

February 1, 2018
Newsletter #5
<http://southslope.sd41.bc.ca>

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PAC Executive

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School Growth Plan

– Areas of Focus

- Reading Comprehension
- Social Responsibility

Individual Highlights:

1. Principal's Message
2. Library News
3. Spring Break Camps
4. Family Day

Principal – Mrs. M. Perez **Head Teachers – Mrs. Fierro and Ms. Zuvic**
Vice Principal – Ms. M. Paris **Secretaries – Ms. T. Jang and Ms. K. Block**

Message from the Principal

January has been a busy month. South Slope and BCSD have been involved in a variety of learning activities. During literacy week Ms. Araujo and the literacy committee kept us all busy. On Monday January 22nd we kicked off the week with a fun filled assembly where the staff highlighted their acting skills by performing the story drama of the Little Red Hen starring Mr. Brown. We celebrated the importance of reading and literacy. As educators we instill the importance of reading in your child through a variety of activities and curricular areas but we know that students come to our schools every day with a love for books and learning that has been nurtured at home. Reading is one of the most important skills a child can learn. Prioritizing time to read at home each night has huge benefits, and helps your child build confidence and competence as a reader. Asking questions helps to develop your child's thinking skills and build comprehension. By promoting reading at home and working in partnership with your child's teacher, we can develop literacy skills and foster a love of reading that will hopefully last a lifetime!

Even though it is only February preparations are underway for our Grade 7's to start learning about High School transitions. They will be listening to Counselors and other High School staff who will be visiting their classrooms soon.

Burnaby Schools offer so many opportunities for students to learn and be inspired to reach their potential. Priority placement for the upcoming school year is given to applications received in February. New District students including kindergarten students and Burnaby residents who are not currently enrolled in the District should register at their local school as determined by their residential address. For details and more information on applications for transfers, language programs and other available specialty programs please go to www.sd41.bc.ca. If you know of any new students or Kindergarten aged children planning to attend South Slope/ BCSD in the fall, please share this information with them.

By now all FSA (Foundation Skills Assessments) results have been sent home with all students in Grades 4 and 7. If you have not seen these results and you are a parent of a Grade 4 or 7 student, please check the bottom of your child's backpack or contact me for a copy.

Once again I am asking that drivers dropping off and picking up student obey the safety signs and regulations that are in place. These signs are there for the safety of your children. Please do not drive through the staff parking lot, slow down, drive alert and do not park in front of crosswalks as this blocks visibility. There have been several close calls and accidents because these signs have not been adhered to. Keeping our kids safe is everyone's responsibility!

I would like thank all of our volunteers who came out to help with our pancake breakfast as well as our Jingle Bell food drive. We collected over 1000lbs of food to donate to the food bank! I would also like to acknowledge our South Slope/BCSD PAC executive who put in countless hours providing a variety of opportunities, resources and events for our school. The PAC is a hardworking dedicated small group of parents who are always looking to increase their group membership. If you would like to help or contribute to your school community in any way, please contact any member on the executive or come to the next PAC meeting, everyone is welcome. All information regarding the PAC can be found on our web page under the "Parents" tab.

Please save the week of May 7-11 for our amazing Spring Musical "Alice in Wonderland." All South Slope students will be involved in this grand production. Watch for more information regarding evening performances coming soon.

M. Perez

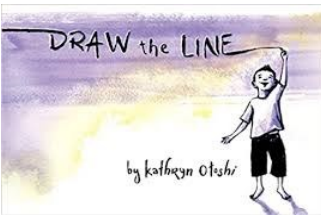




News from the Library:

Home Reading Club: On January 3rd we reached 100 nights of reading. 152 students and staff completed 50 and 100 nights of reading and all were recognized at our Celebration of Learning assembly on Jan 22nd. Pick up your forms any time from the library. Thank you for participating and keep on reading!

Literacy Week January 22nd-26th: What did we do during Literacy Week? We started things off at our assembly on Monday. We were treated to a special Readers' Theatre performance by the South Slope staff who performed *The Little Red Hen*.



Our school-wide read this year was *Draw the Line* by Kathryn Otoshi. Many classes also read her other books *One, Two and Zero* in the library. Students made many connections to Otoshi's messages about tolerance, acceptance and friendship. All week classes read and responded to *Draw the line* in the library and in classrooms.



Have a look around the school to see what's been happening. On Tuesday the fun continued with the Book Swap. Thank you to everyone who donated a book or *more!*



On Wednesday everyone was invited to dress up. Some of us dressed up as their favourite character from a book and others wore t-shirts that read.



dressed up as we could

On Thursday, we had special guest readers and ASL storytellers for every classroom from the Burnaby School district and the community. Guest Readers: Gordon Li, Tanis Anderson, Pietro Calendino, Patricia Finlay, Raj Chouhan, Victoria Lee, Shirley March and the Burnaby Fire Department. ASL Storytellers: Dorothy Crombie, Peggy Fee, and Eileen Edgar.

Finally, we had PJ Day and a wrap up assembly on Friday. BCSD Staff performed *One* by Kathryn Otoshi. Our leadership students performed their own reader's theatre of *Little Red Riding Hood*. Division 15 from BCSD also shared a great movie they made retelling *Draw the Line* in ASL. Finally, we also watched a short slideshow of the week's events. What a great week! Thanks so much, everyone!



Scholastic Book Fair: Our next Book Fair is coming February 19th – 22nd. Parent volunteers will be needed. Please see Mrs. Araujo if you are able to help.

Check out the library blog more updates throughout the year. You can access it from the school website under the library tab or go to: <http://goo.gl/hLjNEP>



Burnaby has everything you need for Spring Break!

Our camps have an excellent reputation, and our program leaders are chosen for their valuable experience, abilities and dedication. Leaders are trained in first aid, accident prevention and emergency procedures. Your child's safety is our priority. We are committed to ensuring a safe and fun experiences for your child.

For more information on the City of Burnaby's Spring Break Camps,

visit www.burnaby.ca/camps



Family Day

February 12, 2018
burnaby.ca/familyday

Celebrate
togetherness
and **b Active!**



The Winter Festival at the Bill Copeland is a new event as part of Burnaby's Family Day activities or come join us at other city facilities for skating, swimming, Zumba®, visual arts and more. Find out more »