



# Watson Elementary School Newsletter



Chilliwack  
School District

December 2020

Terry Bateman, Principal | Tel 604.858.9477 | [terry\\_bateman@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:terry_bateman@sd33.bc.ca) | <http://watson.sd33.bc.ca>  
Carolyn Ingham, Vice Principal | Tel 604.858.9477 | [Carolyn\\_ingham@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn_ingham@sd33.bc.ca)  
Farah Parks, Administrative Assistants | [watson@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:watson@sd33.bc.ca)

## Our Code of Conduct

Watson Wildcats **R.O.A.R. to Success** – **R**espect, **O**utstanding Attitude, **A**chieve Goals, **R**each Out

## Our Goals

1. In what ways can a school community systematically respond to the learning needs of students, staff and parents? (How do we meet the needs of all of our learners?)
2. Watson Elementary student, staff and community are responsible school citizens. (Teaching expectations and strategies to help develop responsible behaviour?)

## Principal's Message

December is upon us and for many homes the craziness of the season begins. Have you started your Christmas shopping, is the house decorated, are the cookies baked? Our busy lives become even busier. In all of this hustle and bustle it is important to remember that children thrive on routine. So, if possible, please try to make sure that bedtimes and normal after school habits are maintained as much as possible. This will allow all of us to experience and appreciate the excitement of the next few weeks at Watson Elementary.

On the week of December 7<sup>th</sup> report cards are coming home for 1<sup>st</sup> term. Please take the time to celebrate the successes that your child has had and also have a conversation about any goals or changes that need to occur for second term.

Our Christmas production this year will be a virtual one. Ms. Thom, Mr. O'Brennan, and Mrs. Fordham are working on recording a video that will be sent out for your family's enjoyment closer to the Winter break.

These continue to be different times and I would like to remind parents that at the end of the day we should not be gathering outside. We are asking parents that once you have picked up your child(ren) to please proceed to leave the school grounds. We would like to encourage everyone to do their part and avoid small gatherings.

Thanks for your support, we are looking forward to 2021!!! - Mr. Bateman

## ♪ A Note from Mrs. Ingham ♪

Winter Break is only 3 weeks away! Report cards are coming home soon. This is an important opportunity for you to celebrate your child's strengths and support them with their goals. During the break, try to spend time reading books together and playing some games. For the new year, set some goals or resolutions together as a family. We hope that you and your family stay safe and healthy during these uncertain times. For our families that celebrate Christmas and for our families that celebrate other holidays like Diwali, Eid, Chinese New Year, Ramadan, Hanukkah, and other celebrations, we wish you all peace, joy and good health!

See you on January 4, 2021!



### Report Cards

Report cards will be sent home Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>. Your children have been working hard and they all have strengths in at least one subject. Please read the report card with your child and take time to highlight the positives. When looking at the work areas, make a plan together and reassure your child that they can continue to learn and grow. Thank you for your support and encouragement for your child and our school.

### Watson Virtual Christmas Celebration

It's almost that time of year again...and just like everything else this year, our annual Christmas Celebration will be looking quite different. Kindergarten up to grade 4 classes have been working with their classroom teachers and cohorts to create a special holiday presentation, while grade 5 students are working with Ms. Thom on a unique, 2020-themed Christmas song! This year we will not be hosting a live performance in the gym, rather we will be filming each performance and compiling them into a video to send out to families. Keep an eye on your emails closer to Christmas Break, as that is when the video will be sent out. Stay warm, stay safe, and let the countdown begin!

## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

### Virtual SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

November 30 -December 4 the Scholastic Book Fair will be taking over the library! With Covid-19 restrictions parents will not be permitted to browse the shelves. The book fair will open to students only. An online link will be sent out to families. Students can purchase books when they visit the book fair with their classes. Parents can purchase online through the link. Regular book exchange will be paused during this week.

<https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5151414>

Proceeds from the book fair benefit our Library. Part of the credit we receive is used to purchase all of our awesome prize books that we LOVE to give away! We also are able to purchase new and exciting titles for our collection. We appreciate your support!

## LOST AND FOUND ITEMS

Inside shoes left at Watson during remote learning will be on display in the hallways from November 30 – December 4. Please ask your child to check the lost and found shoes and coat area for any items that you may be missing. Any items left over after Friday, December 4th will be donated. Thank you!

## NEWS FROM THE PAC

Purdy's order pick up will be Wednesday, December 16, 2020. Please line up with social distancing in mind, at the portable by the back playground. Pick up times are 2:00pm and 6:00pm.

The December PAC meeting will be held over zoom. The meeting link will be posted on the PAC Facebook page the day of the meeting, December 7, 2020. Meeting time 7:00pm.

## SALVATION ARMY CANNED FOOD DRIVE

The Chilliwack food bank needs our help now more than ever. Please bring a canned food donation to school to help us meet our goal of 10 large boxes. If we all work together to meet this goal, Mr. Bateman will dress up as Mrs. Claus.

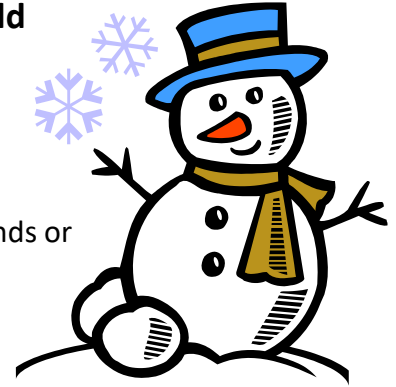


### Winter Clothing

Brrrrr! It's cold this week but we do expect our students to be outside at recess and lunch on most days. Please make sure your child comes dressed for the weather- hat, mittens, warm jacket and maybe even boots are necessary to stay warm. Your child might need some reminders. Thank you for helping your child remember.

### Is School Open? - Poor Weather Guidelines

Inclement weather conditions such as freezing rain, significant snowfall, high winds or power outages can occur during the fall and winter months. In such conditions, decisions on the opening or closure of school district facilities are made by the Superintendent of Schools in consultation with management and supervisory staff who have checked first-hand on the driving conditions and general condition of buildings.



While service to students and parents is a priority and schools will be kept open as much as is reasonably possible, student and staff safety is the primary consideration.

In the event of extreme weather conditions, parents are urged to check the School District website [www.sd33.bc.ca](http://www.sd33.bc.ca), tune into radio stations STAR FM 98.3, The Drive 89.5 FM, or CBC 91.7 FM to receive up-to-date information on school closures and information on the buses. Reports will start after 6:00 a.m. and will be repeated often. The information broadcast is directly from the School District. The reports are confirmed and there is no need to call your school, the School District Office or the radio station. Students will be marked absent for the day, but such an absence will not affect a perfect attendance record.

In the event that there is inclement weather but the school remains open, it is the parent's decision, based on their assessment of the relative safety of travel conditions, as to whether or not their children attend school.

### DECEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER:

- December 2 Wear your holiday sweater or red, green and white.
- December 7 PAC meeting on Zoom (link will be posted on the PAC Facebook page)
- December 16 Purdy's Pick up (back portable)
- December 18 Last full day of school before Christmas Break
- December 19 Christmas Break!
- January 4 Back to school for 2021!

