



SEPTEMBER 20th, 2004 NEWSLETTER



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It is hard to believe we are only beginning our second full week of school! With the wet days and dark cool mornings it feels like the middle of October. The students are already well into the routine of being back at school and are involved in many terrific leaning activities with their teachers.

It is great to see everyone getting in shape for the **Terry Fox Run** on **October 1st, 2004**. A huge 'Thank You' to **Mr. Cheater** and his students for organizing this event for us. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Cheater as well on the arrival of their **baby boy** on September 15th, 2004.

Parent Conferences will be held on Tuesday, Sept 21st and Wednesday, September 22nd. This is an opportunity for parents to meet with teachers and to provide information about their child/ren which will help ensure a successful year for the students. Just a reminder, school will be dismissed at 12:30 p.m. on both days.

Friday, September 24th is an **Implementation Day** and there will not be any school for students. The Rose Valley staff will be joining with other Westside schools to learn more about using the Performance Standards in Reading and Writing to guide instruction in the classroom.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the **Welcome Back Potluck and BBQ** on Thursday, September 23rd, 2004.

Mrs. Deidre Bruce
Principal

ABSENT?

Phone Mrs. Smith at 769-5535

We like to help you keep your children safe. When you know your child is going to be absent, please give us a call to let us know. A call between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. is appreciated. If we do not hear from you and your child is absent, we will make an effort to contact you. However, our process is slow and time consuming. You can help by calling 769-5535.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO MRS. LORI BURKE FOR

organizing the courtesy bus parents/students. Hopefully you have had a call from Mrs. Burke and volunteered your services to help out on the Starlight / Rose Valley Properties/Caledonia and Sussex run. Please call Mrs. Burke to arrange for a time to help out at 769-0773. Otherwise your child may not be riding the bus.

R.V. GARDEN PROJECT

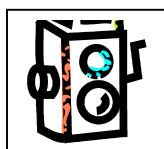
As you may have noticed there are no weeds along the eastside of our school thanks to our committee. We will be planting spring flowering bulbs with some classes later on.

I would like to prepare the flowerbeds on the southside for planting too.

If you have lots of energy (excellent exercise) and a couple of hours time, please call Esti at 769-3976.

PHOTO DAY

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th



A notice will be sent home the day before to remind students of photo day. Once proofs come back from the photographer you may then order the photo packages.

Class photo's will be taken again in the spring. We are also

planning to do a school panorama at that time.



LIBRARY MATTERS

Welcome back! By now, all the classes have visited the library and have checked out books for pleasure reading. It's been great to see everyone again. Some students did a lot of reading over the summer—I've loved hearing what books they have enjoyed and are interested in, and it's obvious that Rose Valley has a great bunch of READERS! Each class has a regularly scheduled library period with an opportunity to see what's new and get guidance in their reading selections. For students who need to exchange their books more often the library is open daily both before and after school.

For students in grades 4-6, the **Red Cedar Book Nominees** are ready to circulate and students are welcome to begin reading them now. The club will begin to meet for discussions in December. I have almost finished reading all of the nominated books myself, and there is a wonderful selection from all different genres with something for everyone.

We have some new acquisitions, which will be ready to circulate soon. Eager Readers can look for such titles as: *Inkheart* by Cornelia Funke, *Judy Moody M.D.* by Megan McDonald, *The Same Stuff as Stars* by Katherine Paterson, *Guinness Book of World Record 2005*, *The Tale of Despereaux* by Kate DiCamillo, *Hoot* by Carl Hiaasen, *Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism* by Georgia Byng, *Ruby Holler* by Sharon Creech, *The Blue Boa* by Jenny Nimmo, and additions to some favourite series such as *Geronimo Stilton*, the *Spiderwick tales*, *Dear Canada*, *Our Canadian Girl* and *Guardians of Ga'Hoole* just to name a few. New picture books to look for are: *Chicka Chicka 1,2,3* by Bill Martin Jr., *My Little Brother* by David McPhail,



Queen of the Class by Mary Engelbreit, *The Subway Mouse* by Barbara Reid, *Mister Seahorse* by Eric Carle, *Where is the green sheep?* By Mem Fox and *Monkey Business* by Wallace Edwards.

Remember that the library is a great place for homework and project help. We have subscriptions for online resources such as The World Book Encyclopedia Online, Searchasaurus, and NoveList as well as reference and non-fiction resources.

I am planning a School Book Fair to be held on November 8th and will be looking for parent volunteers to help with this. More information will come home in October.

Yours in Reading,

Mrs. Brenda Catherall
Teacher-Librarian



PAC MESSAGE

Welcome back everyone. As we begin the new school year, the PAC would like to take the opportunity to encourage parents to look for ways to be involved in the education of their children. Parental involvement results in greater success for the student, better attitudes towards school in general and even down the road higher graduation rates.

So what is the PAC?

The Parents Advisory Council is a non-profit organization whose role is to:

1. To advise the school principal and staff on parental views about school programs, policies, and activities.
2. To communicate with parents, and to promote co-operation between the home and the school in providing for the education of children.
3. To assist parents in accessing the system, and to advocate on behalf of parents and students.

4. To organize PAC activities and events.
5. To contribute to the effectiveness of the school by promoting the involvement of parents and other community members.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW THAT EVERY PARENT IN THE SCHOOL IS AUTOMATICALLY A MEMBER OF THE PAC!

Each year in October, the parents elect an executive council, which is made up of 6 positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, District COPAC representative and Past-President. The term of each position is one year.

The PAC executive team attempts to achieve these goals by hosting monthly meetings here at the school in which all parents are encouraged to attend. (The past year, meetings were held on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30p.m.)

WE INVITE YOU TO ATTEND THESE MEETINGS WHEN POSSIBLE – We value your input!

WELCOME BACK POTLUCK & BBQ

As recently advertised, we are once again organizing a Welcome Back Potluck & BBQ for Thursday, September 23, 2004. But we need your help to make this event a success! Please fill in your volunteer forms as soon as possible. We'll see you there!

ROOM PARENTS

Each classroom at Rose Valley needs 2 room parents for the year. These room parents help the teacher find volunteers for field trips and other class projects, etc. Room parents are also requested to attend (or find a replacement class parent to attend) our monthly PAC meeting.

Thank you to all parents who have volunteered to be room parents this year. There is still room parents needed for the following classrooms:

- Ms. Nordquist-Lee (a.m.)
- Ms. Nordquist-Lee (p.m.)
- Mrs. Houston
- Mrs. Pendray
- Mrs. Wright
- Mrs. Mendes
- Ms. Nittel
- Mr. Buckna
- Mrs. Harlos
- Mr. Cheater
- Mr. Stuerle
- Mr. Bradshaw
- Mrs. Laidlaw

If you could help out by filling one of these positions please call Mrs. Smith at the school office at 769-5535.

FAMILY PHOTO NIGHT

B.C. Photography is once again providing us an opportunity to have our families professionally photographed. These portraits may include other family members, grandparents and even pets. For just \$15 your family will receive a sitting fee and a free 8x10 from the preview of their choice. And 100% of the sitting fee goes directly to our school. Sign up forms will be coming out next week. Space is limited so don't delay in returning them.

PAC ELECTIONS

It is election time again and we are looking forward to having another great turnout to the Annual General Meeting to be held on October 13, 2004. Please come out to cast your ballot or consider volunteering for one of the executive positions. The Executive positions are: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Co-Pac representative. For more information about the meeting or the executive, please call Marylyn Needham at 769-2334.

COME JOIN IN!

The next PAC General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 13, 2004, at 6:30 p.m. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

Free child minding is available at the school.

CONTACT THE PAC

Questions? Comments? Suggestions? Feel free to contact PAC Executive members through our new e-mail address at rosevalleypac@shaw.ca

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Tuesday, Sept. 21

Wednesday, Sept. 22

All students will be dismissed at 12:30 p.m. A short recess will be held in the morning, be sure to pack a snack.

REMINDER
NO SCHOOL
FRIDAY, SEPT. 24th
IMPLEMENTATION DAY

DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE A SERIOUS MEDICAL CONDITION THAT WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT?

It is very important that parents/ guardians provide information about serious medical conditions at the beginning of each school year. Parents also need to make sure that the appropriate forms are filled out and prescribed medicine is on hand for the school. Medical conditions may include: diabetes, epilepsy, life-threatening allergies, severe asthma, blood clotting disorders, and serious hear conditions. Please pick up a medical form from Mrs. Smith in the office. If your child requires daily medication, you will also need to complete this form.



COLD/FLU SEASON

We're already 2 weeks into the school year, and have had the first set of phone calls to the office regarding colds and flu bugs. One of the most important ways to prevent the spread of cold germs is to wash wash wash your hands.

RECIPE FOR WASHING

- Wet hands
- Add soap
- Rub vigorously (15-30 second)

(sing Happy Birthday to yourself, when you have finished singing 20 sec. have passed)

- Rinse well
- Towel dry!

Always wash your hands; before preparing food or eating and especially after using the bathroom.

KLEENEX TIME

Since the cold germs are spreading around the school, we need to get started on our Kleenex Draw. Bring a box of Kleenex to the office, and your name will be entered in a draw for SURPRISE – we'll let you know on October 15th, when we have the first Kleenex draw.

KLEENEX DRAW

NAME _____

Teacher _____

HEAD LICE

Since head lice is so common in school-aged children, here's what you can do to help:

Check your child's head on a weekly basis

Let the school know if your child has head lice. It will be handled confidentially

Treat head lice with a head lice shampoo or use wet combing

Check your child's head daily if a classmate or friend has head lice.

Teach your child not to share scarves, combs, brushes, hats, or other headgear.

Just remember – head lice does not spread disease and thus, they are not a major public health concern. However, itchiness from head lice can be irritating and uncomfortable for children, so it is important for families to help prevent and control its spread.

If you need more information please call the local health nurse in Westbank.

LAT MESSAGE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO READ!!!

Rose Valley Elementary is planning to run the very successful "One to One" Literacy Program again this year. If you are able to spare 1.5 hours per week to read with a student, we need your help. This invitation is extended to grandparents, family friends, and retired citizens. Our first session begins in mid October, so we need to organize our volunteers as soon as possible.

The program provides training for its volunteers and all tutoring is done at the school during regular school hours.

If you would like more information or are interested in helping out with this very rewarding and worthwhile program, please call Mrs. Kyra Gaetz, Learning Assistance Teacher at 769-5535 or fill in the bottom portion of this sheet and return it to the school.

PLEASE RETURN FORM TO SCHOOL OFFICE. THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING AT ROSE VALLEY

I am interested in becoming a volunteer tutor in the One to One Literacy Program at Rose Valley Elementary

Name _____

Phone _____

NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS



NEWCOMERS WELCOME AT WESTSIDE YOUTH SQUARE DANCE CLUB

A warm welcome to join the fun is being extended to Rose Valley Elementary students aged 8 and up by the non-profit Westside Youth Square Dance Club.

The club enjoys modern square dancing on Friday nights at the Mount Boucherie Hall.

In the 2002/2003 school year, all students at Rose Valley discovered square dancing in class. That instruction is now a program offering of the Youth Club featuring caller-teacher Glen Bailie of Peachland.

A free newcomer night will be held Friday October 1st at 7:15 p.m. in the Mount Boucherie Hall. An earlier introductory night took place on September 24th. Parents are welcome to join their children on the dance floor to learn. Regular club nights start Friday October 8th with newcomers first at 7:15 and registration is only \$40 for 10 lessons. To encourage family participation, families with more than two persons registered only pay for two, the rest are free.

The attraction for the children is the fun, the lively music, the challenge of the dance, making new friends and the chance to travel to dance at other places. Teachers and parents appreciate the dance form's ability to teach social skills, listening skills, develop cognitive thinking and serve as an enjoyable aerobic activity.

If you attended the Westside Daze Parade on July 3rd, you saw the Youth Club's parade entry for which the young dancers were thrilled to win the red ribbon for the most musical float.

For more information, call 768-2694 or see the web site: www.squaredance.bc.ca/westsideouth

BIG WHITE RACERS 2004-2005

We are a non-profit alpine ski club organized and administered by volunteers. The Big White Racers provides alpine ski programs for children ages 6 to 18 years who already have basic downhill skiing skills. The program runs one or two days a weekend for ten weeks starting at the beginning of January. Children learn the true basics of strong skiing while having a lot of fun. For more registration information contact: Francine Vandenberg 868-9015 or Trevor Haaheim 762-9011

SCOUTS CANADA, BEAVERS, CUB, SCOUTS & VENTURERS

For more information please call Marie Jones at 769-3598
e-mail: mjones@thurston.ca

WESTBANK ANIMAL CARE HOSPITAL

OPEN HOUSE Saturday, Oct. 2nd
11:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Tour the clinic and meet the staff – fun for all
Come & join us for prizes, contests, demos

CANADA SAFETY COUNCIL BABYSITTER TRAINING COURSE

Saturday, October 2, 2004

Time: 8:30 to 3:00 p.m. (bring a lunch)
Where 2663 Curts Street (just off Raymer Ave.)

Cost: \$40.00

Learn about: artificial respiration
choking victim, child development,

nutrition, first aid, fire safety, personal safety and street proofing.

You will receive a: Babysitter's manual, certificate and wallet card
To Register: Phone Mrs. M. Boake 764-4170 or Mrs. Stone 860-9181 cell 863-9008

RUTLAND FAMILY TAEKWON-DO SOCIETY is now accepting fall registration for our league. Cost \$25.00 per month. For more information, please call 317-5886
2 Locations
355 Harman Road B & G Club
1434 Graham St. Martin Centre

Westside Fire Rescue



The majority of fatal fires occur in residential settings where people feel safest. Fortunately there are many ways to reduce the risk from fire and this Fire Prevention Week, October 3rd through 9th; Westside Fire Rescue wants to teach you how!

Fires are real, not just events in the news and movies. Fire is fast, extremely hot and spreads rapidly. It creates thick black toxic smoke that is even more deadly than flames! When fire strikes seconds are important! There is no time to stop and think. Everyone needs to know what to do! Smoke Alarms provide the early warning of the problem and a home fire escape plan will provide time to escape safely. Although we hope you never have to use it, planning and practicing your home escape plan may one day save your life and the lives of your loved ones.

The 2004 Fire Prevention Week Campaign – **Test Your Smoke Alarms** focuses exactly on that. The fire service has again partnered with local schools to teach children and their families the importance of installing and maintaining working smoke alarms and developing and practicing a home fire drill. Children will learn these skills by completing an interactive fire safety worksheet – *Fire*

Safety Starts with You! – provided by Westside Fire Rescue. Those children successfully completing and returning the worksheet to the local participating McDonald's Restaurant are eligible to enter to win a trip to Disneyland in California!

Remember, fire safety starts with you!

Westside Fire Rescue is hosting its annual **Kids Day at the Fire Hall** on October 9th, 2004 at the Main Fire Hall - 3651 Old Okanagan Hwy – from 12:00 to 4:00pm. There will be learning stations and fun events for all members of your family to take part in. Sparky the Fire Dog will be there too! Snacks and refreshments provided by McDonald's & Tim Hortons!

Visit our new Kids Page at www.westsidefirerescue.com for all kinds of fire safety fun!

Deana McQuillan
Public Fire & Life Safety Educator
768-5616 Ext. 7 – dmcquillan@wfr.ca

JOHNSON BENTLEY MEMORIAL AQUATIC CENTRE FALL PROGRAM 2004

Telephone: 768-4442
3737 Old Okanagan Hwy. Westbank
Open House on Saturday, September 25th 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Come celebrate our 16th birthday
After School 'Fun Club' (6-11 yrs.)
Pro D Day Camps (6-11 yrs.)
Christmas Creative Crafts & H2O
Self Defense for Kids (8-12 yrs.)
Drama Plus (7-10 yrs.)
Home Safe (8-11 yrs.)

MOUNT BOUCHERIE SKATING CLUB

Fall/Winter Registration
Canskate, pre-power, power skating, StarSkate, Juniors and Seniors
Programs begin Sept. 13th
For more information please call Pauline at 707-0289

LEARN TO PLAY THE PIANO is a great way to develop musical skills, talent and confidence – or to just have fun! Experienced piano teacher, Pat Regan has a few opening available for students in her home studio located near the school. Royal Conservatory of Music, Kiwanis Must Festival. For more info please call Pat at 769-4274

