



FEBRUARY 2025 Newsletter

Principal: Mr. K. Gurney • Head Teacher: Mr. S. Leach • Secretary: Ms. F. Spartano
Community Coordinator: Mrs. T. Briscoe • Community Secretary: Ms. L. Marghi

Principal's Message



Creating a Connected Community through Safety, Kindness, Respect, and Responsibility

At Stoney Creek, we believe that our **core values** of safety, kindness, respect, and responsibility are the foundation of a positive, nurturing learning environment and building a connected community. These values guide our actions and interactions every day, helping us create a community where everyone feels valued and supported. Over the next several months, we'll be speaking about these core values more and more often, so we thought we'd loop you all in as well.

Safety

Safety is our top priority. We work daily towards ensuring that our school is a safe place for all students, staff, and visitors. From regular safety drills to providing a safe space to manage our emotions, we are committed to creating a safe environment where students can learn and grow without fear. We encourage students to speak up if they see something unsafe and to always follow school rules to keep everyone protected.

Kindness

Kindness is at the heart of our school community. We teach students the importance of being kind to one another, whether it's through a smile, a helping hand, or a kind word. Acts of kindness, big or small, make our school a happier place. We celebrate kindness through various programs and activities, reminding everyone that kindness is contagious and can make a big difference in someone's day.

Respect

Respect is essential in building a harmonious school environment. We emphasize the importance of respecting ourselves, others, and our surroundings. This means listening to others, valuing different perspectives, and treating everyone with dignity. By showing respect, we create a culture of understanding and cooperation, where everyone feels heard and appreciated.

Responsibility

Responsibility is about being accountable for our actions and doing our part to contribute to our school community. We teach our students to take responsibility for their learning, behaviour, and the well-being of others. This includes completing assignments on time, following school rules, and helping to keep our school clean and orderly. By being responsible, students learn to be dependable and trustworthy members of our community.

These core values form the basis for our discussions with students when things don't go the way we expect, and they help us create a school environment where everyone can thrive. We are proud of our students for embodying these values every day and look forward to continuing to grow and learn together.

Let's continue to make Stoney Creek a place where safety, kindness, respect, and responsibility shine!



Principal's Message Cont'd

As we continue with our School Goal around Mathematics and enhancing student proficiency and attitudes when it comes to Math, we want to reinforce the idea that Mathematics is a fundamental skill that children use throughout their lives. Supporting your child's mathematical thinking from an early age can foster a positive attitude towards math and build a strong foundation for future learning. Here are some tips and activities to help your child develop their math skills from Kindergarten to Grade 7.

Kindergarten to Grade 2: Building the Basics

Counting and Number Recognition:

Play Counting Games: Use everyday objects like toys, snacks, or steps to practice counting.

Number Songs and Rhymes: Sing songs that involve counting, such as "Five Little Ducks" or "Ten in the Bed."

Shapes and Patterns:

Shape Hunts: Go on a shape hunt around the house or neighborhood to identify different shapes.

Pattern Play: Create patterns using colored blocks, beads, or even snacks.

Simple Addition and Subtraction:

Story Problems: Use simple stories to introduce addition and subtraction. For example, "If you have 3 apples and you get 2 more, how many do you have?"

Board Games: Play board games that involve counting spaces and simple math.

Grades 3 to 5: Developing Problem-Solving Skills

Multiplication and Division:

Times Tables: Practice multiplication tables with flashcards or apps designed for math practice.

Real-Life Problems: Use real-life scenarios, like sharing snacks or dividing chores, to practice division.

Fractions and Decimals:

Cooking Together: Use recipes to teach fractions. Measuring ingredients can be a fun way to understand halves, thirds, and quarters.

Money Matters: Use coins and bills to teach decimals and practice making change.

Word Problems:

Daily Challenges: Pose a daily math problem related to everyday activities. For example, "If we leave at 3:00 PM and it takes 45 minutes to get to the park, what time will we arrive?"

Grades 6 to 7: Enhancing Critical Thinking

Algebra and Geometry:

Puzzles and Games: Engage in puzzles and games that require logical thinking and problem-solving, such as Sudoku or chess.

Geometry in Art: Explore geometric shapes and patterns in art projects.

Data and Probability:

Sports Statistics: Use sports statistics to discuss averages, percentages, and probability.

Surveys and Graphs: Conduct simple surveys and create graphs to represent the data.

Encouraging a Growth Mindset:

Positive Reinforcement: Praise effort and persistence rather than just correct answers.

Mistakes as Learning Opportunities: Encourage your child to view mistakes as opportunities to learn and grow.

By incorporating these activities into your routines, you can help your child develop a strong mathematical foundation and a love for learning. Remember, the goal is to make math fun and engaging, so your child feels confident and excited about their mathematical journey.

Happy Learning!

-Mr. Gurney

Important Dates...



February is
**REGISTRATION
MONTH**

Online Registration for next year began on February 1st. Click [here](#) for more details.

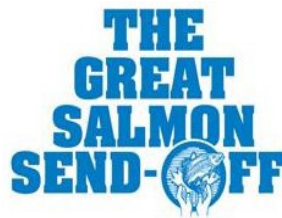
If you know your child will not return to Stoney Creek in September, please inform Ms. Spartano in the office

On Feb 20th there is an info night for new kindergarten parents of children with diverse abilities. Click [here](#) for more info.

We received a special delivery of 55 Chum Salmon eggs!

Mr. Smyth's Division 7 class will be monitoring and taking care of them over the coming months.

Students and families can come see the salmon after class is dismissed during the week. The eggs will hatch in late February. Students of Division 7 will continue to nurture the salmon until they transition to the fry stage, at which point they will release them into Stoney Creek in early May. This project not only offers a hands-on learning experience but also fosters a deeper connection with our local environment.



Watch for more details about
"The Great Salmon Send-Off"
on Saturday, May 10, 2025 (10-2)



UPCOMING SCHOOL CLOSURES IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2025



- Family Day - Monday February 17
- Pro-D Day - Friday February 28
- Spring Break - Monday March 17 - Friday March 28

CREEKSIDE CENTRE

Will be hosting another **Pro-D Day Adventure** for students in Grades 5-7. They will be taking public transit to **The Zone Bowling** in Coquitlam on February 28th.

Click [here](#) to view all details and the registration info on the flyer.



Pink Shirt Day Reminder Wednesday, February 26, 2025



Choose kindness and say
"NO" to bullying.

Wear a pink shirt to school on Wednesday February 26th to show support to this anti-bullying initiative.

Thank you...



Thank you to our custodians Mr. Ram and Mr. Erickson for keeping our school safe & clean.

And an extra thanks for shoveling snow, salting icy areas and keeping our sidewalks, crosswalk and parking lot safe.

We appreciate you!

Leading up to the Winter Break and Holidays we were fortunate to be able to support many families with gift cards.

Thank you to the Stoney Creek Community for generously donating funds to make this happen!

Community Council Reminders



Our next Community Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 19 @ 7:00 pm

For all parents, guardians & community members
All welcome to attend! We'll meet in the library.

Join us to meet new friends and find out what's happening at Stoney Creek!

Information about the meetings will be provided shortly before each meeting via email.

The Fun Fair returns this year!

Stay tuned for more details. This year's Fun Fair is taking place the evening of **Friday, May 23rd!**

This is a fun family event / fundraiser that will include games, food trucks, cake walk and more!

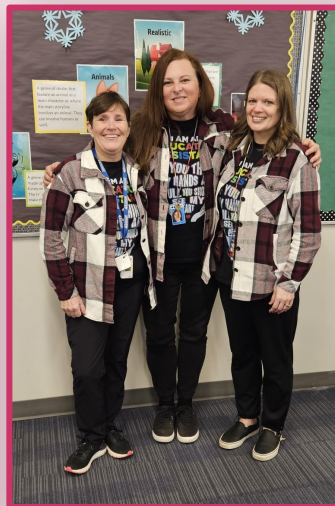




Events and Activities at Stoney Creek...



Stoney Creek staff had fun participating in Twin Day on February 6th!





Events and Activities at Stoney Creek...



Division 7 Students invited classes to explore their art exhibit, inspired by Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama's world of endless dots and imagination.



Events and Activities at Stoney Creek...

Snowy Days at Stoney Creek!
The students have had a fun week enjoying the snowy outdoor school grounds!



First Annual Ski/Snowboard Club

Our first official ski/snowboard day was just last Friday, Feb. 7th, and Mother Nature did not disappoint. We had a beautiful day on Cypress and it was great to see so many students introduced to the sport for the very first time.

Huge thanks to our amazing chaperones, Kyle, Leon, Antonio, Ben, Cody, Paul, Mickey, Petr, Chris and 6 Stoney Creek staff. Can't wait for the next trips of the year.



Events and Activities at Stoney Creek...

Family Literacy Week at Stoney Creek!

The final week of January was an exciting time for Stoney Creek students and staff as we celebrated Family Literacy Week in a variety of ways. It all started off with an assembly that included Reader’s Theatre – the staff acted out a story of books that had mysteriously gone missing! Throughout the week students were engaged in a variety of activities, including trivia challenges, guest reader story times, dressing up as favourite characters or wearing words, identifying masked staff readers, participating in the Selfie with the Shelfie contest and the Bookmark contest.



We’d like to thank all of the guest readers who visited and read to the students: Coquitlam Express Hockey Players, Local Firefighters from Station 6, and the SFU Women’s and Men’s Basketball players.

Take a look at all of our photos on the following pages to see more from Family Literacy Week at the Creek!

Congratulations to all of the Literacy Week contest winners!

Masked Reader Contest: Division 9 and Division 14

Bookmark Contest: Samantha in Division 11 and Diana in Division 3

Match the Selfie to the Shelfie: Heide in Division 10 and Bea in Division 4

Literacy Contest: Heide in Division 10 and Arlo, Andrew & Odsaikhan in Division 1

No Media Week Contest: Mary in Division 8, Claire in Division 9, Ariel in Division 10, Bianca in Division 11

The No Media Week winners enjoyed a White Spot lunch in Mr. Gurney’s office!



February is Black History Month

Black History Month is about learning and recognizing black history and culture. However, it is not just for February. We will be highlighting some learning we have been doing in our classes so far this year.

At Stoney Creek we are committed to honoring and celebrating the contributions and achievements of Black communities, not just during Black History Month, but throughout the entire year.

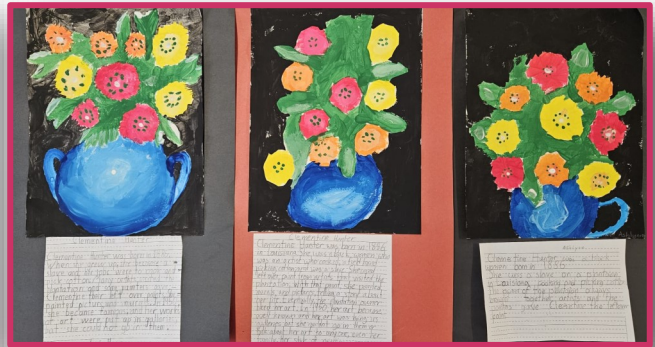
It’s important to recognize and value the impact that Black individuals and communities have had on our history, culture, and society every day.

Division 6 has been learning about the continent of Africa and its history. During the assembly last week they shared their learning about William Kwamkwamba from Malawi. When William was 14 years old he went to a scrap yard and created a windmill with the materials. William found books in the local library to help him build his windmill. People around him thought he was crazy but William did not give up and was able to successfully build the windmill. As a result his village was able to have electricity.



See more highlights from the assembly and student presentations on the next page.

Highlights from our Assembly featuring Black History Month



This week students learned about Clementine Hunter, a black woman and self-taught artist born in 1886 in Louisiana. As a slave at the Melrose plantation she received leftover paint from visitors and began to paint. Photos above include Div. 3 & 5 students showing their work using Clementine Hunter's painting called "Zinnias" as inspiration.

Students in Division 8 learned about Joe Fortes this week. He was born in Trinidad and came to Vancouver in 1885. Some students shared what they learned about Joe during the assembly (see one sample on the right by Spencer in Division 8).

Joe Fortes

I learned about Seraphim Joseph Fortes also known as Joe. Joe was born in Trinidad on February 9, 1863. In 1880 when he was a teenager, he shipped out the Robert Kerr to England. In 1885 Joe sailed on the Robert Kerr to Panama and then to Vancouver. They landed at Granville, which was an early name for Vancouver. In Vancouver he worked odd job like a barman at the Sunnyside Hotel, Bodega Saloon and Alhambra Hotel. Joe liked English Bay the best and liked to swim there and clean up. In 1900 Joe became an official lifeguard for the city. As lifeguard he also taught swimming lessons and patrolled the beach, and he saved 29 lives. Joe died of pneumonia on February 4, 1922, at the age of 59. His funeral was on February 7 and was held at the Holy Rosary Cathedral to an overflowing crowd of 10,000 people. Now Joe has a plaque to remember him which was unveiled on October 1, 2022, at English bay beach. Overall, I liked learning about Joe, and did you know Joe was the first black lifeguard in Vancouver?

Spencer



Our assembly took place on February 6, which is also Bob Marley's birthday. The photo below captures the students in Division 10 leading a sing-along for everyone, singing Bob Marley's song "Three Little Birds".



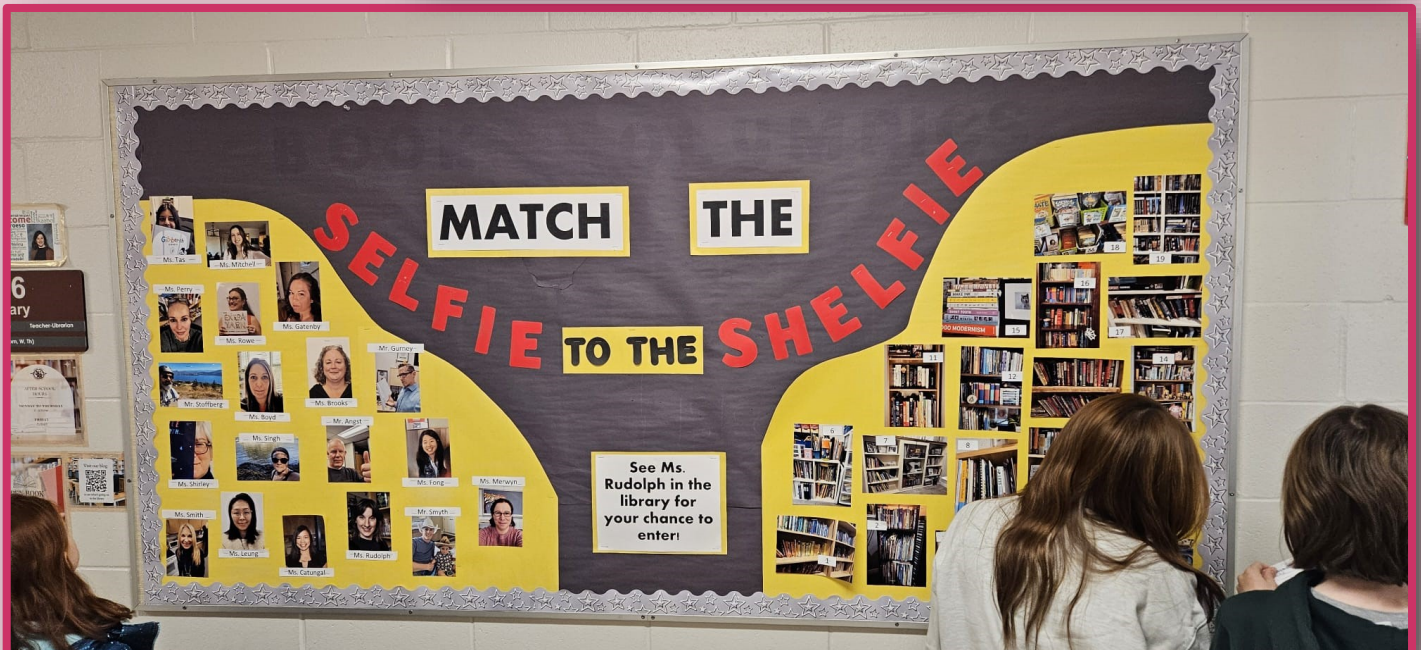
Family Literacy Week Photos



The Readers Theatre Performance kicked off Literacy Week. Well done to our talented staff / actors. The students were so engaged and entertained by the story!

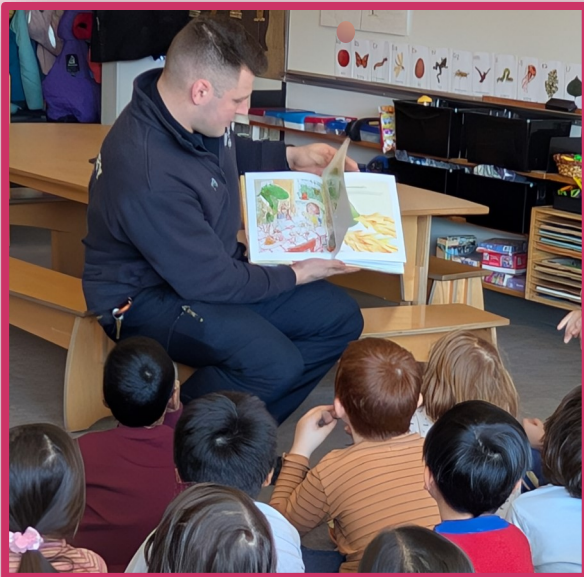


Staff and Students had a lot of fun trying to match all the Selfie and Shelfie photos on the board!





Firefighters from Local Station 6





Coquitlam Express Hockey Players

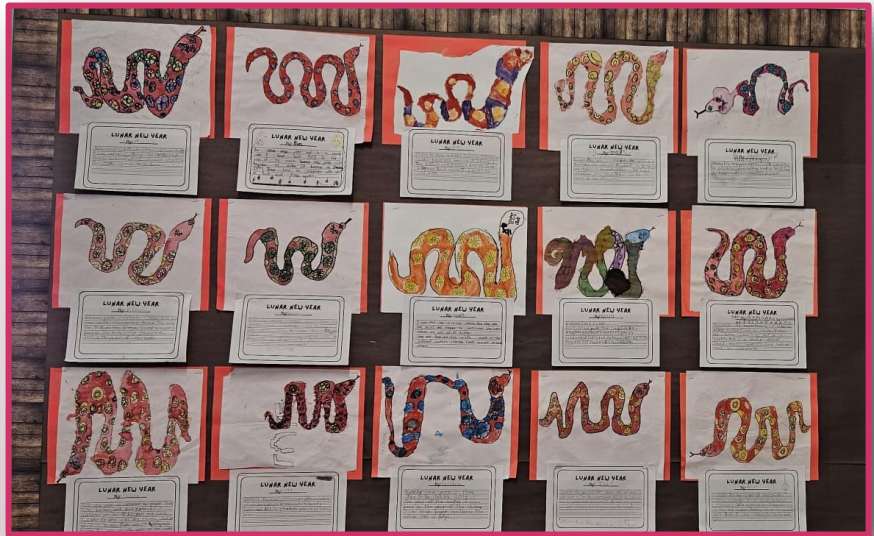


SFU Basketball Players





Wishing a
**Happy Lunar
New Year**
and a prosperous Year
of the Snake.





Northeast Burnaby Community Association

Notice of AGM – Wednesday, February 26, 2025

NEBCA Needs Your Help!

The Northeast Burnaby Community Association (NEBCA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the Stoney Creek community. NEBCA oversees two important programs: the **Fun Rec Summer Camp** at Stoney Creek Community School and the **NEBCA Community Garden**. Our Board of Directors is made up of parent and community volunteers who generously give their time to ensure these programs continue to benefit local families year after year.

However, some of our long-time Board Members are retiring or moving on, and we urgently need new community members to step up. Without enough volunteers to support and guide the Fun Rec Summer Camp, **this may be its final year at Stoney Creek Community School.**

If you value these programs and want to have a say in their future, we encourage you to get involved. Your input and support can make all the difference in keeping these valuable community initiatives running!

Please join the **NEBCA Annual General Meeting** on **Wednesday, February 26th via ZOOM** evening (time TBD) to find out more about how NEBCA supports our Stoney Creek community.

If you plan to attend the AGM or would like to find out more information about NEBCA, please email paullang92@gmail.com.