



# RANDERSON RIDGE SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 18, 2016 - Newsletter #7

Principal: Mr. T. Mazzei

Secretary: Mrs. K. Presotto



Dear Parents:

Students and staff continue to work diligently towards the second reporting date, Wednesday, March 9, 2016. As we move beyond the midpoint of the 2015-2016 school term, students will continue to find themselves with daily homework, home study or reading. An ongoing goal is fostering responsibility in our students. A responsible student is accountable for his/her actions. They get things done to the best of their ability. It allows others to trust you in any given situation. The following article by Valerie Allen can assist you in building responsibility with your child (ren).

## BUILDING RESPONSIBILITY

### Don't Do For Children What They Can Do For Themselves

Valerie Allen, a school psychologist who works with many families, knows how parents can help their children to become more responsible.

Foremost, says Allen, "Parents need to start early." You need to encourage your child to accept responsibility as part of growing up. Children must learn to do their share."

It's also good to start early in life. The more children are responsible at home, the more they will be responsible at school.

Allen's five simple tips to boost responsible behavior are:

**Never do for children** what they can do for themselves. Take time to teach them how to do things independently. Assist with homework, but don't take over.

**Give children** household responsibilities. Assign simple tasks like taking out the garbage or clearing the dishes. Work up to more complex jobs like washing dishes. Make sure they - not you - pick up after themselves.

**Post a weekly list** of chores. Use pictures for young children, and have a place for each child to check off completed tasks. After you check your child's work, place a star or sticker on the chart.

**Don't remind**, nag, scold or complain when children don't do their chores. Explain what's expected and the consequences of not doing what's expected. Allow consequences to happen.

List activities that are allowed after work is done - a snack, outside play, television, computer time. This will motivate your child to complete tasks quickly. It also keeps a balance between work and play.

Sincerely,

*Mr. T. Mazzei*

## Dates to Remember

Feb. 22	District Pro D Day
Feb. 23	School Based Pro D
Feb. 24	Pink Shirt Day
Feb. 26	Hot Lunch
Mar. 1	Grade 7 Parent Meeting at Dover 6:30 p.m.
Mar. 7	PAC Meeting—7:00 p.m.
Mar. 9	Popcorn Day
	Report Cards Issued
Mar. 11	Hot Lunch/Last Day of Classes before Spring Vacation
Mar. 25	Good Friday
Mar. 28	Easter Monday
Mar. 29	School Re-Opens
Mar. 30	Popcorn Day
Apr. 4	PAC Meeting—7:00 p.m.
Apr. 8	Hot Lunch
Apr. 13	Project Soul Performance 11:00 a.m.
Apr. 20	Popcorn Day
Apr. 21	Class Photo Day 9:00 a.m.
Apr. 29	Hot Lunch
May 2	School Track Meet
	PAC Meeting—7:00 p.m.
May 6	Welcome to Kindergarten
May 11	Popcorn Day
May 13	Pro D Day
May 16	Curriculum Implementation Day
May 20	Hot Lunch
May 23	Victoria Day
May 24	Zone Track Meet
May 27	PAC Fun Fair
June 1	Popcorn Day
June 3	Hot Lunch
June 6	PAC Meeting—7:00 p.m.
June 9	District Track Meet
June 17	Fun Day
June 22	Popcorn Day
June 29	Final Assembly
	Last Day of School

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

We are now taking registrations for Kindergarten children born in 2011 for the 2016-2017 school term and will continue until June 15, 2016 for those seeking an assured space in the catchment area. Registration will be taken during school office hours from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Parents are required to present the care card and birth certificate as proof of age at the time of registration. **Also, proof of your address will be required. This can be a credit card statement, utility bill, mortgage statement, municipal tax bill, or rental agreement with your name and address, or a notary-authorized letter.** We encourage parents to register as soon as possible. We would appreciate the assistance of Randerson students and parents in spreading the word about registration to families in our community who don't have older children attending the school.

## CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS AND VOLUNTEERS

All volunteers working in the schools and all volunteer drivers must complete a criminal record check in order to be permitted to work with students or drive students on field trips.

The Ministry of Justice, through their Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP) will conduct a vulnerable sector check **at no cost to you** through a streamlined online format. Once you are provided clearance through the CRRP, **the criminal record check clearance is good for a period of five (5) consecutive years** from the date of issue, unless a criminal offence should occur. We must inform you that if you happen to have the same combination of gender and date-of-birth as a known sex offender whose record has been suspended, you must then be fingerprinted to confirm your identity. This is a federal RCMP requirement that applies to all Canadians. You will be required to visit your local police agency for fingerprinting. **Note: There is a fee for this process which you will be responsible for.**

Please use the following web address to complete and submit the form for your criminal record check to become a school volunteer: <https://justice.gov.bc.ca/eCRC/home.htm> You will be prompted for the NLPS access code which is as follows: **Access Code: UQ4T7XXBHE**

Once you have completed and submitted the form for the online criminal record check, **please provide your school principal with your full name and date of birth.** Your results, once approved will be added to the district's database of volunteers. The district will then inform Mr. Mazzei of your approved criminal record check and he will inform you.

Thank you, on behalf of Randerson Ridge Elementary School, for supporting our school through your volunteerism. It is with your support that Randerson Ridge is able to expand curricular and extra-curricular opportunities for our students.

## FOCUS VIRTUE-CARING

### What is Caring?

Caring is giving love and attention to people and things that matter to you. When you care about people, you help them. When you do a careful job, you give it your very best effort. You treat people and things gently and respectfully.

### Why Practice It?

Without caring, nothing and no one matters. If someone is hurt or sick, no one will help them. When people have an "I don't care" attitude, they do a sloppy or incomplete job. Things break and people are hurt. Caring people help others feel less alone. Since we care, others trust them. Caring makes the world a better and safer place.

### How Do You Practice It?

You care for others when you show love and concern by doing kind things for them. Ask them how they are and what they think. When they are sad, ask "How can I help?" You handle things with control and gentleness. You give your best to everything you do. When you take care of yourself, you treat your body with respect. You keep yourself clean and healthy. You take care of your needs.

### What would Caring look like if.....

- You are doing a chore for your family?
- You notice that one of your friends looks sad.
- You come home after school and start talking to your mother?
- It is your job to take care of a pet?
- You are doing a school assignment?
- You feel upset about something that is hard to talk about?

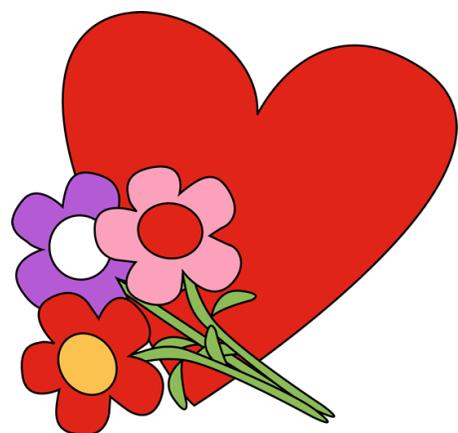
### Signs of Success

Congratulations! You are practicing Caring when you...

- Treat others, yourself and the earth with care
- Look at people and listen closely
- Handle things carefully
- Are gentle and loving with anyone or anything placed in your care
- Treat your body with respect
- Work with enthusiasm and excellence

### Affirmation

*I care for others and myself. I pay loving attention to the needs of people and animals. I give my best to every job.*



## RAISING MORAL CHILDREN

Terri Apter, Ph.D., in her book *The Confident Child*, discusses raising moral children.

She states;

"As we teach our children to be moral, we do not necessarily teach them what choices to make, but we do teach them to be aware that they will have to make choices - sometimes difficult ones. We teach them that they are then responsible for what they do, and we hope to give them the tools to think about their behavior and assess its consequences. If we coach them in acquiring skills to reflect upon the consequences of their behavior and to change their behavior to get the results they want, we give them the power to be responsible for their behavior. If we coach them to develop emotional intelligence we give them the capacity to understand their own feelings and the feelings of others. Through this understanding they can understand others' needs and acquire the tools to care for others."

## OPEN HOUSE—AFFORDABLE MUSIC LESSONS

The Pacific Gael Youth Pipe Band is a cutting edge performance pipe band for 8—25 year olds in Nanaimo and District. The Youth Pipe Band provides unique development opportunities for its young members and exceptional musical experience for its audiences. The PGYPB is a dynamic, exciting, and modern spin on the traditional pipe band experience, and performs both at home and abroad.

We are a non-profit organization that is committed to providing piping, drumming, and dancing instruction on Thursday evenings for our members. No experience necessary. Come to our Open House at Branch 256 Legion on E. Wellington Road on February 25th at 7:00 p.m.

For more information, please send an email to [info@pacificgael.com](mailto:info@pacificgael.com) or visit our website at [pacificgael.com](http://pacificgael.com)

## TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCH

A huge thank you is extended to all parents and PAC who provided such a wonderful lunch for staff. The staff enjoyed their lunch very much and certainly appreciated your efforts!



## NEW PRINCIPAL

The Department of Learning Services has appointed Mr. Darren Brick as the new Principal of Randerson Ridge Elementary, effective August 1, 2016. Mr. Brick is currently the Principal of Mountain View Elementary.

## IS THIS BOOK RIGHT FOR MY CHILD?

Often children will bring home books to read independently that are too difficult for them at this time. Remember, if your child is spending time trying to decode unfamiliar words, he/she will lose the meaning of the text. An excellent strategy to determine if a book is good for your child to read independently is the 5 finger rule.



Read the page in the middle of the book.  
Put up one finger for every word you do not understand.

0 fingers = too easy  
1-3 fingers = just right  
4-5 fingers = quite hard, go slow!  
5+ fingers = too hard (for now)

If your child finds out that the book he/she has brought home is too difficult, then it is a perfect book for you to read aloud to them. It continues to be important to read aloud to children even after they are good readers themselves.

## PAC NEWS

### PAC Teacher Appreciation Lunch

On Tuesday February 2 we showed our teachers, support staff and admin how much we appreciate them! Huge thanks to all the parents who provided food for this event. The variety and quality was outstanding! The Randerson Staff enjoyed themselves immensely and express their thanks to our parents!

### Purdy's Easter Order

It is only February but Purdy's Easter catalogues have been distributed! With the two week Spring Break and Easter at the end of it, the process needs to start early. Please share the catalogues with family/friends and have your orders in by Thursday February 25<sup>th</sup>. Purdy's orders will be available for pick up after school in the school foyer on Wednesday March 9<sup>th</sup>.

### Social Media Communication

Our PAC has set up a Randerson Facebook page to allow for easier communication, updates, and reminders for PAC events. Please join this page and invite other Randerson parents to join. You can search for the group at: Randerson Ridge Elementary (Nanaimo) Family & Friends or click this link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1053499364669646/>

### School Trustee Visit

Our zone school trustee, Tania Brzovic attended our February PAC meeting. The Randerson PAC would like to thank her for coming out and discussing local issues with us and explaining some of the process regarding school closures, class size and funding.

### Popcorn Day \$1/bag

Wednesday March 9, 2016