**UPS Report ![MC900356107[1]]()**

 **Uplands Park School—A Community of Learners**

**Uplands Park School Phone: 758-3252 Lisa Robinson–Principal Connie Thyssen-Secretary**

**3821 Stronach Drive Fax: 751-0635 December, 2016**

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| **Principal’s Message:**Happy December. Our theme for this month is RESPONSIBILITY. We have many events happening in December; the book fair, Frosty Footrace, Santa Shop, Food Drive, and much MORE! It is based on the SPIRIT of GIVING. At Uplands we are responsible citizens who care of ourselves and others in and around our community – and it certainly shows!We are also excited to be starting INTRAMURALS at big recess Tuesday to Thursday at big recess. Thank you Mr. Entner for organizing this. This continues to build on school spirit.Mark down the evening of December 8th as there will be a Christmas Sing-A-Long, a Book Fair evening in the Library, wrap up of our Christmas Tree Auction as well as some of the Primary classes are hosting an Open House in their classrooms.As always if we can assist you in anyway please contact us at 250-758-3252. I wish you and your family a happy and healthy winter break! Ms. Robinson – Principal**FESTIVAL OF TREES** **- k – 7 classes** The Uplands Park Festival of Trees will take place from December 5th to the 8th. Classes will be decorating a theme based tree and it will be up for silent auction. Bidding will begin Tuesday, December 6th with the final bid closing on Thursday, December 8th at 8:00 p.m. These would look great in any home or business. All proceeds will go to the Nanaimo Pediatric Unit. Please pop by and view our trees! The classes had a lot of fun decorating them.**Intramural Update – Mr. Entner and Leadership student:**Starting on Tuesday Dec 6th we will be kicking off our school wide Intramural competitions.  The school has been divided up into 4 teams with the grade 7 leaders picking names this week for their school teams.  We will be having grade competitions each week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays at lunch.  Each day will have a different grade competing for points for their house team.. Points are awarded for things like participation and sportsmanship as well as the daily winner.  We are looking forward to a fun exciting year.**GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP CLUB:**Meets every Tuesday at 11:45 a.m. in the Daycare Room.**HOUR OF CODE/CODING CLUB – Ms. Armour**We live in a world surrounded by technology. And we know that whatever field our students choose to go into as adults, their ability to succeed will increasingly depend on understanding how technology works.  That’s why our grade3-7’s are joining in on the largest learning event in history: The Hour of Code, during Computer Science Education Week (December 5-11). More than 100 million students worldwide have already tried an Hour of Code.  We have also started a Coding Club on Wednesday in the Library for students to explore coding.**MAKERSPACE:**Visit their facebook for upcoming week end events:[**https://www.facebook.com/events/582862985230875/**](https://www.facebook.com/events/582862985230875/)**.** There are excellent activities for all ages!**REPORT CARD CHANGES** As many individuals are aware, the Ministry of Education has redesigned the BC School Curriculum. A link to the curriculum can be found at https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/ . As discussed in our October Newsletter, the result is that there will be a change when it comes to the reporting of student progress this year. The changes are *interim*, therefore, there might be a slight change for the 2017-18 school year, as well. The first noticeable change in response to the Government’s reporting order is that there will be 2 formal and 3 informal reports. The October parent- teacher conference will be one of the 3 informal reports. A tangible ‘report card’ will be sent home February 10th and the end of June. These reporting date changes are reflected on the last page of the Newsletter where the list of school events is printed. Informal reports will include a formative assessment of how your child’s achievement in English, Language Arts (reading, writing, listening, viewing, speaking and representing), as well as mathematics, science, and social studies. Teachers will communicate how the assessment activities they share with you relate to the core standards of the new curriculum. These formative assessments can be presented in a variety of formats. They can be digital (video, photographs, etc.), in person meetings, portfolios of work that are presented or sent home, etc. The assessments will include both a teacher assessment and a student self-assessment component. As a staff, we realize that this is a change in how we report on student progress. As always, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask.**PAC NEWS – from our PAC for DECEMBER:**The 3rd Annual Santa Shop is coming up December 14th &15th. Donations are still being accepted, box is outside the office, in need of men’s items and small boxes for delicate items.Looking for wrappers Wednesday December 14th 9am-12.Paint Nite was a success thank you to everyone who came out. Planning one for the spring which will be open to grade 6 students and up.Thanks to everyone who supported the Clippers Cheer-off sadly we did not move on this year, we will be back next year louder than ever. Join the PAC facebook page at Uplands Park PACThank you for your continued support.Happy Holidays!**HEALTH AND SAFETY –** With school start up brings more illness. A reminder to students to wash their hands frequently. Also please dress your child in layers as the rainy weather is coming and we still go outside when it is lightly raining. We try to send our children outside as much as possible.**PARKING LOT SAFETY:**Please be safe in our parking lot – it is a crowded place and we need to be conscious of the children. We appreciate the drivers who drop off past the entrance this helps keep crosswalks and front doors safe. If you could arrange pick up and drop off outside of the parking lot this could be helpful.***DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER*** At this time of year, the weather is highly unpredictable. For most recesses students are expected to and need to be outside for big recess. This is at least 30 minutes of exposure to quite cold temperatures and weather that is often wet or damp. Most students will need gloves or mittens, a pair of water resistant boots, and a reasonable winter jacket to be moderately comfortable for this amount of time. Students are also outside for 15 minutes at little recess. Please make sure that they have appropriate clothing for this period of time. If there are heavy winds combined with driving rain, students may be kept in, but this is a rare exception.

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 | **Dates:****Dec.** Donations accepted for the PAC Santa Shop**Dec. 1** – PAC meeting 6:30 Library**Dec. 5- Dec. 16** – Salvation Army Canned Food Drive **Dec. 5 – 9** - Uplands Book Fair**Dec. 6** – Intramurals begin at big recess**Dec. 8** – Christmas Sing-A-Long in the Music Room (evening). Christmas Tree Auction ends and Book Fair evening event **Dec. 9** – FROSTY FOOTRACE**Dec. 14-15** -Santa Shop in the Gym**Dec. 16** – HOT LUNCH**Dec. 23** – Last day before Winter Break.**Jan. 9** – Return from Winter Break **Evening of Dec. 8th:**Book Fair – Library – 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.Christmas Sing-A-Long – Music Room 6:00 – 6:30 and 7:00 – 7:30 with Ms. Wilson.Festival of Tress - Tree Auction: This is a silent auction. This is your last night to put in a bid for the trees (more information regarding the Tree Auction in the newsletter).Parents of students in Ms. DeJong (Gr. 3), Ms. Levine (Gr. 4/5), Ms. Butterworth/Ms. Wilson (Gr. 2), Ms. Boudreau/Ms. Cowan (Gr. 1), Ms. Krause (Gr. 1 / 2) and Ms. Zuydervelt (Gr. 2) are invited to a Classroom Open House from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. to view some of student work and share information about their learning. **FROSTY FOOTRACE** The Frosty Foot race will take place December 9th. This is an annual event where students collect pledges to help families in our community that are in need.  Pledge sheets went home this week. These events are part of Uplands Park Spirit of Giving! It is a fun event. The run starts at 1:00 p.m. that day. **We encourage all students to wear FUN, CRAZY WINTER hats, scarfs, socks, etc.** **BOOK FAIR – Ms. Armour**Please come and support the book fair December 5th-9th in the Library.  The book fair is open at big recess 11:45-12:15, afterschool 2:30-3:30 as well as in the evening on December 8th from 5:30-8:00pm.  All proceeds benefit the school library.**Spirit of Giving Update-Mr. Entner** Our school overwhelmed the Nanaimo Hospitals “Discharge with Dignity” program with the collection of 691 pairs of socks in our “Socktober” collection competition.  We are continuing our support for the program with the collection of personal toiletries in December.  We are looking for the donation of new: toothbrushes, toothbrushes, combs, razors, shaving cream, toothpaste, floss, shampoo, conditioner, hand lotion, mini Kleenex packs, nail clippers etc.  We thank you for your continued amazing support of this community outreach.  We are also accepting toques, scarves and mittens as they are very needed this time of year.**PAC NEWS – from our PAC for DECEMBER:**The 3rd Annual Santa Shop is coming up December 14th &15th. 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Gifts will be wrapped and all money raised will go to families in need. If you would like to volunteer please leave your name and number at the office or call the school at 250-758-3252 or contact the PAC via email at upspacconnect@gmail.com or via our Facebook pageThank you for your support.**Our Community Supporting Uplands School:****Nanaimo Soap Exchange**: When you are out shopping please consider shopping at the Soap Exchange at Country Club mall. Let the staff know you are an Uplands parent – a portion of the sales goes back to the school.**COBBS Bakery** – When buying baked goods at COBBS let the staff know that you are from Uplands Park ( “Raise the Dough” program)**Country Grocer –** We have a box in the office. Please bring all your receipts to us. A portion of the receipt subtotals will be turned into food vouchers. We purchase food for a breakfast and lunch program for our students.**Campbell’s Labels:for a list of items see below** [www.**labelsforeducation**.ca/](http://www.labelsforeducation.ca/) **CASH BACK PROGRAM**We are pleased to offer a 5% cash back to UPLANDS SCHOOL on every invoice when the customer uses the cash back account.There is no sign up required. Simply use the account name **UPLANDS ELEMENTARY CBP** when you come in for your mechanical & Tire needs at our store on Wellington road off Mostar.For more information call **250-802-4412.****FAMILIES SUPPORTING FAMILIES –** Networking Groups:When: 1st Wednesday of each month.Time: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.Where: Nanaimo Child Development Centre, 1135 NelsonMore information or to RSVP call Kimberlee 250-753-0251 Ext 259.***SCHOOL CLOSURE REMINDER*** Occasionally, schools are temporarily closed on short notice for emergency reasons. A heavy snowfall is the most frequent reason for emergency school closure; however, individual schools can also be closed because of power or heating failures. If schools are closed due to snow, or any other problems such as power outages or bad weather, announcements will be on local radio stations (WOLF 106.9 FM and WAVE 102.3 FM) by 7 a.m. on the day of the closure. Please do not call the radio station --- tune in and listen for the announcements, which will be made on a regular basis. In addition, the district will post the information on the district’s website (www.sd68.bc.ca), Twitter and Facebook, unless there are technical problems or a power outage. |