



Parkcrest Elementary  
2170 Parkcrest Ave  
Kamloops, BC V2B 4Y1  
250-554-2368

Safe Arrival: 1-844-350-2647  
Or visit [ktsd.schoolconnects.com](http://ktsd.schoolconnects.com)

### January Principal's Message

Welcome to 2017! Our students seemed very happy to return after a restful Winter break. We are full swing into a variety of activities as January moves forward.

The staff and I continue to work towards providing a rich environment for your children to learn. We are working together to support our growth as professionals and are spending time reflecting on our practice and looking at ways to improve student learning. I am very proud of the work Parkcrest staff does and I hope you are too.

### New Safe Arrival

Please ensure that you are please report student absences **before** 8:30 am on the day of the absence (you can also report absences in advance, if they are known.) If you report the absence after 8:30 it will not work. To report an absence you may choose to:

- call the toll-free # [1-844-350-2647](tel:1-844-350-2647)
- access the following website:

<http://ktsd.schoolconnects.com/>

- download the Synervoice Technologies Inc app by searching for Safe Arrival School Connects.

Please choose the reason for your child's absence from school: sick, appointment, family vacation, etc. Don't forget to wait for confirmation # to ensure your child's absence has been recorded.

If students are not in the classroom by 8:30 they are recorded as late. They must then sign in at the office and bring a popsicle stick to their teacher. The system will call #1 and #2 contacts. Please be sure to follow the instructions as each number will be called up to 5 times. It can be a very busy time in the office, please be patient. There have been a few calls that were offensive with inappropriate language and rude behaviour - please remember that this is your child's school and that is not acceptable. Your cooperation is appreciated.

### Bright Red Book Shelf

Come and check out the Bright Red Book Shelf located in the primary end of the school. It is kept stocked full of books for students and parents. Please feel free to help yourself. If you have gently used books that you would like to donate, please bring them to Mrs. Butchart in the office.

### Basketball

Thank you to Mr Vaughan Willson and Mr David Cruz for coaching the Boys and Girls Basketball teams. Boys will be practicing on Mondays from 2:30-3:45 and the Girls team on Wednesdays from 2:45-4:00. All games start at 3pm. The schedule is as follows:

#### Boys:

Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> Parkcrest @ Barriere  
Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> Parkcrest @ Pac Way  
Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> Juniper @ Parkcrest  
Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> Sth Sahali @ Parkcrest  
Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> Beattie @ Parkcrest

#### Girls:

Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup> OLPH @ Parkcrest  
Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> Parkcrest @ Rayleigh  
Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup> Kay Bingham @ Parkcrest  
Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> Aberdeen @ Parkcrest  
Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> St Ann's @ Parkcrest

### FOUNDATION SKILLS ASSESSMENTS Gr. 4

Our Grade 4 students will be taking part in the FSA between January 16<sup>th</sup> and February 3<sup>rd</sup>. There are specific schedules for administering FSA's for each class. This is a Ministry initiative and we ask that our students be well rested and in a state of mind to try their best on the assessments. There are three parts to the assessment: Numeracy, Writing and Reading. The Student Learning Assessment Order (School Act Section 81 and 168) provides the legislative authority to mandate the administration of the FSA to all Gr. 4 students. As such, all students are expected to write the exams. Principals and teachers do not have the authority to excuse students from participation unless the student meets specific criteria (modified IEP, medical disability). The FSA's take approximately 270 minutes to complete and the students will write in both written booklets and electronic exams in the computer lab. Once the booklets have been marked, parents will receive them back with a snapshot of your child's performance. Parents can expect to know the results in early March. While students can not 'study' for these exams, parents are encouraged to have their child visit the Ministry of Education website to familiarize themselves with the types of questions on the exams. The exam results are also used as a snapshot to see how students are doing in our school and in our district compared to the rest of the province. The results are not used in any way

for teachers to use for classroom data for reporting; however, the item test analysis is a very useful document in seeing what strands of the curriculum our students need support with. Parents can visit the Ministry Website to see sample questions and have their child practice some of the online sample questions at:

<https://www.awinfosys.com/eassessments/fsa.htm>

Thank you to parents of Gr. 4 students. If parents have questions or queries they should be directed to Ms Linfitt.

### Thought Exchange

Thank you to the parents that participated in the Thought Exchange process. There will be a link on the website by next Friday that explains the Parkcrest families' thoughts as well as the Districts.

### Parking

Once again we are reminding parents that parking lots and crosswalks can become **very dangerous** places for children during the busy times of before and after school.

### **Please note:**

- The area along Parkcrest Drive is for quick pick-up or drop-off of students. Cars should not be left unattended, nor there for more than a few minutes.
- Parent parking is in the church parking lot across the street only. School lots are reserved for staff, district staff, daycare pickup and handicapped parking. For the safety of our students, please follow these guidelines when dropping off/picking up students - **PLEASE DO NOT USE THE STAFF PARKING LOTS TO DROP OFF OR PICK UP STUDENTS OR BLOCK THE CROSSWALK.**

### January 20<sup>th</sup> Professional Development Day

On January 20<sup>th</sup>, staff will be delving deeper into the revised BCEd Plan. We will be at NorKam with the other NorBrock schools for the day.

### PAC News

Welcome back everyone. We will be kicking off a few new fundraisers in the next couple of weeks. Keep your eyes open for the Valentines Day Cookie Grams information and once again we will be selling Panago coupons. Also we will be posting information about all our fundraising we have been doing for our playground project. If you have some time, take a look at our PAC board. Once again, thank you everyone for all your support!

**\*We are very excited to be launching an online ordering system for Hot Lunches and Fundraising through [MunchaLunch.com](http://MunchaLunch.com). With this program parents will be able to order Hot Lunches or Fundraising items, pay online, and receive a reminder e-mail specifying exact order details. We will still give the option to pay by cheque or cash as well. Notices will be sent home later this month with more information.\***

Thank you for your continued support!!  
Parkcrest PAC

### KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration Kindergarten \*Please refer to School District No. 73 Policy 300.1 School Boundaries and Student Transfer Requests and Policy 706.2 Education Choice: Enrolment for clarification regarding school boundaries and enrolment in Schools of Choice. Information on the catchment areas is available on our website: [www.sd73.bc.ca](http://www.sd73.bc.ca) To be eligible for attendance in Kindergarten in September 2017, a student must be five years of age by December 31, 2017. Please bring your child's original birth certificate, Care Card and a proof of address with you when registering.

### SCHOOLS OF CHOICE REGISTRATION DATES

January 30<sup>th</sup> - February 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm \*Please register anytime during this period. This registration is NOT first come, first served.

### Kindergarten registration dates:

(Neighbourhood Schools) February 14<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Parents are strongly encouraged to register children for Kindergarten on these dates.

### Elementary Programs of Choice

If you are interested in enrolling your child in a Program of Choice for September 2017, you are invited to attend an Information Night for Elementary Programs of Choice as listed below.

French Immersion and Schools of Choice Kamloops School of the Arts Bert Edwards Science & Technology Montessori at Aberdeen Elementary Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 6:30 pm, Room 1A/B, Henry Grube Education Centre Come and hear about: Learning in a French language environment at Lloyd George and South Sa-Hali Learning in an arts-integrated environment at Kamloops School of the Arts Learning through inquiry at Bert Edwards Science & Technology School Learning through the Montessori philosophy at Aberdeen Elementary French Immersion schools accept new students entering kindergarten and grade 1 only. Kamloops School of the Arts accepts students entering kindergarten to grade 12. Bert Edwards Science & Technology School accepts students entering kindergarten to grade 6. Montessori accepts students entering kindergarten to grade 6. Registration in French Immersion and Schools of Choice is dependent upon available space. The Henry Grube Education Centre is located at 245 Kitchener Crescent.



## Board Notes

### ***From the Board Meeting of: December 12, 2016***

The Board approved the Consent Agenda which contained the following reports/information:

- a. Adoption of Regular Public Board Minutes of November 21, 2016;
  - b. Revised Implementation Schedule of the Graduation Years;
  - c. Naloxone Guidelines;
  - d. District Parent Advisory Council Report;
  - e. Parks and Recreation Committee Report.
2. The Board received a beautiful Strings presentation, introduced by Principal Griffith.
  3. The Board approved two Out-of-Province Field Trip Requests from Westsyde Secondary School and NorKam Senior Secondary School.
  4. The Board approved an Out-of-Province Field Trip Request from the International Student Program.
  5. The Board received a presentation from Manager Pinette on the *Discover the World of Information Technology* conference.
  6. The Board received information on the Kindergarten enrolment schedule for 2017/2018 from Director Smillie.
  7. The Board received the School Completion Report, presented by District Principal Brar and Teacher Mr. Lowe.
  8. The Board approved the Creativity, Innovation and Curriculum Grants presented by Director Robinson.
  9. The Board adopted a revised Board Meeting schedule for 2016-2017.
  10. The Board approved revisions to Policy 600.1 Code of Conduct and Policy 612.1 Student Dress Code.

The next regular Board Meeting will occur on Monday January 16, 2017 at the Henry Grube Education Centre, 245 Kitchener Crescent, Kamloops, BC.

### **Community meeting**

British Columbia's new school curriculum is making sure students are ready to succeed in our changing world. The Ministry of Education wants parents to share how they want to learn about their child's progress from kindergarten to Grade 9. Everyone welcome. For more information please visit: [engage.gov.bc.ca/yourkidsprogress](http://engage.gov.bc.ca/yourkidsprogress)

Details:  
HENRY GRUBE EDUCATION CENTRE  
245 Kitchener Crescent, Kamloops, BC  
Monday, January 30th, 2017  
5 pm - 8 pm

### **Family Literacy Week (Jan 21st -28th)**

It's that time of year again! We will be participating in the Interior Savings Unplug and Play - more information will be provided prior to week. PAC is also going to have a contest - students are to record their minutes read during Literacy week and the class with the most minutes per student will have a pizza lunch.

### **Presentation Lenore Skenazy, "Free Range Kids: Independent, Smart and Ready to Lead"**

HGEC [January 26th](#) 12:30-2:00 and 6:30-8:00PM at the Sandman Centre Lounge for more information visit <http://literacyinkamloops.weebly.com/> or register at [eventbrite.ca](http://eventbrite.ca)

Lenore Skenazy is an author, comedian and speaker with a hilarious take on the insanity of modern parenting. Lenore will encourage the community to provide our children the opportunities to take important 'baby steps' toward independence and responsibility to become safe and self-reliant adults. Find out more about free play, risky play, and the downside of 'helicopter parenting.' This event is intended for adults, parents and non-parents alike! You can find out more about Lenore at [www.freerangekids.com](http://www.freerangekids.com)

### **School Calendar**

Date	Event
<b>January 20</b>	Pro D Day - No School
<b>February 13</b>	Family Day - No School
<b>February 23</b>	Early Dismissal 12:30 pm
<b>February 24</b>	Pro D Day - No School
<b>March 20</b>	Spring Vacation
<b>April 3</b>	School back in session
<b>April 14</b>	Good Friday
<b>April 17</b>	Easter Monday
<b>April 24</b>	Pro D Day - No School
<b>May 15</b>	Pro D Day - No School
<b>May 22</b>	Victoria Day - No School
<b>June 29</b>	Last Day for students 12:00 dismissal
<b>June 30</b>	Administration day - for staff only