



Westside Preparatory  
School  
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## Primary Newsletter

We have a very fun and exciting month planned for February! Fieldtrips, presentations, parties, special celebrations, and projects are going to make this an action packed month!

### Friendship & Respect

February is the month of love! We will be celebrating this month with a mini unit on friendship and respect. The kids will be participating in many activities that promote healthy relationships and positive behaviours. They will each choose a "Secret Friend" to do nice things for throughout the month, and will be encouraged to comment on positive aspects of other kids in the class. Keep your ears and eyes open for an increase in positivity!

### Ice Skating

Our class is going ice skating! As a complement to our PE program, we will be going ice skating at the West End Community Centre twice in the next month. This activity was so much fun last year, even parents learned to skate for the first time! Please see the attached permission form for more information.

### Peter and the Wolf

Back in September we signed up to go to the Vancouver Orchestra's production of "Peter and the Wolf." We will be going on this musical trip on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>.

### Valentine's Day

We will be celebrating Valentine's Day with a class party on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Students will be asked to bring a food item to share for our Friendship Lunch. Please see the sign-up sheet outside of Miss Samantha's classroom. Students may also bring Valentine cards to hand out to the kids. We will send home a class list with the kids' names next week.

### 100 Day

We have almost made it through 100 days of school this year! On Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, the Kindergarten and Grade 1 class will be celebrating this monumental day with many special activities related to the number 100. Students will be asked to complete a project using 100 items. Please watch for more information about this in the coming weeks.



## Homework

A kind reminder to parents to please read and sign your child's Homework Folder every day. This helps us keep the kids on track with their homework and upcoming projects and quizzes. Please also remind your child to hand in his/her folder each morning before class begins. We would rather parents *remind* their kids of this duty rather than *do* it for them. This helps the children build their sense of responsibility for themselves.

## Before and After School

Most of you have likely already seen our new morning and after school routine in the classroom. The time before and after school is no longer "play time." Instead, students may choose to read a book from one of our many libraries. We ask that all parents please help us enforce this new rules when you drop your kids off and pick them up. Our classroom is used most days after school for clubs or tutoring and we need the kids to be quiet and respectful of those using the classroom.

## Buddy Reading

In January we started our Buddy Reading program! Buddies read together three times a week for half an hour. Younger students are paired with older students and each person gets a turn to read. This has quickly become a favourite activity; the kids literally cheer when it is Buddy Reading time! Buddy Reading is beneficial for both students. The younger children benefit from having an older child help them when they get stuck. The older children benefit by practicing their reading skills and sharing their knowledge with someone younger. Everyone wins when reading is fun!

## Happy Birthday!

**Tom**

Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>

**Hashim**

Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>



## Donation Requests

We are always thankful for donations! A few items that would be helpful in the classroom are:

- Boxes of Kleenex
- Elmer's liquid white glue
- Small toys for the class store
- Art supplies
- Any old supplies you may have that you don't need!

## Important Dates

### Parent Teacher Conferences

Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>

### Professional Day - NO SCHOOL

Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>

### Valentine's Day & Friendship Lunch

Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>

### 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School

Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>

### Vancouver Orchestra Fieldtrip

Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>

### Ice Skating

Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> & March 1<sup>st</sup>