



OPPENHEIMER NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2024

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Vice-Principal: Ms. Jesseca Eng

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With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

OUR MISSION

We seek to foster in students their finest intellectual, physical, aesthetic, social and emotional qualities by providing a safe, stimulating and challenging educational environment, which will enable all children to become lifelong learners who are positive and effective citizens.

OUR SCHOOL GOAL

To improve Literacy with an emphasis on reading and writing fluency so that by the final term more students from K-7 develop proficiency as measured by reading and writing assessments and reporting.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Families,

It's hard to believe the month of January has flown by and we are now on to our student-led conferences! It has been a busy January packed with extreme weather as well as school events and happenings. We had a bout of the white stuff, resulting in icy roads and two snow days on our Pro-D Day, January 17th and again on the 18th. January 15th was Black Excellence Day and this month (February) is Black History Month. The theme this year is "African Americans and the Arts". Many teachers highlight Black History with lessons and presentations, and our library showcases variety of books that celebrate black history as well as Diversity and Indigenous themes. We continue to promote integration of IBPOC content beyond February to make equity, diversity, and inclusion ongoing parts of our year in the Oppenheimer school community. Next week we have Valentine's Day sharing friendship, love, and kindness. At the end of the month, we are looking forward to celebrating Pink Shirt Day where we will have an assembly and a walk around Bobolink to promote acceptance, tolerance, friendship, love, and more! Students are encouraged to wear pink to help spread awareness around bullying and to elevate and promote messages of friendship and positivity. This is a great opportunity to learn from each other and our teachers take the opportunity with their classes to bring more understanding and acceptance to their peers and buddies around the school. As our students share messages of kindness and empathy, they promote a more positive culture and sense of community in our school. Please fill someone's bucket as we celebrate Pink Shirt Day on February 28th. We are all stronger together when we promote equity, diversity, and inclusion for everyone at Oppenheimer!

We have had a few ins and outs in the past few weeks and say farewell to those staff who have moved on from Oppenheimer. We also have a few staff who are currently on leave and will be returning as soon as possible to their assignments. Three new staff who have joined our ranks are Emi Perera, who has accepted our temporary Resource job until the end of the year, Linda Andrews who is filling in for Division 14, and Kaye Sharland, who is now working on our Student Support Worker team. Please say hello when you are in and around the school to welcome them to our Oppy community!

Thank you all,
Ms. Shannon Burke

VICE-PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

A big thank you to our amazing staff and parent volunteers for making extracurriculars a success and providing fun opportunities for our students! With the weather going from snowy to rainy, kudos to our students for dressing for the weather and embracing outdoor play. Congratulations to those receiving positive peer recognition awards—your kindness doesn't go unnoticed. While we couldn't acknowledge everyone this month, more opportunities are coming in upcoming assemblies. Thanks for making Oppenheimer a fantastic community!

Thank you,
Ms. Jesseca Eng

UPCOMING DATES

February (whole month)- Read-a-Thon

Wednesday, Feb 7- Establish Safe, Caring, & Respectful Digital Communities online presentation

Wed/Thurs, Feb 7/8th- Student Led Conferences; **2pm Dismissal**

Thursday, Feb 15th- Talent Show!

Friday, Feb 16th- Pro-D Day; no school for students

Monday, Feb 19th- Family Day; no school

Wednesday, Feb 28th- Pink Shirt Day

JANUARY & FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Athletics: Volleyball & Basketball

Before winter break, our volleyball season finished with great success for all the students who participated. Congratulations to the boys' volleyball and Senior girls' teams! We watched you grow and great sportspeople and teammates as you improved your skills on the court. It was exciting watching you play, and you had many close matches and some awesome victories. Now as we move on to an exciting season of basketball, we want to acknowledge the 4 participating teams and their coaches who are helping to make this an eventful season packed with practices and exiting games – Junior girls, Senior Girls, Junior Boys, Senior Boys. We look forward to watching your games and cheering you on from the sidelines. Basketball season is a long stretch (extending from January, through February and into March) so we appreciate your dedication and hard work to make it all the way to the end Oppenheimer athletes!

Read – A – Thon

Get ready, get set, and get reading! We are thrilled to announce our next important school fundraiser in the form of our school-wide Read-a-thon! It is scheduled for February. This exciting event promises to not only foster a love for reading in our students but also support the enhancement of our school resources in technology.

The Read-a-thon is more than just a fundraiser; it's a fantastic opportunity for our children to immerse themselves in the magic of books while contributing to a great cause. Throughout the month, students will have the chance to challenge themselves by setting reading goals and exploring captivating stories across various genres.

Here's what you and your child can look forward to during our Read-a-thon:

- **Prizes Galore:** We've lined up an array of fantastic prizes to reward our top readers! From book vouchers to gadgets, there's something exciting for everyone. The more your child reads, the greater their chances of winning.
- **Building Our School Resources:** By participating in the Read-a-thon, your child will directly contribute to the enhancement of Oppenheimer Elementary's technology resources. Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to purchase new technology, helping us create a more dynamic and engaging learning environment for all students and enhance our reading resources at the same time.
- **Fostering a Love for Reading:** Reading is not only essential for academic success but also a gateway to imagination, knowledge, and empathy. Through the Read-a-thon, we aim to instill a lifelong love for reading in our students, empowering them to become avid learners and critical thinkers.

We encourage you to support your child's participation in the Read-a-thon by:

- Setting aside dedicated time for reading at home
- Encouraging your child to explore different genres and authors
- Helping them track their reading progress and celebrate their achievements

Together, we can make this Read-a-thon a resounding success while equipping our school with the resources needed to nurture the minds of our students. Thank you for your support, and let's make February a fun learning month to remember at Oppenheimer Elementary!

Grade 7 PAC Fundraiser – Talent Show

Come one, come all and mark your calendars Oppenheimer families! Thursday February 15th is our evening Talent SHOW! The popular Grade 7 fundraiser event is BACK this year. Students have signed up for 5-10 minute time slots, in groups and as individuals, to present their talents. The show runs from 6:30 – 8:30. If you like a great evening of entertainment including singing, dancing, comedy and magic, please come and cheer on our performers! Tickets are by donation – either \$2 or \$5 - refreshments will be available for purchase courtesy of the Grade 7 team who are supporting their fundraiser for camp. They thank you in advance for your support and for being our audience for this special night of fun.

STUDENT LEARNING SURVEYS

The Student Learning Survey (SLS) has been administered every year in B.C. public schools since 2001. Prior to 2016-17 it was known as the Student Satisfaction Survey. The SLS provides feedback on the implementation of the curriculum changes, learning environment, student wellness and satisfaction, student belonging and engagement, and career preparation. The SLS is the only source of province-wide information about students' learning experiences through the perspectives of students, parents, guardians/caregivers, and school staff. This year, our grade 4 and 6 students will participate in the student learning survey.

Your valued participation is an important contribution to improving the educational experiences of children. The parent and guardian/caregiver survey is now available online at www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm and is available in 18 different languages. The survey will be available until Friday, May 3rd, and will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. Your responses are voluntary and anonymous, and your child will not be identified as a result of your participation in the survey. Any personal or identifying information will be deleted before results are stored. Data will be stored and accessible only within Canada.

CROSS-BOUNDARY PROCESS

Grade 7 students heading to high school and anyone interested in a cross-boundary application for K-6 for September 2024.

The Online Cross Boundary Application (<https://xb.vsb.bc.ca>) will open Thursday, February 1, 2024 and will close on Thursday, February 29, 2024.

ARE YOU MOVING?

Are you moving? Please let the office know by completing this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/rkgpaVeCrK>

Are you NOT Returning to Open
heimer for 2024/2025?



FREE PRESENTATION: TECHNOLOGY USE AT HOME FEBRUARY 7TH & 28TH

Establishing Safe, Caring, & Respectful Communities Online Presentation

Recommended for Parents/Caregivers/Grandparents and youth aged 10 and up as a way to facilitate the conversation of safe and caring use of technology at home and in the community. (60-minute session)

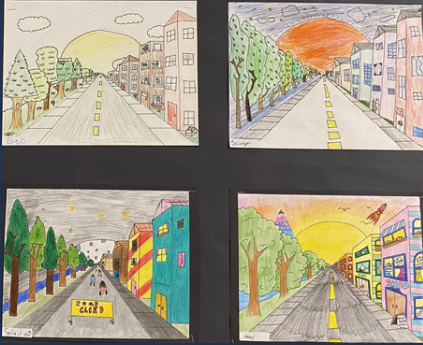
This session covers all things digital, from how to be a good digital citizen, the criminal consequences of cyberbullying, and how to report and receive support in cases of sexting/sexortion.

Some of the most prominent concerns currently surrounding use of social media platforms, smartphones, and artificial intelligence will be discussed.

<https://pages.saferchoolstogether.com/erase-family-session>



STUDENT WORK & ACHIEVEMENTS



Perspective Drawing by Division 3



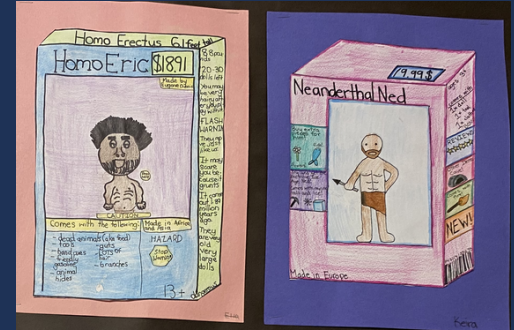
Division 12 Performance



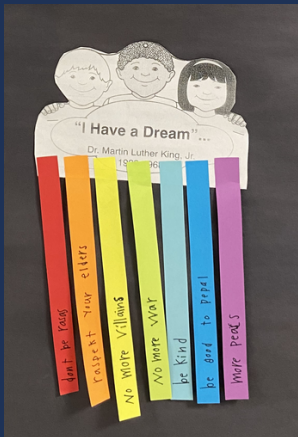
Bunnies by Division 17



Books We Love Reading!



Early Man Action Figures by Division 1



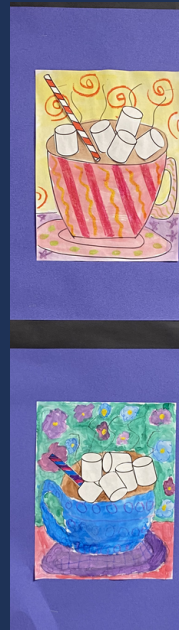
I've Had a Dream by Division 12



Raven: A Trickster Tale



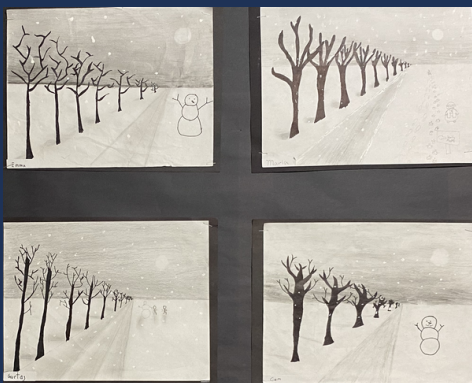
Welcome to Narnia by Division 9



Hot Chocolate Art



Happy New Year! by Division 8



Winter Drawing by Division 2

SAVE THE DATE: FEBRUARY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
5 Read-a-thon!	6	7 PAC SNACK: Cheese Bread PAC LUNCH: Bittersweet 6:30-7:30 Online parent presentation Early Dismissal (2pm)	8 Early Dismissal (2pm)	9 PAC LUNCH: Papa John's 3:05-4:15 Game On! (Gym)
12 PAC SNACK: TCBY PAC LUNCH: Sushi	13	14 3:05-4:15 Young Rembrandts (Rm 111A)	15 6:00 Talent show	16 Pro D Day
19 Family Day (NO SCHOOL)	20	21 PAC SNACK: Cheese Bread PAC LUNCH: Freshii 3:05-4:15 Young Rembrandts (Rm 111A)	22	23 PAC LUNCH: Papa John's 3:05-4:15 Game On! (Gym)
26 PAC SNACK: Kernels PAC LUNCH: Sushi	27	28 Pink Shirt Day 3:05-4:15 Young Rembrandts (Rm 111A)	29 Last day of Read-a-thon!	