



December 2023

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Message from the Principal

Lights...Camera...Action...Here....comes...
December!! Mrs. Heisler and Ms. Lousier have been working diligently with all our students for the past few months in preparation for our highly anticipated Christmas concerts. We are all so very excited to share this opportunity with family & friends, which we know these shows will help put everyone in the Holiday Spirit. Our teachers have been practicing with their students to get those lyrics and speaking parts committed to memory. They have done so amazing well with all this and these kids are going to have a blast on stage performing for you 😊

A big "Thank You" to our PAC for their unwavering support with all our initiatives...especially our Canned Food Drive, which is doing exceptionally well. We set out

with a goal of 3301 canned food items and we have crushed it...At last count we had 2700 cans and \$700 for our Local food Bank....and we still have about 2 weeks to go!!

Thank you to the parents for your commitment to our healthy community. We appreciate you keeping your children home when they are sick.

I want to wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season and a very Merry Christmas. We will see you all in the New Year as we look forward to bigger and better things in 2024.



Report Cards

Term One report cards will be sent home the week of Dec. 18 – 22nd. Review the report card with your child, highlighting the successes as well as encouraging him/her to set goals for the second term. Parents are asked to keep the report card, but to sign and **return the report card envelope to their Classroom Teacher** as an indication that you have received and reviewed the report card. Please indicate on the label if you would like a follow-up communication with the teacher.



The Season of Giving at Unsworth

Our Salvation Army canned food and non-perishable food drive is well underway. The amount of donations already here is very impressive! All Canned food Donations will be picked-up on December 21st. We understand there are many families in Chilliwack who need and appreciate the support during the holiday season & Thanks to you for once again for "going above and beyond" helping others in need... Way to go Eagles!



Parking Lot Reminder

To ease our parking lot congestion, please **remember to pull up to the white signs to pick up your child(ren)**. The further you pull forward with your car in the drop off/pick up lane, the more cars we can direct through our parking lot. Also, we please ask that you try to park your vehicle in any empty parking stall that is available to you. By-Law enforcement stops in from time to time to ensure there is no traffic stopped on Unsworth Road for any prolonged duration. Please model for your children to use crosswalks and refrain from 'jaywalking'. We are working hard to keep all students safe in the parking lot and in the crosswalks.

Instagram

You can follow our events and news on Facebook and Instagram. To follow our Instagram account, please follow these two steps:

1. Go to unsworthelementary on Instagram and request to follow.
2. Email shawn_mcleod@sd33.bc.ca to notify him of your request to follow and indicate your Instagram user name, your actual name and your children's names (to verify you are a parent at our school). If you do not email us this information, we will not be able to add you to our Instagram group.

A big thank you goes out to Mrs. Canfield for managing our Facebook page and Mr. McLeod for managing our Instagram account. We couldn't do this without you.

Kindergarten Registrations



If your child will be age 5 on or before December 31, 2024, it is time to register him/her for Kindergarten! Please note that our kindergarten classes are filled on a first come, first served basis so please register early to ensure your child has a space here at Unsworth.

Online REGISTRATION:

The online registration process provides parents and guardians an option to register their child at any time of the day including during the summer break. Please note that the purpose of the electronic registration system is for the registration of new students to the Chilliwack School District, students who want to request a transition to a school of choice for the

new school year, and for kindergarten registration.

As we are a closed catchment school, we require **TWO** pieces of proof of residency. This will include your BC Driver's License or BC Service Card (With Photo) with your correct address in addition to one of the following:

Mortgage statement, Municipal tax bill, Utility bill, Entire rental agreement, Credit card invoice, Notary authorized letter.

Additionally, we require your child's birth certificate and if you are unable to provide a birth certificate the following will be accepted: Canadian Passport, Canadian Citizenship Card, Permanent Residence Card.

<https://www.sd33.bc.ca/registration>



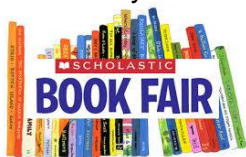
Lost and Found

Christmas break is coming soon! We will be displaying the Lost and Found items on tables in the front office area with the hope that they will be claimed by their owners. The remainder of the Lost and Found items will be donated to

a local charity on the last of school before the break (December 22nd). Please look in the bin by the front doors and/or tables in the front entrance area for jackets, mittens, sweaters etc. that may belong to your family.

News from the Library

It's coming! Our school's Scholastic Book Fair will begin next week! Your opportunity to shop will be from Monday Dec. 11th to Friday Dec. 15th.



Thank you for participating in our
Scholastic Book Fair!



Dates to Remember



Friday, Dec 8th
Monday, Dec 11 – 15th
Tuesday, Dec 12th
Wednesday, Dec 13th
Wednesday, Dec 20th
Friday, Dec 22nd

Monday, Jan. 8th

Popcorn Day
Book Fair Week
Grade K – 2 Concerts (1:15 and 6:00)
Grade 3 – 5 Concerts (1:15 and 6:00)
School Pancake Breakfast (8:30-10:00)
K Make & Take / Last Day of Classes before
Christmas Break / Popcorn Day
Welcome Back! Happy New Year!

The Concerts are Coming Soon!

The K-2 Concerts will be held on **Tuesday, Dec. 12th**. The Gr. 3-5 performances will be held on **Wednesday, Dec. 13th**. Although, we have had a student enrollment decrease, the popularity of our outstanding performances continues to be a challenge with the limited space in the gym and unfortunately, we still require that all families help in the space management so that guests can enjoy the concerts from a seat in the gym, rather than standing or listening from the hallway.

Each concert date will have **two performances**, an afternoon and evening performance. We will not be issuing tickets for the performances. **However, as there is limited seating, we ask that parents select ONE of the two performances to attend** and please plan for no more than two family members per performance.

Gr. K - 2 Performing:
"The Little Bell that Could Not Ring"
Tuesday, December 12th



Gr. 3 - 5 will perform:
"Santa and the Star Search"
Wednesday, December 13th

Afternoon Performances at – 1:15
Evening Performances at 6:00 (doors open at 5:30)

PAC Reminders

- Christmas Concert Seat Raffle - draw will be Fri. Dec 8th after school
- Ending Empty Tummies Food Drive ends Wed. Dec. 20th
 - Class that brings in the most Canned food items wins a Pizza Party for their Class and if we reach 3301 cans or equivalent cash donations, Mr. McLeod will do something special and that will be decided soon. 😊...Maybe colouring his beard at our December assembly??
- There will be a 50/50 raffle at all 4 Christmas Concerts
 - If anyone wants to volunteer to sell tickets, please email unsworth-pac@sd33.bc.ca
- If anyone's interested in volunteering with Hot Lunch, please email unsworth-pac@sd33.bc.ca
- Next PAC meeting will be January 23rd at 9:00 a.m.

In response to the current climate of rising costs, the Ministry of Education has provided school districts with access to a "Family Affordability Fund" to help reduce the impact on some of our families at Unsworth.

This funding was used to help support families with off-setting the cost of School Supplies for this school year, and we feel very fortunate to be able to provide this break to all Unsworth Families. If you or you know of another Unsworth family who is in need of support, please feel free to email myself or our PAC President, Heather Canfield & let us know. We are here to help! We want to help ease the burden during these difficult times.

Some of the structures/supports already in place at Unsworth for this year include:

- Bowls of Hope (Soup Program) to support those Unsworth students with Lunch support, so no Unsworth Student goes hungry.
- Feed an Eagle - if a family can't afford hot lunch, parents have kindly donated money to help fill the gap. Reach out to PAC.
- Community Cares program (Murray Honda and supporting Chilliwack businesses) – We have Winter Coats & Boots available
- Additional School Supplies - backpacks, binders, calculators, notebooks..etc

If there are other ways in which we could help support you during these trying times, please reach out to someone here at the school, or even our P.A.C. to let us know. We will continue to do our best to support you in any way that we can.

Take good care Eagles families,

Mr. McLeod



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas!