

Nelna Bessie John School Monthly Newsletter

December, 2015

Although December was a short month for us, we were still pretty busy:

- On December 1st, School Council met and discussed important upcoming events.
- From December 2nd ~ 4th Mister Dan was at conferences in Whitehorse. Classes were very capably conducted in his absence by Miss Shasta & Miss Sarah with the help of volunteers such as Miss Kate and Miss Tristian. Many thanks to all members of the community who support ***our*** school in so many ways!
- Our first visiting artist in the school ~ Wendy Thompson ~ taught students how to prepare canvases and paint versions of van Gogh's "Starry Night" between December 3rd & 4th. Students took home their work for you to appreciate and display. Please see the pictures from Wendy's visit and the amazing work your children did in the Photo Gallery on ***our*** school website: <http://nbj.yukonschools.ca/>. As you will see, of our kids are very talented artists!
- Although report cards were a tad late in going out due to technical issues (they were mailed on Monday, December 14th), Mister Dan had parent – teacher interviews as scheduled from December 8th ~ 10th. However, he is always available to meet with any parent at any time. Please set up an appointment with him Monday ~ Sunday, as he knows how busy some parents are. Parents please remember that you can come in any time to see your children learning or their projects! Everyone is welcome at ***our*** school!
- The December 15th Xmas Open House Luncheon at the Health Care Centre was a huge hit! We all enjoyed lots of yummy food and good company. Many thanks to the many people who made it a big success!
- The afternoon of December 16th, we helped prepare the community Xmas dinner hosted by the White River First Nation at the Community Club as part of our civic and social responsibility duties. Then we returned to enjoy an awesome Xmas feast, a very fun cake walk and a visit from old Saint Nick himself (Yes, Father Christmas, also known as Santa Claus). Students gave out presents they wrapped themselves to members of the community in appreciation for all that

- people do for us. Once again, thank you **VERY** much WRFN for hosting this awesome event! Please visit the Photo Gallery of our school website to view the pictures <http://nbj.yukonschools.ca/>.
- We would also like to extend a hearty “Thank You” to *The 1202* for continuing to make fresh and healthy food donations to the students. Your kindness and generosity are very much appreciated!
 - Although we continue to serve healthy snacks in the mornings and in the afternoons, we respect the choice of parents to give their children alternatives.
 - December 21st 2015 ~ January 3rd 2016: Winter break.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- January 4th: First day of school ~ please get lots of sleep and don't be late students!
- January 5th: School Council Meeting at 7 P.M. Kindly email items to be placed on the agenda to Kate Todd, SC Chair at lilacs_2009@yahoo.com.
- Please check with Kate Todd to confirm which Wednesdays adult craft nights (7 ~ 9 P.M.) will be at school this month.
- January 15th: School Council Discretionary Day (SCDD) ~ No school for students. Teachers will come in during their normally scheduled times to do planning, including preparing for Muskrat Camp 2016.
- Mister Dan will also attend the monthly Inter- Agency Meeting and coordinate with them, SC and community volunteers so as to maximize our one day at Muskrat Camp. Parents please watch for further information and field trip forms that we'll need you to complete and return ASAP. Thanks!
- SC and parents will sponsor a literacy week initiative the week of January 25th. Parents will be surprised and very happy with what they have planned for our students!
- We'll continue to have various Yukon Education visitors to the school this month.
- Please make sure you continue to get lots of sleep, maintain a healthy diet and lifestyle and take vitamins to make sure you grow properly and stay healthy. The cold and flu season is here and we don't want any of you to get sick!
- I hope that more members of the community can substitute teach or volunteer at the school. The children would love to hear about the interesting hobbies and lives of our community members. Anyone is

welcome to contact Mister Dan to set up a day / time to read to the students, give a class on something they are good at or enjoy (arts & crafts, music, technical areas, etc.), or become involved in some other meaningful way. All they need to do is to get an RCMP criminal check done first and then email Mister Dan at Dan.Ritco@gov.yk.ca.

- Finally, parents, when you can, please give Mister Dan a USB (“memory stick”) with your name on it so that we can put all of the pictures we’ve taken from September 2015 to June 2016 on it, and give it back to you before we leave for summer break.

Most sincerely yours,

Dan Ritco, M.Ed
Principal NBJs