

Month Events

December 13 - School Wide Dance - 3:00

December 16 - Grizzlies Floor Hockey Game at Lunch break

December 20 - Winter Break begins

January 6 - Happy New Year - School reopens



Arbutus by the Month- December

If your child has come home asking for socks of late, it is for good reason. The students at Arbutus Global have been challenged, as a community, to donate 500 pairs of socks. We ask that the student bring in new, black or white tube socks or woolly/warm socks. The socks will be given out on Christmas day as part of the Christmas Spirit Community Dinner <http://www.christmasspiritdinner.ca/>. Please check out the website to see if there is any other way you can help. Part two of the plan will then be filling the socks with various toiletries and treats for people in our larger Victoria community who are in need. Depending on your child's colour team, they will also be asked to bring some "stuffing" items to bring (see below).

At Arbutus Global, we want report cards to be part of ongoing communication between home and school to best support your child's learning. Your child should have received their first term report card on December 4th. Each report card provides detailed information on academic progress, school conduct, organizational skills and social responsibility. Please sit down with your child to review it together. Identify your child's strengths and celebrate areas where they have shown growth. Determine a specific area your child will work on for the second term and plan how to work on this area together.

If you have any questions, or concerns regarding your child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact the teacher or me at 250-477-1878 or spowell@sd61.bc.ca.

Sean Powell
Principal

Goodbye and Thank you

The Arbutus Global Middle School wishes Bonnie Carbery, Administration Assistant extraordinaire, all the best in her upcoming retirement. Mrs. Carbery is often the first person that you and/or your child communicates with when visiting the office. We will miss her efficiency, her empathy and her sense of humour in our building. Best wishes Mrs. Carbery!

KIVA Micro Loan

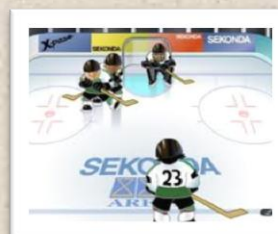
Div. 7 gave persuasive presentations to convince their peers to support a KIVA micro loan in Uganda www.kiva.org. We're looking forward to hearing which country Mr. Laroque's class will decide to support. This is what Logan had to say "I learned I can help people by loaning money to those who need it. KIVA helps people in developing countries. I feel great knowing I helped someone."



Sock Drop! December is upon us and with it, a fun and meaningful challenge for our school! This year, Arbutus Global Middle School will be contributing "Secret Santa Socks" to the 23rd Annual Christmas Spirit Community Dinner. Specifically, we are looking for donations of **new, warm socks, healthy snacks, toiletries, dental supplies, and sweets.**



First, the socks! We are turning Friday the 13th into a **LUCKY** day at Arbutus by hosting a school-wide dance! Students, your "ticket" in the door is a pair of new, warm socks. ☺



Second, the gifts! On members of the Victoria Grizzlies are coming to challenge our floor hockey. This is your team's chance to bring in the gifts socks. ☺ The bins will then be located in front of the school donations will be welcome until the following Thursday.

Monday the 16th, school in a game of that will go inside the office, where

To make sure that we have a little bit of *everything* to go in the socks, ACT (Arbutus Change Team) has decided, by random draw, which team will be responsible for which type of item. We encourage you to look for donations from local businesses to support your team's collection. Drum roll please...

RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS, please contribute Granola Bars and other non-perishable grab-and-go snack items.

BLUE SQUIRTLE SQUAD, please contribute chocolates and candy.

GOLDEN EAGLES, please contribute toothbrushes, toothpaste, and dental floss.

EVERGREENS, please bring toiletries such as travel-size shampoos, conditioners, and soaps.

But wait! What if you have contributions or a lead on donations that don't fit your team's theme? Not to worry! You can add them to our Rainbow Bin, or simply give them to a friend from the matching team. *The most important thing is that we fill all of these socks to show our friendship and support to community members in need.

Finally, if you are looking for other ways to help, please follow the link to <http://www.christmasspiritdinner.ca>. It is amazing what can be accomplished when we pull together as a community!

MOVEMBER AT ARBUTUS

For the month of November, Ms. Krigolson challenged the men on our staff to "grow their mo" to raise funds and awareness for prostate cancer and other men's health issues. Our staff responded in style, naturally, and so, it seems, did her class! Here's a big shout-out to Ms. K and the amazing (and amazingly hairy) Division 1 for their commitment to the Movember cause.

Follow the link below if you'd like to see how the "Arbutus Mo Globes" have rocked this month in style!

<http://ca.movember.com/team/1503485>



2014 Vancouver Island Parent Conference

Change is Here! Let's Embrace It.



Dr. Gordon Neufeld

Dr. Gordon Neufeld is a Vancouver based developmental psychologist with a widespread reputation for making sense of complex problems and for opening doors for change. His book, *Hold on to Your Kids*, is now in its third edition and includes additional chapters on raising children in a digital world.



Alvin Law

To say Alvin Law is disabled wouldn't offend him or be inaccurate; after all he was born without arms. Alvin recognizes working in education is challenging, made more so when dealing with less than typical students. He is the author of *Alvin's Laws of Life: 5 Steps To Successfully Overcome Anything*.

Saturday, February 1, 2014, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Spectrum Community School, 957 Burnside Rd West, Victoria

There is a wave of CHANGE HAPPENING in our education system.

The many speakers we have lined up for this year will HELP EDUCATE and engage us in these changes so that we can support our children's success.

ARBUTUS GLOBAL ADVENTURE ABROAD

We are excited to announce that Arbutus Global Middle School is truly living up to our name, as we begin to prepare for a globe-trotting adventure to England and France! Check out the information letter that is attached. Plan to attend an information meeting on Wednesday, December 11th at 7 p.m. in the library with Mrs. Popovic, Mrs. Wilkinson and Ms. Grigor



ATHELETIC UPDATE

BASKETBALL

Basketball season is drawing to a close. We have had three outstanding basketball teams competing around the city for Arbutus. Players have worked hard with their teams this season to represent our school well. Great job everyone!

Thanks to coaches Scott, Mark, Stu, Martin and Ms. Psaila for all their help this season.

VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball season will begin after the Christmas break. Please stays tuned to the announcements and check the sports whiteboard for more information in the New Year.

If you are interested in coaching please contact Mr. Lemon (alemon@sd61.bc.ca) or Ms. Psaila (lpaila@sd61.bc.ca).

ARBUTUS CLUBS

We have many different clubs at Arbutus Global 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.

Students can join a club at any point during the year (except for Lego Robotics Club).

So far this year, we offer:

Monday @ 11:51 am: Global Leadership ACT Room 115

Wednesday @ 3:45 pm: Squash Club : Starts Oct 16 at Ian Stewart Complex

Friday @ 12:06pm Environmental Leadership

Thursday @ 3:00 pm: Lego Robotics Club in the Drama Room

Friday @ 12:06 pm: Media Team in the ELL room (Room 119) with Mr. Maxwell



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Are you interested in making some money during winter break? If so, you are in luck because the Middle School Integrated Program (MSIP) has two paper routes they need covered during the break. The information is as follows:

Edgelow & Sandell Route – 57 papers @ \$0.10 per paper (Monday & Wednesday)

Total amount earned from December 25th – January 3rd = **\$22.80**

Bonus from MSIP = **\$20.00**

Total Amount Earned: **\$42.80**

Dawnview Route – 80 papers @ \$0.10 per paper (Monday & Wednesday)

Total amount earned from December 25th – January 3rd = **\$32.00**

Bonus from MSIP = **\$20.00**

Total Amount Earned: **\$52.00**

Total amount earned for both routes = \$74.80

As mentioned above, the job would commence on Wednesday, December 25th and end after delivery completion on Friday, January 3rd.

The routes are both in the Gordon Head area near Arbutus School. If you are interested in both or one of the routes, please feel free to contact Rosalyne Huyter at (250) 477-7731 or at rhuyter@sd61.bc.ca Preference will be given to candidates who are interested in resuming responsibility for both routes.

**** Newspapers need to be delivered to your house and not the school over the holidays. We have carts for transporting the newspapers available for use during the holiday break.**

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, December 10

7:00 p.m. – Library

Allergy Alert

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!



BC HEALTHY KIDS DENTAL PROGRAM

Basic dental coverage is available for children through the Healthy Kids Program. Dependent 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 \$1400 of basic dental services every two years. This includes services such as exams, x-rays, fillings, cleanings and extractions. Some services are limited. For example 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.sd.gov.bc.ca/factsheets/2005/healthy_kids.htm