

BALDONNEL BRONCOS



Welcome Back

We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas break and enjoyed many special family moments that will become cherished memories. We have had a busy first week back to school and are looking forward to an amazing year in 2016 here at Baldonnel Elementary.

PAC Updates

- Next meeting is Monday, January 11th at 7pm ... new parents are always welcome to attend!
- PAC Hot Lunch on Thursday, January 21st (Spaghetti). Orders need to be placed by January 19th and can be done online. Please call the school if you have difficulty with this process.
- We would like to thank our PAC for providing hot chocolate and oranges for our Skating Day on December 18th and for the many other wonderful opportunities you provide for our students. We appreciate ALL of your hard work.



Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registrations are currently being accepted for the 2016-2017 year. If you have a child who will be five years old before December 31st, 2015, feel free to drop by the school and register for Kindergarten. Please bring your child's birth certificate as well as a utility bill of some sort to confirm your 911 address.

Recycling Calendar

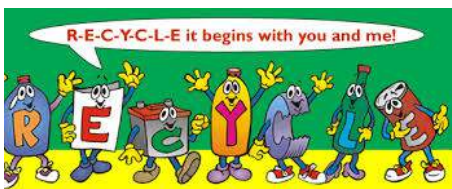
WEEK of ...	HOUSE TEAM
Jan. 4 th	Hoola Hooping Hooligans
Jan. 11 th	The Diaper Wiapers
Jan. 18 th	Lightning Dirt Bikers
Jan. 25 th	Hoola Hooping Hooligans
Feb. 1 st	The Diaper Wiapers
Feb. 8 th	Lightning Dirt Bikers
Feb. 15 th	Hoola Hooping Hooligans
Feb. 22 nd	The Diaper Wiapers
Feb. 29 th	Lightning Dirt Bikers
Mar. 7 th	Hoola Hooping Hooligans
Mar. 14 th	The Diaper Wiapers

Please continue to assist the school with our recycling efforts and the collection of the Lunch Mates codes. A special thank you to Mrs. Darlene Taylor and Mrs. Donna Rector for all of the work they do to make these programs profitable. Our students recently had the opportunity to use KEVA Planks (borrowed from the FSJ Public Library). These blocks were such a hit with the students and staff that we will be purchasing two sets for the school. A special thank you to Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Rector for using their money to purchase one a set for the school. We can't wait to see more amazing structures created by our students.



Winter Weather

We were extremely fortunate to have such a beautiful start to the winter season. This week has seen colder temperatures but we still try to send the students outside for fresh air and an opportunity to burn off extra energy whenever possible. Please ensure your child/children have appropriate outside clothing – toques, mitts, ski pants etc.



Spring Carnival Update

Our PAC has had to make the difficult decision that a Spring Carnival will not be held this year. Although this event has always been greatly enjoyed by our students and families, it takes a lot of work and volunteer hours to pull something like this together. Unfortunately there has not been enough support to get this project off the ground. Watch for other PAC sponsored activities this year!



Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) Information (Grade 4 students only)

What are FSA's?

The Foundation Skills Assessment is an annual province-wide assessment of British Columbia students' academic skills, and provides a snapshot of how well BC students are learning foundation skills in Reading Comprehension, Writing, and Numeracy.

The main purpose of the assessment is to help the province; school districts, schools and school planning councils evaluate how well students are achieving basic skills, and make plans to improve student achievement. FSA is designed and developed by British Columbia educators. The skills assessed are linked to the provincial curriculum and provincial performance standards.

How to Get Prepared

This is not something that students can really study for but there are a number of “sample” assessments outlined below that will help students become familiar with the assessment. We will use these resources at school to prepare our students but feel free to do the same at home if you wish.

Website - <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/>

Click on the “Samples” link located under the Popular Topics heading at the bottom of the page.

Follow these two sets of Instructions:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Click on the “Multiple Choice Questions” under the grade 4 online section.- Select Peace River North School District #60- Now select either the Grade 4 Reading or Numeracy assessment and click the logon button and this will automatically upload the PEN and Session Password to access the sample assessment.	<p>Click on the “Student Response Booklet” under the grade 4-paper section and this will allow you to download a sample booklet with the written sections.</p>
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Ministry of Education Satisfaction Surveys

A province-wide survey administered annually as part of the accountability cycle that gathers opinions from students, parents and school staff on topics like achievement, human and social development and safety. The survey is delivered online and it takes about 10 minutes to complete. The results from the survey can help provide key feedback that assists in the planning for school improvement. All of our grade 4 students will complete this survey online sometime before spring break. We will also be sending home instructions for parents so that they can complete the parent version of this survey ... stay tuned☺

Save the Date

January 11th – PAC Meeting @ 7pm
January 18th – Recognition Assembly – 9 am
January 21st – PAC Hot Lunch (Spaghetti)
January 27th – Family Literacy Day & Pajama Day –
Recycled Book Fair and Reading Activities.
January 29th – Non-Instructional Day

Professional Activities currently underway by the staff at Baldonnel:

- Book Study – “Calm, Alert, and Learning” by Stuart Shanker
- Collaboration Groups – “Zones of Regulation”

The focus of these activities is on developing our skills to assist students with self-regulation.

BASKETBALL

The Elementary Basketball League will be starting the week of January 19th for both of our teams. The practice/league schedule and consent forms for the season will be sent home early next week ... please return the consent forms to the office ASAP!

Games will be played on Tuesday and Thursdays.

We would like to thank our parent coaches for stepping forward:

- Gr. 5/6 Mixed Team – Mr. McDonnell
- Gr. 4/5 Mixed Team – Mrs. Nelson

Recognition Assembly – December 7, 2015



Wed. January 27th Family Literacy Day

(AM) – Recycled Book
Fair Fundraiser
(PM) – Reading
Activities

More info to come😊

Firefighter Sadie returns:



At our last Recognition Assembly of 2015, Firefighter Sadie returned to Baldonnel School to distribute prizes from the Fire Prevention Week activities and challenges. Here is a summary of the exciting results:

Classroom Draws:

- Mrs. Miller (K) – Nathan Penner-Kenny
- Mrs. Cooper/Mrs. O’Neil (1) – Matthew Lafleur
- Mrs. Cushway/Mrs. Merrill (2) – Austin Dube and Maryssa Lafleur
- Mrs. Johnson (3) – Diamond Fenton
- Mr. Johnson (4) – Tori Haddow
- Mr. Gray (5/6) – Brock Schroeder

Winner of the entry for the Provincial iPad draw – Hayden Ross

Winner of the Fire Escape Plan draw for the GT SnowRacer and Helmet – Evan Umbach

Winner of the Classroom with the highest % of activities completed and returned to FireFighter Sadie – Mrs. Johnson’s class with 90% completion rate. This class will receive a special BBQ lunch at the Fire Hall in the Spring and will participate in a tour of the Fire Hall. Way to go, Grade 4’s. Excellent participation!

Honourable Mention for the Slogan Contest – Reece Callison. Her slogan was “Fire – Fire – It’s so hot. Hurry to your meeting spot!”

Baldonnel did not win the school jersey challenge against Taylor School. Oh no!! This means that Ms. Wright will have to wear the Taylor colours for a day. While we are happy that Taylor students finally have “bragging rights”, we need to start planning how we will regain this title during next year’s Fire Prevention activities.

December Activities:



A very successful Christmas concert: “Is Santa Smarter ...?”

Thank you for your support of our Willow Chair fundraiser. We raised over \$1000 for literacy programs at the school.

Winners of the draw:

- Willow Chair – Tanner McCracken
- Cookie Jar – Vickie Liwiski
- Cookie Jar – Cyndi Chartrand



Skating at the Taylor Arena on December 18th.



Bronco Day Activities – December 11th



Reading Together!



Let's dance!!

Gym games.

