

Mount Benson Elementary School

4355 Jingle Pot Rd., Nanaimo, B.C., V9T 5P4
Phone: (250) 758-1536 / Fax: (250) 758-3873

Principal: Mr. Gary Dodd

Secretary: Mrs. Jill Williamson



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE # 3

December 21, 2006

Principal's Comments

Dear Parents,

On behalf of all the staff at Mount Benson Elementary School I would like to wish you and your families a safe and happy holiday. It is a gift for us to be working with you and your children in such a caring community environment.



The month of December brings the virtue of generosity into sharper focus. The community increasingly looks for opportunities to give and to share. We can give freely, fully, and joyfully to make our community a better place. The generosity of spirit of the students, parents and staff of Mount Benson has been shown through the wonderful support of the Penny Drive and the hamper drive. Once again this year your PAC has generously given of their time, energy and enthusiasm to run the Holiday Gift Store.

Don't forget to give yourselves the gift of time with your families, the most precious time you will spend. Enjoy the traditions and rituals that are a part of your family's fabric. We know that this time of year can be extra stressful for families and often we notice the strain on the children. Be good to yourselves and take the time to be with your loved ones.

In this the last Mount Benson Newsletter of 2006 let me thank all of the parents and others who have demonstrated generosity of spirit by volunteering your time, talent and energy to increase and enhance the opportunities for the children at Mount Benson Elementary School.

"Generosity is giving more than you can"

Kahlil Gibran (1883-1931)

Christmas Concert

We welcomed over three hundred people at the evening performance of our Christmas Concert this week. Another hundred attended the afternoon dress rehearsal. The staff and students worked very hard to produce a wonderful tribute to the warmth and joy of this season through the musical, "Around the World at Christmas Time". With a special thank you to Mrs. Murchie who coordinated and directed this performance. Her energy, enthusiasm, and encouragement truly inspired a great performance by the students. Thanks also to Mr. Murchie who supplied outstanding technical support for this production.

Grade 7 Capernwray Raffle

Mr. Sorensens grade 7's will be holding a bottle drive January 13th to raise funds for their year end camp out. So if you could save your returnable bottle to donate to the bottle drive that would be much appreciated.

The Grade 7's also are having a raffle :
1st. prize \$250.00 Save on foods certificate.
2nd. prize \$100.00 Mad Man Mackay certificate
3rd. prize Roger video Theme basket

Tickets sell for \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00
Tickets will be available at the office or from any grade 7 student.
All proceeds of this fundraiser will go to the Grade 7 camp out at Capernwray Harbour.

School Choir

Our small but dedicated choir had two additional performances this month. Under the able direction of Mrs. Murchie the choir performed at Country Club Mall and also at the Nanaimo Museum. Congratulations and thanks to the choir members who so wonderfully represent Mt. Benson in the community: Jason Jack, Rachel O'Dwyer, Hannah Madison, Madison Thompson, Olivia Erickson, Tommy D'lerma, Gabriella Bray, Sheldon Bussey, Nicole Staniforth, Mikaela Keehn, Samantha Martin, Emily Cyr, Nikki Weleschuk, Cole Marleau, Selena Mark, Zoe Solyon.

The choir will be expanded to include grade 1's and 2's who are interested in January.

Extra Curricular Athletics

Volleyball season is underway at the district level. Mt. Benson has two teams participating: Bantam Boys under the able coaching of our student teacher, Ms. Jossul, sponsored by Mr. Dodd and the Bantam girls, coached and sponsored by Mrs. Christensen. Thanks to the coaches and sponsors and to the many parents who will be assisting with driving to away games.

Dates to Remember

- Dec 23 – January 7th – Christmas holidays
- January 8th – Schools Reopen
- January 23rd – Literacy Evening with author Dianna Bonder

Emergency School Closures

It is that time of year again when we could get snow. If schools are closed due to snow, or any other problems such as power outages or bad weather, announcements will be on local radio stations (WOLF 106.9 FM and WAVE 102.3 FM) by 7 a.m. on the day of the closure. Please do not call the radio station --- tune in and listen for the announcements, which will be made on a regular basis.

School reopens on Monday January 8th.



Happy New Year to you all. May you and your families enjoy a peaceful and safe holiday. We'll see you back in 2007!

