 21 at 7:00** in the school library and will include elections for the PAC executive. There are several positions available as many of our current executive will be leaving the school and if you are interested in any of them, please contact Kami at arbutus.pac@vcpac.ca. Positions available are President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and three Member-at-Large positions.

Grade 8 Recognition Ceremony

As the school year heads into its final stretch, it's time to start planning the Grade 8 Recognition Ceremony. If any parents are interested in helping out, please contact Kami at arbutus.pac@vcpac.ca.

Thank You

Thank you for your support of PAC this year, without your support it would not have been possible to have our Welcome Back Barbeque, Bingo Night or Spring Gala. Arbutus Global has an amazing group of parents, staff and students and it has truly been a pleasure working with them for the past two years.

Hope to see you on May 21.

Kami Bourgeois
PAC President

Healthy, Safe and Caring Schools Update:

KEEPING ACTIVE CHILDREN HYDRATED

Active children need to be encouraged to drink to prevent dehydration (not enough water in the body). Water is the best choice to keep children hydrated. Other good choices are milk, fortified soy or rice beverages or small amounts (1/2 cup per day) of 100% fruit or vegetable juice. Sports drinks and energy drinks are not recommended for children.

Keep active children hydrated:

- ♦ Offer water often, especially during activity
- ♦ Provide water or milk and watery snacks like watermelon, cucumber or smoothies after activity
- ♦ If offering juice, limit to 1/2 cup a day

For more information contact:

- ♦ HealthLinkBC at 8-1-1 and ask to speak to a Registered Dietitian or www.healthlinkbc.ca/dietitian/
- ♦ Sugar in beverages: How Sweet It Is: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/health/sweeteners.pdf
- ♦ www.bchealthyliving.ca/node/104

Dinosaur Face Camp



The **SCIENCE**, **ART** and **FUN** of **FACE RECOGNITION**



UVIC Campus

9AM to 3PM

Dates:

Sat July 6th Ages 11 to 12

Sun July 7th Ages 9 to 10

Sat July 13th Ages 7 to 8

Sun July 14th Ages 5 to 6 (Special Time: 9AM to Noon)

Are you ready for this summer's Dinosaur Face Camp? Face Camp is a **FREE**, fun and educational camp for children of all abilities. University of Victoria psychologist Dr. Jim Tanaka is seeking children **ages 5-12** to participate in a research project examining children's face recognition. This year, campers will complete an archeological dig, build a dinosaur exhibit, create computer face morphs, and participate in real psychology lab experiments! Face Camp volunteers are composed of UVIC faculty, students and community professionals. A **FREE** pizza lunch and snacks will be provided.

To Register for Face Camp, please email Face Camp parent liaison Andy Sung: lfi@uvic.ca