



The Eagle's Nest

Dec. 15, 2008

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Calendar of Events

- Dec. 17th—Preschool-grade 5 Christmas program @ 7 pm.***
- Dec. 18th—Middle & High School Concert band Christmas program @ 7 pm.***
- Dec. 18th—Cookies for Inmates, bagging and delivery***
- Dec. 18/19th— Christmas Skating, see page 2 for details***
- Jan. 5/09—School re-opens***

School Closures

If SD 68 is closed because of snow then NCS is closed as well. **This is reported on 102.3 The Wave.**

We also have in place a fan out for phone calls to bus parents. Peter will be distributing the fan out sheet to the parents who will call on the North bus route. Parents on the South route will be called by Mrs. Davidson

If necessary we can also initiate an automated phone message system.

If there are cancellations of this weeks Christmas Programs due to weather, they will be re-scheduled for January.

This summer, I took a professional development course on Curriculum Writing. It was a great chance to think about my teaching and how I viewed my classroom, my students, and the subjects I teach. One of our assignments was to prepare a metaphor that symbolized what we thought was important in the classroom and represented our teaching style. As I thought about my own teaching, I settled on the metaphor of a box. The “box” represented many things to me – my comfort zone, the same old ideas, and the easy road. The more I thought about it, the more I wanted my teaching and my students’ learning to be “out of the box.”

This year in my class we have talked about the book “Do Hard Things” by Alex & Brett Harris. This book is all about “teenagers rebelling against the low expectations of their culture by choosing to do hard things for the glory of God.” I told my students about my metaphor and have challenged them to be willing to step outside their comfort zone and do hard things. Some of the “hard things” described in the book are going outside their comfort zone, going above and beyond the minimum, working with others, not being motivated by an immediate payoff, and challenging the cultural norm. We have talked at length about what students in Middle School can do to challenge the cultural stereotype of teenagers by replacing it with positive examples of teenage behaviour.

As I work with the students in the Middle School I see every day that this is a group of students who is capable of doing “hard things.” They have passion and enthusiasm for the things of God and they are more than capable of challenging the cultural expectation of teenagers. I have seen our students go into the city of Nanaimo – whether it is to Superstore or the Salvation Army – and show others that there are teens who want to make a difference in the world for the glory of God. This Christmas season I find it encouraging to see students who, in their attitude and behaviour, are showing the world that not all teens are trouble and that they are willing to step up and make a difference!

Mrs. Shannon Gillespie

As we approach this season of celebration and dedication to our Messiah, let us remember that God promised through the prophet Isaiah (9:6) & (7:14) that a child will be born for us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on His shoulders. He will be named **Wonderful** Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. He will be named Immanu El (God is with us).

I find myself often wanting to relate to God as a concept or an assent of my intellect (what there is of it!). As we pour over the pages of scripture, we see that God desires to walk among us. He sent His son, not that we would pay homage to him as the “cosmic Christ” but as our Saviour who desires a level of intimacy that we would be called His disciples.

Celebrate and have fun in the coming weeks – give gifts to bless, be blessed as you receive, and most important, invite Jesus to join in on the fun; as the One we are celebrating desires most of all to be Lord of all we are and all that we do.

Annual Fund Appeal: Donations to date \$16,328.75

Reminder—all donations more than \$200 for the year, you save taxes at the highest rate of 40.3%. So that means, for every dollar you donate, it’s only going to cost you 59 cents. Your refund will be realized on your personal income tax return. If you wish to donate to NCS, please do so before December 31, 2008.



CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS

to the
CAST & CREW OF "THE MUSIC MAN"!

Once again we are all talking about how great the latest musical theatre performance was and seeing the results of countless hours of practice and volunteer work. The students need to be commended for their enthusiasm and diligence in learning their lines, choreography and songs. As usual there are a number of people who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to make this play such a success. Our directorial team of Eric Gow, Jenny Atkinson and Sue Collette did an amazing job of leading, teaching and inspiring the cast and crew. Jim Banman did a wonderful job as Vocal Director. Kirsty Chaignon, Marla Platz, Charne Gooch, Kristianne Bingham, Bibi Pederson and Rob Atkinson were outstanding with their contributions to the sets, costumes, hair and make-up. Nik Ferris gave hours of technical expertise and led an amazing team for set-up, sound, lighting and recording, including Dylan Stolz, John Collette, Brandon Clarke, Liz Henderson and Josiah Mede. Thank you to Miranda Atkinson for her dance instruction and Doug Mc Donald for quartet voice training. Thank you also to parents that supported their children in learning their parts and with getting them to and from practices.

A Christmas Carol" Scrooge in Bethlehem

Featuring the Preschool—5th Grade in their Christmas musical on Wednesday, December 17th @ 7:00 pm. in the NCS gym. This will no doubt be a packed performance, so doors will open at 6:30 pm. for early seating.

O.D.E. for Concert Band (One December Evening for Concert Band)

Featuring familiar Christmas songs and Carols performed by Middle School and High School Concert Bands. Thursday, December 18th @ 7:00 pm. in NCS Gym. Seating is on a first come first served basis, so doors will open at 6:15 pm.

Christmas Hampers – Once again NCS will be collecting non perishable food items for families within the NCS community. Boxes are being set up in each class room for students to put their items into. The NCS community service group along with Mrs. Davidson's life skills group will be coordinating the collection, sorting and building of the hampers. Please consider donating some food to help those who may be finding the holidays a bit more difficult this year.

Christmas Skate & Dismissal Times

Thursday, Dec. 18th—Middle School Skate at the NIC 2 centre from **1:45-2:45** Dismissal will be from the Arena with the exception of Bus students who will be picked up and return to NCS to pick up the other bus students.

Friday, Dec. 19th—K-5 Skate at Cliff McNabb from **11:45-12:45**. Dismissal will be from the Arena with the exception of bus students who will be picked up and returned to the school.

Friday, Dec. 19th—High School Skate from 1:00—2:00 at the Cliff McNabb Arena. The bus will leave NCS at 2:00 pm and bus students finishing their skate will be picked up from the arena at approximately 2:15 pm. All other students are to be picked up from the arena by no later than 2:15 pm. Any students not picked up will be returned to the school.

Anyone playing hockey must wear a helmet. Hockey will be at one end of the ice.

Dismissal time for the entire school on Friday, Dec. 19th will be at 1:45 pm.

Are you interested in Disneyland tickets?

We still have space for 4 and possibly 5 individuals to join us Feb 22-28/09. The price of \$370US dollars/person includes return air from Seattle to LAX and a 3 day Disneyland Park hopper pass. Hotels etc. need to be arranged separately. Please call Lynn Kopec at 754-4512 or email lynn.ncs@shaw.ca as soon as possible if you are interested.

One bedroom suite for rent in Jingle Pot area. Includes washer/dryer, fridge, stove, dishwasher. Less than 2 years old. \$700.00/month plus a portion of utilities. Not pets, no smoking. Call Jodie or Dave @ 753-9550

Thank you to everyone who has signed up for cookies for inmates. We are depending on you to please bring your cookies to the school on Thursday, December 18th by 9:00 am. as the cookies will be packaged and delivered.

Blessings and thanks for your willingness to participate in this project.

