

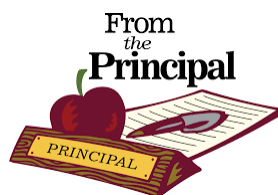
December 2020

Noel Sharman – Principal | Tel 604.823.6738 | noel_sharman@sd33.bc.ca | <http://ges.sd33.bc.ca>

"Preparing Hearts and Minds for the Future"

Principal's Message

December has now arrived, and we are really proud of all our accomplishments during the first term at Greendale. We have demonstrated our commitment to building "Hearts and Minds for the Future" by focusing, on trust, understanding and helpfulness. We have also worked hard at creating competent thinkers through all the high-quality instruction from our teaching and support staff. Our PAC are incredibly positive, caring and hardworking in their efforts to make our school such a great place. Thank you! Our December virtue is 'Joyfulness' and we look forward to seeing our students display evidence of this throughout this month. As we approach the holidays, I would like to wish everyone a safe and restful Christmas spent with family and friends.



Sincerely,
Noel Sharman
"Intelligence plus character, that is the goal of true education."
- Martin Luther King Jr.



Dec 8	Purdy's Christmas Chocolate pick up
Dec 9	PAC meeting 7pm on Zoom
Dec 11	Hot Lunch
Dec 11	Flannel Friday
Dec 18	Festive Day
Dec 18	Last Day of school before Holidays
Dec 19-Jan 3	Christmas Holidays

School Communication

Our school is trying to promote more environmentally friendly options to communicate. We will be using email, our website, and Facebook to communicate regularly with parents. Our school website has a great deal of information on it and is regularly updated. Please check it out at <http://gcs.sd33.bc.ca/>.

There will be a Friday email with updates for the following week. Newsletters will be written monthly and emailed to parents. All newsletters will also be posted on our school website.

Report Cards

Report Cards will be sent home the week of Monday, December 7th. Please take some time to celebrate the successes with your child and also encourage your child in the areas that he/she can continue to work on. We really appreciate your support and encouragement with your child's learning!

Canned Food Drive

Once again, our school community pulled off another fantastic Canned Food Drive. We collected 1130 canned goods for the Salvation Army. What an outstanding display of generosity; way to go Greendale!

Dressing for the Weather



We are in rainy West Coast season and we play outside in the rain or shine! Please make sure your child comes to school dressed appropriately for ALL types of weather: Boots, gloves, hat, rain jacket, winter jacket. Unless it is extreme wind, rain, or cold, students will be playing outside during recess and lunch.



There are lots of items that would love to be reunited with their owner! All items will be on display on a table just out front of the main doors after school December 14-16th. Any items left over will be donated to a local charity in need.

Purdy's Chocolate Orders

The Purdy's Christmas Chocolate Orders pick up date is December 8th. Please come to the Library back door between 1:30-2:30pm. If you need to make other arrangements, please contact the Greendale PAC.



Christmas Spirit Days



Library

Important dates: We are having a Virtual Scholastic Book Fair from Nov. 30 - Dec. 6. This is a great, easy way to do some Christmas shopping and support our school library at the same time. <https://bookfairs-canada.myshopify.com/pages/5148681>

The Reading Link Challenge books for 2020 have just been announced. We are expecting books to be delivered from the FVRL soon. I will be holding a lunch time meeting once the books have arrived, and all interested grades 4 and 5 students should attend. We will plan to meet every other week in the New Year. If you are unfamiliar with the program and want to check it out, click here for more information.

https://www.fvrl.bc.ca/reading_link_challenge.php

Thanks for doing such a great job of encouraging your kids to return their library books in a timely manner. With needing to quarantine our books this year, some of the popular titles are in higher demand and students need to wait a bit longer for them. Returning library books to school every week is greatly appreciated by everyone.

Have you asked your Grades 3, 4 or 5 students how to put a book on hold at our school? I have taught them how to do this, and all they need to know is their computer login information. Some of them have started doing this, and they are enjoying being some of the first to get their hands on the most popular books in our library. Check out

<https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/ui/61160> for some more info.

Greendale PAC

Don't miss our next PAC meeting taking place December 9th at 7:00 pm via zoom. A link and agenda will be emailed out prior to the meeting. Join us to hear what's happening at the school!

Other notable dates:

- the Purdy's fundraiser pick-up will be Tuesday, December 8th at the library backdoor.
- We will be having a hot lunch from Jim's Pizza on Friday, December 11! Orders are due by Thursday, December 3 on <https://munchalunch.com/schools/greendale>

Since it's been so hard to meet with parents this year, we thought we would introduce the PAC executive here. This month we're highlighting the co-chairs as they are both brand-new to their roles. If you want to put a face to the names, check out our Facebook page, where we will also feature 2 executive introductions each month.

Nicole Klix is only in her 2nd year at Greendale; she has a son in grade 1 and a daughter in grade 4 at Greendale. She started attending PAC in order to find out what's happening at the school, get connected, meet parents, and find ways to get involved. She's learning the role of co-chair as she goes, and is so thankful for the support and encouragement of the staff and other parents at the school. Nicole tends to do the behind the scenes networking – if you reach out to the PAC email (greendale-pac@sd33.bc.ca), odds are you'll connect with her.

Kara Biersteker has also stepped in as co-chair this year. She has been at Greendale Elementary for over 5 years now with one child in Grade 3 and one child in Grade 1. She decided to get involved with PAC because it provides so many benefits to our school that would not be possible without an executive in place. Over the years she has seen first-hand what PAC provides to our students and couldn't imagine where we would be without their involvement. Kara is the more visible face of PAC. You will often find her wandering the playground (with or without her chocolate lab) so if you have any questions about PAC or have something you want brought forward at the next meeting, she loves to be stopped for a chat.

We are both so thankful for our predecessors Erin and Bonnie for the time they put in for PAC the last several years, as well as the other executives who have been serving for many years. Their experience has been instrumental and we couldn't do what we do without people like them.

As we move into the holiday season, we wish your families all the best, and look forward to finding new ways to connect and to benefit the school community in the new year.

Kindergarten 2021-2022

If you have a child or know of someone who will be 5 years of age before December 31, 2021, you can register now! You will need the following to complete the registration:

- Birth Certificate
- Proof of Residence
- Valid email address

Please visit <https://sd33.bc.ca/registration> to register and FAQs. If you require assistance, please email ereg@sd33.bc.ca

Student Absences

If your child is ill or planning to be absent, please give the school a call in the morning at 604-823-6738 or you may email Mrs. Holmes at cassandra.holmes@sd33.bc.ca; otherwise our office will phone home to ensure your child is safe in the event of absence. Thank you for your support! Please consult the daily health check before sending your child(ren) to school.





Chilliwack
School District

2020/2021

INCLEMENT WEATHER SCHOOL CLOSURE GUIDELINES

Information for Parents and Students



Inclement weather conditions such as freezing rain, significant snowfall or high wind can occur during the fall and winter months. In such conditions, decisions on the opening or closure of school district facilities are made by the Superintendent of Schools in consultation with management and supervisory staff who have checked first-hand on the driving conditions, walking/sidewalk conditions, and general condition of buildings and accessibility to sites. *For more details on how this is done, [click here](#).*

While service to students and parents is a priority and schools will be kept open as much as is reasonably possible, student and staff safety is the primary consideration.

In the event of extreme weather conditions, parents are urged to check the **School District website** www.sd33.bc.ca or tune into radio stations **STAR FM (98.3 FM)** or **THE DRIVE (89.5 FM)**, to receive up-to-date information on school closures and information on the buses. Reports will start after 6:00 a.m. and will be repeated often. The information broadcast is directly from the School District. The reports are confirmed and there is no need to call your school, the School District Office or the radio station.

In the event that there is inclement weather but the school remains open, it is the parent's decision, based on their assessment of the relative safety of travel conditions, as to whether or not their children attend school. Students will be marked absent for the day, but such an absence will not affect a perfect attendance record.

A **Transportation Snow Plan** is in place for students who rely on travel by school bus and live in higher elevations such as Chilliwack Mountain, Little Mountain, Majuba Hill, Ryder Lake and some areas of Columbia Valley and the Eastern Hillside. An announcement will be made should travel in these areas become challenging due to slippery road conditions. *(Please note: the greater Promontory area does not have a snow plan).*

All inclement weather announcements will be posted on the District website www.sd33.bc.ca