



Don Christian Elementary School

6256 - 184 Street

Surrey, B.C. V3S 8E6

Phone: (604) 576-1381 Fax: (604) 576-0382

<http://www.surreyschools.ca/donchristian>

Newsletter #7

January 10, 2019

Message from the Principal...

Happy New Year everyone! New year, new beginnings... It's been fun these past few days to listen to children talk about their goals and resolutions. Like adults, children have been sharing their ambitious goals. Of course we'll all do our best to help make them a reality.

We start our year emphasizing the importance of inclusion and respecting diversity in our learning community. A notice went home Wednesday with your youngest-and/or-only child about an upcoming school-wide multicultural potluck lunch. This is a great opportunity for us all. We did this last year – on a smaller scale with fewer classes – and the response was highly positive. Our goal is to replicate this event school-wide and to model the importance of inclusion, respect, and diversity. A copy of the notice – *Unity In Diversity* - is attached to help ensure the messages get home. Please participate and join us!

Other January activities include a motivational speaker who will speak to all students in grade groupings about inclusion, acknowledging differences, and promoting respect. Our first C.A.T.S. assembly occurs January 22, and we end with the very popular Hip Hop lessons. The January calendar is attached for your convenience in case you missed our December newsletter. Safe Journeys! Mr. J. Morrison



Kindergarten Registration for 2019-2020

Kindergarten registration for Don Christian Elementary opens this coming Monday, January 14. Required: birth certificate if born in Canada or landed immigrant papers or citizenship card; proof of address; parent ID; immunization records.

Kindergarten registration info for Programs of Choice schools is attached to our December newsletter. Online registration for those begins January 28, 2019.

After school programs In January, 2019

In January we will have two after-school programs:

- On Thursdays we continue to offer the "Schools Out" program, run by Alexandria Neighbourhood House. Children engage in healthy activities to foster connections with peers.
- On Wednesdays, effective January 23, we will have a *Go Girls, Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds*, program for Grade 6 & 7 girls. The program will accept 10 students. Spaces are going fast. Info went home with interested students in December.

Unity Through Diversity

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

On Wednesday, January 23, our school celebrates its diverse learning community with a school-wide multicultural potluck lunch. This is a wonderful opportunity for students, staff, and parents to share foods from a variety of cultures and connect with each other.

Several classes did this last year. It was highly successful and there is a strong desire to do this school-wide. Please join us! We have 260 families at our school and 15 known different first-languages in the home.

We ask each family to make a dish from your cultural background that can feed about 15 people. For example, perhaps a casserole with up to 12-15 pieces. We hope for a variety of main entrees as well as salads or desserts. In the interest of safety, this will be a nut-free event. This includes all tree nuts, peanuts and peanut oil.

Students are encouraged to invite one parent to participate and share lunch. We are unable to accommodate extended family at this time.

Further information:

- Students are asked to bring a plate and cutlery to help reduce waste. Napkins are provided.
- Students and family members are invited to wear traditional cultural costumes.
- Starting with the youngest, students eat first. Students eat in their classrooms. Staff and parents eat last.
- Please label your dish with name and country of origin. Labels will be available.
- We have limited refrigeration/heating/warming options available so please bring foods to the gym as close to 10:30 as possible in appropriate containers to maintain optimal storage conditions. Label your serving dishes, utensils and coolers for easy return at the end. We can accept food earlier.
- Set-up starts at 10 am. Students line up for food starting at about 11 am.

We look forward to celebrating this wonderful event with your families.

Please return the form below by Friday, January 18.

Don Christian Staff

+++++

Family Name _____

of people attending _____

We can contribute: _____

_____, I am able to help with set up.

_____, I am able to help serve

_____, I am able to help with clean up



January 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Winter Break	31 Winter Break	1 Winter Break	2 Winter Break	3 Winer Break	4 Winter Break	5 Winter Break
6 Winter Break	7 School re-opens after Winter Break	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Hot Lunch - Freshii & Opa Kindergarten Registration	15	16	17	18 Snack Day - Popcorn 	19
20	21 PAC Meeting 7:00 pm	22	23 Diversity Celebration Multicultural Lunch	24 Pajama / Stuffed Day  	25 Ski Trip #1 	26
27	28 Hip Hop	29 Hip Hop	30 Hip Hop	31 Hip Hop	Feb. 1 Hip Hop	

