

John Barsby Community School Newsletter

550-7TH STREET
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Principal: Ms. R. Gray

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Website: <http://schools.sd68.bc.ca/bars/>

December 16, 2009

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Students and Community Members:

It was a pleasure to see so many of our students have academic success after our first reporting period and achieve a grade point average that gives them Honourable Mention, Honour Roll, or a place on the Principal's List. We will be honouring over 230 students at an assembly on January 5th.

As we head toward the Winter Break, please ensure your student(s) complete class work required to change any incomplete grades to an academic success. Additionally, encourage your student to take a well deserved break and return with an academic focus. The end of January will include final projects, exams, and provincial exams for students in grade 10 and grade 12.

Our winter season of student activities and events has begun. Basketball and wrestling will keep our athletes focused. Many students showcased their fine talents at Variety Night. Our Musical Theatre group has been busy rehearsing and spending many hours after school preparing for their spring performance. Student leaders will be working on a variety of school wide initiatives. Congratulations to all the students, teachers, and sponsors for the time and commitment offered toward all of these activities and events.

We wish everyone a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year.

Ms. Gray, Mr. Ferguson, and Mrs. Proctor

**BARSBY BAND CHRISTMAS
TREE CHIPPING
JANUARY 9 & 10
AT COUNTRY GROCER**



DATES TO REMEMBER

December 18	Last Day of Classes Before Winter Vacation
January 4	School Re-Opens
January 6	PAC Meeting – 7:00 pm Library
January 9 & 10	Barsby Band Christmas Tree Chipping at Country Grocer
January 22	Last Day of Classes Semester 1 Exams
January 25 – 29	
February 1	Semester 2 Begins
February 3	PAC Meeting 7:00 pm Library
February 22	Non-Instructional Day
February 23	Non-Instructional Day
March 3	PAC Meeting 7:00 pm Library
March 5	Last Day of Classes Before Spring Vacation
March 15	Schools Re-Open
April 2	Good Friday
April 5	Easter Monday
April 7	PAC Meeting 7:00 pm Library
April 23	Non-Instructional Day
April 24	Prom
April 26	Non-Instructional Day
May 5	PAC Meeting 7:00 pm Library
May 24	Victoria Day
June 2	PAC Meeting 7:00 pm Library
June 15	Last Day of Classes Semester 2 Exams
June 16-25	Exams
June 30	Valedictory Ceremony Dry Grad

PARENT MEETING

Course Selection

There will be a parent information evening for parents of students in Grades 8 through 11 on Tuesday February 2 at 7 PM in the Multipurpose Room. Please attend the informative session with your son or daughter's course selection booklet and any questions you may have.

Counsellors and administrators will present information and be available to answer questions about:

- Course selection process
- Programs offered at John Barsby
- Goal setting and wise decision making
- Grad Requirements
- Post Secondary Requirements

Grade 7 students, at our feeder elementary schools, will begin the course selection process in early March. There will be an information session for parents of Grade 7 students on Tuesday March 16 at 7 pm.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION NIGHT

There will be a parent information session for parents of students in Grades 10 through Grade 12 on Tuesday Feb 2 at 6pm in the Multipurpose Room. Students with plans for post-secondary education will benefit from this informative presentation. Grade 10, 11 and 12 students, together with their parents, are encouraged to attend.

Counselors and administrators will present information and be available to answer questions about:

- Cost of Post Secondary Education
- Local Scholarships and Bursaries
- How to make your application stand out
- Using the web for scholarship information
- Government scholarships
- Entrance Scholarships and open scholarships
- Government Student Loans and Grants

SNOWBALL POLICY

- Students are reminded of the snowball policy
- This policy deals with the throwing of snowballs and any other inappropriate action with snow, including bringing snow into the school with intention
- Students throwing snowballs in the school or outside on school grounds will be dealt with through the code of Conduct which may result in suspension.

SNOW CLOSURE

A reminder to parents that if schools are closed due to snow, or any other problems such as power outages or bad weather, announcements will be on local radio station (WOLF 106.9 and WAVE 102.3 FM) by 7 am on the day of the school closure. Please do not call the radio station – tune in and listen for the announcements, which will be made on a regular basis.

DRAFT EXAM SCHEDULE

Monday, January 25

8:30 – 10:30

Science 8, Science 9, Biology 11, Biology 12

12:30 – 2:30

PMath 8, PMath 9, EMath 9, PMath 11, EMath 11

Tuesday, January 26

8:30 – 10:30

Social Studies 8, Social Studies 9, Social Studies 10, History 12

12:30 – 2:30

French 8, French 9, French 10, French 11/12, Chemistry 11

Wednesday, January 27

8:30 – 10:30

Exam Conflicts

PROVINCIAL EXAM SCHEDULE

Monday, January 25

12:30 – 3:30 Biology 12

Tuesday, January 26

8:30 – 11:30 Communications 12

Wednesday, January 27

8:30 – 11:30 English 12

12:30 – 3:30 Social Studies 11

Thursday, January 28

8:30 – 11:30 English 10

12:30 – 3:30 EMath 10, PMath 10, History 12

Friday, January 29

8:30 – 11:30 Science 10

BOARD SEEKS FACILITIES FRAMEWORK FEEDBACK

The Board of Education is seeking feedback on a draft facilities framework which outlines the guidelines the Board would follow when creating its capital plan. The capital plan outlines the district's priorities for new construction and renovation of schools.

The draft framework can be viewed on the district's website at www.sd68.bc.ca. To provide feedback on the framework:

- Mail a letter to the Board of Education, School District 68, 395 Wakesiah Ave., Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 3K6 or fax to (250) 741-5309.
- Submit an online feedback form, available on the district website www.sd68.bc.ca.
- Drop in to discuss the framework with trustees in an informal, open-house format.
 - Saturday, January 16 – McGirr Elementary drop in anytime between 10 a.m. and 12 noon
 - Saturday, January 16 – Chase River Elementary drop in anytime between 2 and 4 p.m.

Please note that all feedback is due by January 20.

LOAVES AND FISHES FOOD BANK

For your convenience, Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank has opened a depot at St Paul's Lutheran Church in Harewood. (Across from Panago's Pizza) It is open Monday mornings from 11:00am until 12:00pm. Pick up is by registration only so please call Loaves and Fishes at (250) 754-8347 to register. This is not a drop in site, so please register.

COACH APPROACH TO PARENTING TEENS

Does your teenager feel like an alien to you? Tried everything but just cannot get through? Ease stress and struggles and stay sane - FREE for all parents. Thursday's Jan. 21-Mar. 4 from 6-7:30pm at John Barsby Community School. To register please phone Angela Slade, BA CYC, MA candidate at 250-668-7454 or e-mail esteemservices@shaw.ca SPACE is limited so register now!

SCRATCH: AFTER-SCHOOL COOKING PROGRAM FOR YOUTH GRADES 8-10.

Come out and cook. Bring your own unique cooking ideas. Foodsafe certification included. Cost: \$20.00 to cover the cost of Foodsafe. Thursday Jan 21 – March 2010 from 3:15pm – 5:15pm. Register with Shannon

Wilson, Community School Coordinator at school or e-mail swilson@sd68.bc.ca

GRAD PHOTOS

Most of our Grade 12 class had their grad pictures taken by Lifetouch the week of November 4. For any students who missed the opportunity, there will be one more chance on January 5, 2010. The student pays a sitting fee of \$20 or \$25 to the photographer for their poses. Lifetouch will send the poses (proofs) to the students in the mail and then you can choose the type of pictures and quantity. Students who only want a photo in the yearbook should also get their picture taken but there is no sitting fee charge. Students should listen to the announcements to find out the time they might sign up for a photography appointment.

GRAD FEES

Students should be paying for their grad fees in the office as soon as they are able. The grad banquet has limited seating so the purchase of tickets is on a first come first served basis. There are no ticket sales at the door of the banquet. All tickets must be pre-purchased. Cut off of banquet ticket sales will happen when we have reached our seating capacity.

GRAD DATES

Prom will be Saturday April 24. There will be a grad banquet to which parents/guardians are invited. There is limited seating. Please read the item in GRAD FEES. There is a student dance following the dinner. Both activities will be held in the Multi Purpose Room times are approximate: dinner at 5:30 pm and the dance at 8:00 pm.

VALEDICTORY CEREMONY (GRAD)

The ceremony will be at 1:00 pm at the Port Theatre Wednesday June 30, 2010. Each graduating student will receive three tickets for seats in the audience for their guests/family. If more tickets are needed, please have your child contact Mr. Ferguson as soon as possible to let him know how many more tickets would be requested. We cannot guarantee to have enough seats for everyone who might want to attend.

DRY GRAD

Dry Grad happens at Beban Park Wednesday June 30, 2010 at 8:00 pm. This is an alcohol free event that runs from 8:00 pm that day to 6:00 am the next morning. **THIS EVENT IS ONLY FOR NANAIMO GRADE 12 GRADUATING STUDENTS. NO GUESTS ARE PERMITTED.**

PROM

Prom this year is Saturday, April 24, 2010 with a family dinner hosted by our Chef's program followed by a student dance. Both events will be at John Barsby. Students may invite a guest to the dance but Mr. Ferguson has to approve all guests.



Seasons Greetings