



VOODOO VOICE

Rutland Middle School - "Where Everybody is Somebody"

Website: www.rms.sd23.bc.ca

January 2018

PRINCIPAL's MESSAGE

Hello parents and guardians,

We want to wish all of our families a Happy New Year as we welcome in 2018. It always surprises me how quickly time passes; I started at Rutland Middle in the Spring of 2013, and I have to say that these have been the five best, (and fastest) years of my career. I am fortunate to work in such a great community, with so many wonderful families, students, and staff.

I want to send out a special thank you to our PAC who constantly volunteer, organize, fundraise, and support our school and our students. They sponsored our annual Winter Breakfast where staff cook breakfast for the entire school community on the last school day in December; this was part of their Fall funding proposals where PAC allocated thousands to sports teams, classrooms, and students. It is much appreciated! And I wanted to send out an extra thank you to our PAC parents who are partnering with myself and Mr. Aviani around Inquiry scanning at the school. So far, the team has dedicated nearly ten hours each inquiring into student learning and our students' experiences at RMS. This important work will help to guide our school improvement processes and will make a real difference for all students.

I want to extend a special invitation to all of our school community for our first Rutland Zone Learning Evening at Rutland Senior Secondary on January 30th from 6:00-7:30pm. All of the schools – elementary, middle, and secondary – will be there to share about the learning initiatives happening in our buildings throughout our zone. Our own school will have a table and will be there to present and share with all guests. We would love to see a great RMS turnout at this evening, and it will be a great opportunity to find out more about what is happening K-12 throughout our Rutland schools.

And as with any Winter-related newsletter, please have conversations with your children around road safety when walking to and from, and riding scooters or bikes to school. The roads are slippery and visibility for drivers is less. We want to make sure all students are safe, using crosswalks, using bike lanes, looking both ways before crossing, and when necessary, wearing helmets. Thanks again for all your support!

Mr. Laird

Important Dates for January/February/March 2018

January 8 - School opens – regular day

January 10 -Term 2 Enrichment begins

January 29 - End of Exploratory – Quarter 2

January 30 – Rutland Zone Learning Evening (at RSS) 6:00-7:30 PM

February 08 - Early dismissal 1:00 pm

February 08 - Parent/Guardian/Teacher conferences, by appointment 1:30-3:00 PM

February 12 - Family Day (no school)

February 21 - Harmony Day

February 23 - Teacher Pro-D Day (no school)

February 28 – Pink Shirt Day

March 01 – Term 2 ends

March 15 – Term 2 report card goes home

March 16 – Last day of school before spring break

March 19- 30 Spring break

March 30 – Good Friday

April 03 – Easter Monday – no school

Library - **January**: Hunker down with a warm blanket and a good book to beat the January blues! Come on in and check out the author of the month – Gary Paulson. Stories of intrigue and adventure will keep you on the edge of your seat! This month's genre is Adventure!

Yearbook

Do you have a pet at home that you adore? If you do, please send in your favourite picture of your beloved pet to be in our yearbook. It could be a picture of your pet in a costume or simply a captured moment of their cuteness. You are encouraged to be in the photo as well. Please E-mail Mrs. Gagliano at agnes.gagliano@sd23.bc.ca and include your name and the name of your pet.