



# Taylor Park

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A happy, caring learning community

Newsletter

**December 2015**

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Vice-Principal: Vicki Moro  
Head Teacher: Guy Hamilton  
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Celebration Time!

Wow! December has been a fun and busy time at Taylor Park!!

We would like to thank you for your generous support for the music program. Taylor Park's winter concert was a big success. We want to recognize parents for preparing costumes and supporting their children in practicing their songs and dances at home. The students had so much fun learning their pieces and show-casing their musical talents. A big thanks to the PAC for their wonderful contributions to the music program once again this year with the sales of raffle tickets. Your financial support has greatly helped build the instrument inventory for the two music classrooms.

As well, we would like to recognize the support of the entire staff. Teachers and staff helped prepare decorations, made costumes, supported schedule changes and extra practices, and ran sound and technology. The musical presentations were successful because of the collegiality of Taylor Park teachers.

The Primary Choir, Intermediate Choir, and Honours Hand Chimes performed at Brentwood Mall on Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. The children's performance was enjoyed by an appreciative crowd.

Songs and Smiles for the holidays,

Ms. Anne Kang and Ms. Shendy Chang

## **Pancake Breakfast**



Thank you so much to all of the parents who helped to organize, set-up, serve and clean up at our Breakfast with Santa. We also really appreciate the Burnaby Firefighters who cooked our wonderful pancakes and a special nod to Santa for taking the time to visit Taylor Park!

## Grade 4/5 Leadership

Once again the annual **Canned Food** Drive has been a big success! We thank all of those who were able to donate food. Again, thank you for feeding needy Burnaby families.

Thank you very much for your support of the **Rotary Coat Drive**. We collected a huge box of warm winter coats which will help to make the winter season more pleasant for many children and adults in our community.

## Girls' Volleyball

In Taylor Park sports, we had a great wind-up to our girls' volleyball season. We had almost thirty grade six and seven students participate. Our staff ran both a competitive and recreational level of play. Our league play ended with a tournament at Burnaby South Secondary where we played teams from all over Burnaby. On the competitive scene, we entered a team in both the Second Street Invitational and the district-wide Competitive Girls' Tournament at Harry Jerome sports complex. At the Second Street Invitational, we were locked in a three way-tie for first place. At Harry Jerome, despite a reduced team, we took third place for South Burnaby and 6th in all the district. Our grade seven players have developed the necessary skills to play at the secondary level. Special thanks those parents who consistently drive our team members (you know who you are) and support our program. It was a lot of fun and we are already thinking about next year. Mr. Woo, Mrs. Cheng, and Mr. Hamilton were very proud of the team this year.



## Winter Weather Closures

With the cold winter weather, we want to remind parents/guardians, students, and staff about Burnaby School District weather related school closure announcements. All schools will remain OPEN, unless there is heavy snowfall, damage or other circumstances (e.g. power outage) that make it impossible to operate safely. The district will do its best to communicate school or district-wide closures and bus changes or cancellations by 6:30 am. This information will be posted on the front page of the district website. Closure information will also be provided to the media (radio and television stations). PLEASE NOTE THAT **NO ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE THAT SCHOOLS ARE OPEN.**

Parents/guardians are responsible for their child's safe travel to school. Please walk elementary children to the door of their school if you are uncertain whether the school is open or not. If for any reason you feel that your child cannot travel safely to school then you should notify the school that your child will be absent.

Student safety is a shared responsibility. With your cooperation and support related to winter weather procedures, we can achieve safe conditions for all.



### Being Street Smart

The beginning of a new year is a good time to review safety rules with our children. As children gain increased independence, it is important that they know what to do to keep themselves safe when they are out in the community. Our teachers are reviewing

age appropriate safety guidelines with their students. Some of the points they will cover are:

- **Make Your Whereabouts Known** – Ask yourself, “Does an adult know where I am right now?”
- **Stick with a Friend** – It’s more fun and safer to do things with friends. Take a buddy along when you walk to school, bike in the park or go to the store.
- **Pick Out Safe Spots** – Identify some spots on your route where you can stop if you need help (houses of people you know, store, library, restaurant etc). That way, you’ll know where they are in case you ever need one.
- **Avoid Places That Aren’t Safe** – Keep away from isolated areas like woods or dark streets.
- **Let Grown-Ups (and only Grown-Ups) Help Strangers** – Strangers should ask adults, not kids, for help. If a stranger approaches you and asks for help walk the other way. Go to a safe spot or yell for help if you feel you’re in danger.
- **Stay Away From Stranger’s Cars** – If a stranger pulls up in a car and offers you a ride, don’t get in. Stay away from the car and walk the other way. Go to a safe spot or yell for help if you feel you’re in danger.
- **Make a Lot of Noise If You’re Scared** – If a stranger approaches you (on foot or in a car) and follows you when you try to walk away, yell for help as you run away.
- **Trust Your Instincts** – Follow the rules of street smarts all the time with every stranger. If your instinct is telling you something is dangerous or just not quite right, get out of the area, tell an adult or call 911.

### Registration for September 2016



Beginning February 1, 2016, we will accept registrations for **Kindergarten** (children born in 2011), and for **new students** in other grades wishing to attend Taylor Park in September.

The following information is also available on the school website.

- 1) Check to see if you live in our attendance area by clicking on [School Locator](#) and entering your address. Note that you must register in your attendance area school even if you are applying for acceptance at another Burnaby School. **This also applies to siblings of students already attending Taylor Park.**
- 2) You need to make an appointment to come to the school with your child to register. Registration Appointments are made online. Check our website for instructions.
- 3) Bring the [required documents](#) to your Registration Appointment.

## News from the Parent Advisory Council

### Annual Raffle Draw

Thank you to all parents who purchased raffle tickets at our Holiday Concerts this week. Winners will be drawn Thursday and prizes available for pick up after school Thursday and Friday. A HUGE thank you to Sandra M for organizing all the great prizes for this draw. All money raised will be donated to our music department for additional music supplies and instruments.



### Fall Fundraising Updates

Thank you for supporting our fall fundraisers. We raised over \$6500 for the school. In January we will be purchasing earthquake safety equipment, library shelves, and a 3D Digital Printer for the Technology Club. We will also be giving money to each POD for addition education supplies to be used by all classes in the center of each POD. We are also hoping to purchase a new water fountain with a water bottle filler for the school. Parents if you have any ideas or suggestions for items we could purchase for the school please attend a PAC meeting or email us and share your ideas.

### Parents...We Need You!

The PAC is a busy group of parents that organizes fun events and fundraisers at the school. Some of the fun activities include Pancake Breakfast and the Annual Multi-Cultural event. Our fundraisers help raise funds to purchase extra educational supplies and provide opportunities for our children. Without this fundraising, some of these extras would not happen at the school, such as having a school bus safely transport children to field trips, having special physical/artistic education such as Zumba, drumming and Capoeira. In addition, our fundraising efforts have allowed us to purchase the very important earthquake supply kiosk, the emergency supplies and to help our teachers with additional supplies. Our executive members on our PAC are very busy parents who spend a lot of time and energy dedicated to helping with these events. However, we really could use your help! We welcome your time and ideas—some jobs are as simple as photocopying and stuffing flyers, to helping organize donations, to participating at various functions. We are also looking for parents to be the Class Representative...this parent would help act as the voice for that particular class and be available to help with various functions. If you are a tech-savvy parent, we really need someone to update our website! If you have strong administrative skills we need a parent to help with a monthly newsletter. We encourage parents to speak to us and let us know how you would like to help enrich your child's education and school experience! Our next PAC meeting will on January 26, 216 at 7:00 p.m. or contact us at [taylorparkschoolpac@gmail.com](mailto:taylorparkschoolpac@gmail.com)

