

# SEXSMITH STARS NEWS



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**NEWSLETTER #8** **April 2017**

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hopefully the old adage that April showers will bring May flowers will occur this year!

### Summer Programs

With summer quickly approaching, parents are starting to plan activities for their children. The VSB has recently published their program of activities that are offered through summer school. There are a variety of options available for the children and we encourage parents to check out these offerings when you are planning your summer activities for your children. The VSB Summer School brochures are available outside the office and I strongly suggest that you register sooner than later as these programs tend to fill up quickly. Registration begins on Friday, May 5. More information about the registration process can be found online at [www.summer.vsb.bc.ca](http://www.summer.vsb.bc.ca), in the brochure outside the office or by phoning 604-713-4550.

Community Centers and other community organizations also offer programs for children during the summer. Any information about these programs that we receive will be posted outside the office as well. Please note that summer school is not offered at Sexsmith.

### VSB Budget News

At the time of writing the 2017/18 budget had not been finalized but will be on April 26. In the original draft of the budget there was a deficit of \$ 2.12 million but the cuts that are being suggested will not directly impact classroom programs, teachers or support workers. I am pleased to say that the VSB's Senior Management Team is developing a 5 year budgetary plan that will be the focus of future budgets. Once the budget is finalized I will post any important information about it on our school website as well as posting the link on the VSB website.

### 2017/18 Enrollment Update

Our enrollment is growing for next year. Our projected enrollment for the whole school including our new Kindergarten students, is 382 students, which is an increase of 25 students from our current enrollment of 357. At the Kindergarten level we have 47 new Kindergartens registered which is an increase of 11 from this year.

## **Intending to Move**

As a follow up to our enrollment update we are asking families who know they won't be attending Sexsmith next year and have not already done so, to contact the office as soon as possible to indicate that they will not be coming back in September. This will assist us with our planning for next year. Further, if you are moving and know what school your children will be attending next year, please inform our office as it will help us in getting your child's file transferred as soon as possible.

## **Sports Day**

Our annual Sports Day will be held on Friday, May 19. A notice will be sent home soon detailing the day's activities. We look forward to seeing you on the 19<sup>th</sup>!

## **Welcome to Kindergarten – May 2**

Our Welcome to K event when we meet our new Kindergartens and their families as a group will be held on Tuesday May 2 in our lunchroom. On this day, the children will participate in a series of 5 centers that focus on literacy, fine motor skills and physical movement. Each child will also receive a bag of books and other resources to take home with them that are intended to help prepare them for their start in Kindergarten in September. Also in attendance will be the Community Health Nurse who will have an information table set up and a representative from our PAC to welcome you and provide you with some information about the types of activities the PAC provides and how you can get involved in our PAC's activities. Registration begins at 10:40 with the program beginning at 11:00. The event should be over by 12:00.

## **Track Season Off and Running**

Our track team has begun practicing for the upcoming track season. Practices are held Wednesday after school and Friday at 8:00. Students are expected to attend all practices and meets. There are a number of mini meets before the Final Meet on June 1 at Swangard Stadium. The list of the Mini Meets is as follows:

- Jr Team Meets – Grade 3/4/5 – Monday, May 8 at Trudeau Elem; Tues. May 16 at Henderson Elem; Tues. May 23 at South Memorial Park
- Sr. Team Meets – Gr 6/7 – Thurs. May 11 – at Sexsmith; Thurs. May 18 at Henderson Elem.; Thurs. May 25 at South Memorial Park

A consent form will be sent home with your child. Please read the form carefully as it explains what the expectations are for the students to be part of the team.

So far we have over 100 Grade 3 to 7 students coming out to practices – which is GREAT! We have 5 teachers and 1 community member volunteering their time to coach. Many thanks to staff members Mr Biln, Ms Chu, Mr Kay, Ms Keo, and Mrs Owen for volunteering their time to coach and a special thank you to Mr Owen for helping out as well.

## **Heritage Fair for Div. 1/4/5/6/7 on May 11**

Students in Divisions 1/4/5/6/7 have been researching the history of Canada and are busy preparing their projects which will be on display to our students and parents on the afternoon of May 11. Given that this year is 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canada becoming a nation this project is a great way to be part of our nation's celebration. This activity is similar to our Science Celebration and we are looking forward to seeing what the students have learned about the history of Canada.

## **Battle of the Bands**

Under the supervision of Mr Biln, the intermediate students have been participating in the Battle of the Bands at lunch time. The creativity the students are showing in the presentations is tremendous and they are having so much fun participating!

## **Dance Program**

This year all of our students will be participating in a dance program in the month of May. Each class will be part of 3 to 4 lessons and the program culminates with a performance on May 31.

2017/18 School Calendar

## **School Operation 2017-2018**

Included in this letter is a copy of the 2017/18 school calendar that lists all the dates of Winter and Spring Break, Pro D Days; Statutory Holidays and report card conference dates. Please refer to this document when planning your family events.

## **Upcoming Events**

Mon May 1 – Div 6 – Field Trip

Tues May 2 – New K 's and Families – Welcome to K Event – 10:40 to 12:00

Thurs. May 4 – Div 4/5 TEGS Program @ 11:00; All – Big One at Two Event – 2:00

Fri May 5 – Field Trip – Div 11/12

Mon May 8 – Jr Track Team Meet at Trudeau Elem – 3:00 to 4:30

Tues May 9 – Provincial Election Voting Station in the Gym – All Day; Hearing Screening – K's

Thurs May 11 – Div. 1/4/5/6/7 – Heritage Fair; Sr Track Team Meet at Sexsmith – 3:00 to 4:30

Mon. May 15 – Div 14/15 – Field Trip

Tues May 16 – Jr Track Team –Track Meet @ Henderson Elem – 3:00 to 4:30

Thurs May 18 – Div. 5/6 – Field Trip; Sr Track Team – Track Meet @ Henderson Elem – 3:00 to 4:30

Fri May 19 – All – Sports Day

Mon May 22 – All – Victoria Day Holiday – School is Not in Session

Tues May 23 – Jr Track Team –Track Meet at South Memorial Park

Wed May 24 to Wed May 31 – All – School Wide Dance Program

Thurs May 25 – Sr Track Team – Meet @ South Memorial Park – 3:00 to 4:30

Thurs June 1 – Full Track Team – Final Meet at Swangard Stadium – 8:00 to 3:00

Mon June 5 – All – Pro D day – School is Not in Session for students

## J.W. Sexsmith Elementary School 2017 - 2018

### SCHOOL OPERATION OVERVIEW

Number of Days in Session	187
Number of Days of Instruction	179
Hours of Instruction in a School year	949
Number of Days of Non-Instruction	7 Non Instructional Days; 1 Administrative Day (June 29)

#### Important Dates

School Opening Day	Tuesday, September 5, 2017
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 9, 2017
Remembrance Day Holiday	Monday, November 13, 2017 (in lieu of Saturday, November 11)
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation	Friday, December 22, 2017
Winter Vacation Period	Monday, December 25, 2017 – Friday, January 5, 2018
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 8, 2018
Family Day	Monday, February 12, 2018
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation	Friday, March 16, 2018
Spring Vacation Period	Monday, March 19 – Thursday, March 29, 2017
Good Friday	Friday, March 30, 2018
Easter Monday	Monday, April 2, 2018
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation	Tuesday, April 3, 2018
School not in session	Friday, May 18, 2018
Victoria Day	Monday, May 21, 2018
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance	Thursday, June 28, 2018
Administrative/School Closing Day	Friday, June 29, 2018

#### Non Instructional Days (school not in session)

#### Professional Development Focus

Friday, September 22, 2017*	Topic - TBA
Friday, October 20, 2017	District wide non-instructional day
Friday, November 10, 2017	Curriculum Implementation Day
Friday, December 1, 2017	Topic - TBA
Monday, January 29, 2018	Curriculum Implementation Day
Monday, February 19, 2018	Topic - TBA
Friday, April 27, 2018*	School Goals Review

\*placeholder dates – schools may apply to alter these dates

#### Parent Teacher Conference Dates:

#### Early dismissal times:

Wednesday, October 4, 2017	Students Dismissed @ 2:00; Conferences -2:15 to 6:00
Thursday, October 5, 2017	Students Dismissed @ 2:00; Conferences – 2:15 to 6:00
Wednesday, February 7, 2018	Students Dismissed @ 2:00; Conferences – 2:15 to 6:00
<b>Thursday, February 8, 2018</b>	<b>Students Dismissed @ 2:00; Conferences – 2:15 to 6:00</b>