Stitó:s Lá:lém Totí:lt Elementary / Middle School Newsletter



December 2024

Jason Kemp, Principal | Chris Falk, Vice Principal | Andrea Spedding, Vice Principal | https://stitos.sd33.bc.ca

Message from the Admin Team...

The holiday season is upon us, and we are thrilled to share all the exciting events and activities planned for December! We'll kick off the month with **Deck the Halls**, where classes will showcase their creativity by decorating their doors around the theme of family traditions.

Our **Grade 7 Entrepreneur Fair** will also take place, where our budding entrepreneurs will sell items they've created to the rest of the school – a great opportunity for students to support their peers and pick up unique items!

We are excited for two wonderful winter performances:

- Middle Grades Bands Performance
- Elementary Winter Performance (two shows*)
 - *We kindly ask that only two guests per student attend each elementary show to accommodate everyone comfortably.

In addition, Mrs. Humphries will be hosting a **Scholastic Book Fair**, offering a great chance to purchase books just in time for holiday reading.

A December tradition we all look forward to is our **Annual Turkey Shoot**! For just \$1, students can participate for a chance to be crowned the Turkey Shoot Champion and win a turkey or another fun prize.

As the month progresses, we'll also wrap up our canned food drive and celebrate the completion of Term 1 together.

We would also like to let you know that **Learning Updates** will be going home at the end of the month. These updates reflect your child's progress so far this year. If you have any questions or concerns, we encourage you to connect directly with your child's teacher to discuss their learning journey.

Lastly, please take a moment to check our **lost and found** during any of the performances. Unclaimed items will be donated before the winter break.

We wish all of our families a safe, restful, and joyous winter break, filled with time to connect with friends and family. Please note that the school will be closed from **December 21st through January 5th**, with staff and students returning on January 6th.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in making this a memorable month for our school community.

Candy Gram Fundraiser

Divisions 63, 77 & 78 are organizing a candy gram fundraiser with proceeds going to Cyrus Centre and the SPCA. Each candy gram will cost \$1. For this price, students can send a full-size candy cane to a friend. There is no limit to how many candy grams a student can send. Candy grams will be for sale starting Monday, December 9th and will be delivered over the last two weeks of school before the break. The last day to buy candy gram tickets will be Tuesday, December 17th. Elementary students will have a notice with tickets attached going home shortly with payment to be given to your child's classroom teacher.

Important Dates to Remember...

December 4th Term 2 Begins

December 6th Entrepreneur Fair (12:00 – 2:00 pm)

December 6th Spirit Day – Grinch vs. Santa (Green vs. Red)

December 9th Scholastic Book Fair Week

December 11th Winter Band Concert

December 13th Spirit Day – Ugly Holiday Sweater

December 13th Kindergarten Make & Take Event

December 16th Grade 6 Immunizations

December 18th Learning Update #1 Goes Home Today!

December 18th Winter Elementary Concert (1:00 pm / 6:00 pm)

December 20th Spirit Day – PJ Day

December 20th Last Day of Classes Before Christmas Break

December 23rd Christmas Break – Closed for the Holidays

to January 5th

January 6th School Reopens

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Grade 6 Immunizations

Grade 6 Immunizations will be taking place on December 16th. Families will be receiving consent forms from Fraser Health. If you have any questions, please contact Chilliwack Health Unit – School Nurse directly at (604) 702-4900.

Dress for Outside

As the weather turns colder, we request that you please send your child with a jacket and other appropriate warm clothing. We will be outside at recess and lunch most days and want to ensure that everyone is dressed comfortably.

Lost & Found

Our lost and found is overflowing. If your child is missing clothing, please stop by to take a look or ask your child to take a look. Anything left <u>after December 19th</u> will be bagged and donated to a charity.

Inclement Weather Information

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 assessed, 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 (http://www.sd33.bc.ca) or tune into radio stations STAR FM (98.3 FM) or JR COUNTRY (89.5 FM), to receive up-to-date information on school closures and information on the buses. There is no need to call the school, the School District Office, or the radio station.

When there is extreme weather and schools remain open, student attendance is the parent/guardians' decision.

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 Hillsides. An announcement will be made should travel in these areas become challenging due to slippery road conditions.

Kindergarten Registration is Open!

Kindergarten registration for the 2025 – 2026 school year is underway. If your child will be five (5) years old by December 31, 2025, please register online. You will need to upload your child's birth certificate and proof of residence when registering. We are strongly encouraging families who are planning to register at Stitó:s to do so as soon as possible as our Kindergarten classes fill up quickly and we want to ensure your child has a spot!

To register at Stitó:s or any other school in School District No. 33 (Chilliwack), please <u>click here</u>. Chilliwack School District uses a centralized electronic registration system. SD33 schools do not accept paper-form registrations. For more information and FAQ, please visit <u>SD33</u> — Registration.





PJ Days Wear your cozy pajamas on December 20th

Did You Know You Can Access...

School Information

Looking to see what is on the school calendar, what the bell schedule is for your child, or view the newsletter online??? Check out the School Information section on the school website.

Athletics Calendar

Looking to see when the next practice or game is??? Check out the school Athletics Calendar on the school website.

Counsellor Corner

Looking for loads of resources for families??? Check out the school Counsellor Corner section on the school website.

Learning Commons

Looking to see what activities and events are taking place in the Learning Commons??? Check out the Learning Commons section on the school website.

PAC Information

Looking to see who is your 2024/2025 PAC Executive or when the next PAC meeting is??? Check out the Parent Information section on the school website.

https://stitos.sd33.bc.ca/















Stitós Youth T-Shirts





Parent Advisory Committee

The next PAC Meeting is scheduled for **Thursday**, **January 23rd at 7:00 pm**. Did you know that you are a member of the PAC? Every single person that has a child attending Stitó:s Lá:lém Totí:lt Elementary / Middle is a member of the PAC and has a vote in what our PAC does.

Counsellors' Corner

This December edition of Counsellors' Corner is all about happier holidays and less stress. We hope you find these tips and strategies useful. Please feel free to share! Here is the link: https://secure.smore.com/n/62k73

Stitó:s Learning Commons

For information about all things books, including new book recommendations and what's happening in the Library Learning Commons on the school website. You can also find the monthly newsletter posted on our school website under Learning Commons, "Check It Out:. https://secure.smore.com/n/r2mu8





UBC Dental Program

Dental Treatment for Children Ages 0-12 without Dental Coverage

Children may be eligible to receive free dental care with the UBC Children's Dental Program.

- Supervised UBC dental students ("dentist or dental hygienist in training") provide dental exams and treatment
- . A parent / caregiver must accompany their child to the appointments
- Appointments are Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons at: UBC, Noble Biocare Oral Health Centre. 2151 Wesbrook Mall UBC Campus, Vancouver.
- School bus transportation is available for families who need a ride to and from the UBC dental clinic.

If you are interested and would like more information, please call your local Health Unit.

Health Units with Dental Staff	Phone	Fax
Abbotsford Health Unit	604-864-3400	604-864-3410
Burnaby Health Unit	604-918-7605	604-918-7630
Chilliwack Health Unit (Hope, Agassiz)	604-702-4900	604-702-4901
Guildford Health Unit	604-587-4750	604-587-4777
Langley Health Unit (Cloverdale)	604-539-2900	604-530-8138
Maple Ridge Health Unit	604-476-7000	604-476-7077
Mission Health Unit	604-814-5500	604-814-5517
North Delta Health Unit (South Delta, Newton, White Rock)	604-507-5400	604-507-4617
North Surrey Health Unit	604-587-7900	604-582-4811
New Westminster Health Unit	604-777-6740	604-525-0878
TriCities Health Unit	604-949-7200	604-949-7211

PAC Munch a Lunch Program

The PAC is excited to share that you can now conveniently place all popcorn, treat day, and some select fundraising orders online at munchalunch.com! Payments can be made using a Credit Card (VISA / MASTERCARD), Debit-Credit Card, Google Pay, Apple Pay, or a Prepaid Credit Card – no more searching for spare change!

Safe Arrival – Absence Reporting System

One of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all of our students arrive safely to school every day. To improve our safe arrival process, we have the SafeArrival system that will make it easier for you to report – and respond to – school absences of your student.

The SafeArrival system will let you use a mobile app, a website, or an interactive toll-free phone line to report an absence in advance. As a result, it will take the school less time to verify student attendance, and less time to being to notify parents and guardians of absences that were unexpected or unplanned. This time savings makes it faster and more efficient to account for all students and their safety.

With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence using any of the 3 convenient methods. Check out the Safe Arrival Link: https://www.sd33.bc.ca/safe-arrival.

Fraser Health List of Dental Resources

Many families do not have private dental insurance, but they may be eligible to apply for the following programs.

- Healthy Kids Program children under the age of 19 years may be eligible for basic dental services
- <u>Canadian Dental Care Plan</u> children under the age of 18 years who do not have access to a private dental insurance plan.
- <u>UBC Dentistry</u> offers a free dental program for children 12 years and younger. Please see the attached application form.
- Affordable dentistry options for children -Fraser Health Authority





Free Food Programs in Chilliwack

	Program Name	Program Description	Hosting Organization(s)	Who this is for?	How to access/contact
Hamper Pick Up	Starfish Backpack Program	Bi-weekly food hampers for families through the schools	SD33 and Chillwack Bowls of Hope	Families of school aged children In the Chilliwack School District (elementary to high school)	Through school staff or email Jane - janeuilyot@gmail.com
	Salvation Army Pantry	Self selection fresh food hamper	Chillwack Salvation Army	Anyone	Walk in only @ 45746 Yale Rd "Dally visits allowed M-F 10-12/1-3:30
	Salvation Army Food Bank	Monthly Hamper program	Chillwack Salvation Army	Anyone	Call for appointments M-F 9-12/1-4 Main office 604-792-0001
	Food Closet	Basic dry food items up to 6x per calendar year	Sardis Community Church	Sardis Residents only	Walk in 45625 South Sumas Rd M-Th 8:30-2:00 or call Main Office 604-858-7191
	Ruth & Naomi's Hamper Program	Dry goods hampers	Ruth & Naomi's Mission	Anyone who cannot attend daily community dinners and has an address	Hampers on Wednesday 12-3pm Walk in 46129 Princess Ave - 7 days/week 6-7pm
	Free Store Chilliwack	Free food hamper (1 per family)	Free Store Chillwack & Social Program Development	Anyone, Signup required online (1 hamper every 3-5 weeks)	Sign-up Friday mornings on Facebook Page or at www.thefreestorecanada.com/get-support Hamper pick up Sat/Sun 11-12:30
	Cyrus Centre Youth Hampers	BI-weekly food hampers for youth	Chiliwack Cyrus Centre (satelite location of the Salvation Army Food Bank)	Youth Ages 16 to 24	Walk in to register for the program during resource centre hours, 12-8pm 7 days/week 45845 Weillington Ave
Baby Supplies Pick Up	Basic for Bables	Baby formula and diapers *ilmited supply when available	Sardis Doorway for Mothers and Children	Infant & toddlers up to 6 times per calendar year living in Sardis region	Call or email Karin 604-819-6556 sardisdoorway@gmail.com
	Meadow Rose Baby Supplies	Baby food, formula, and any baby supplies	Meadow Rose Society	Children 3 and under, 2 times per month	Walk in 45789 Spadina Ave T/W/Th 11-1 or call 604-392-1133
Resource Pick Up	Chilliwack Community Cupboard	Food, clothing, and other household items at no charge	Chilliwack Community Cupboard Society	Chilliwack families with children under the age of 19	Contact chillwackcommunitycupboard@gmail.com or 604-203-9525. Appointment only through their Facebook page Thurs 9:30-11:30. Location 9525 College St. (back parking lot).
	Senior Food Program Tydel Foods	Monthly meal pack with free added resources (fruit/vegetables/dry goods) *Meat package paid by clients	Tydel Foods Senior Program	Seniors 60+ struggling with Food Insecurity	Open Dally Mon-Sat 9-5:30 Contact Brigida - brigida@ydelfoods.com or call at 504-316-6015 Updates also on Facebook Page
	Little Food Bank	A small, low barrier free-standing structure, Items donated by local residents *take Items If you need to; Ieave some Items If you can	Local Yarrow Residents	Anyone in Yarrow Area	Accessible 24/7 in Yarrow Pioneer Park 4390 Kehler St, Chilliwack, BC V2R 5E4
Meal Pick Up	Community Dinner	Dinner Take-Out	Ruth & Naomi's Mission	Anyone	Registration not required. Walk in only 46130 Margaret Ave 7 days/week 6-7pm
	Soup Kitchen	Lunch Dine- In	Chillwack Salvation Army	Adults only	Walk in only 45746 Yale Road M-F 12-1pm