



Watson Elementary School Newsletter



Chilliwack
School District

February 2021

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Principal's Message

It is hard to believe that as February begins, we are now halfway through this school year! We continue to experience damp weather and encourage students to dress appropriately. It is our plan to go outside as much as possible.

The Watson Staff are committed to academic success for all students. We will do whatever it takes to help each student do their best! As our partner, we need your assistance to achieve our goal. Do you read to your child each night? No matter the age, all children benefit from hearing fluent readers. This exposes your child to quality literature that he/she may not be able to read and provides a special bonding time for you and your child. Just 20 minutes a night can make a world of difference!

You can also help by having your child arrive on time each day. There is a very high correlation between good attendance and good grades. Being punctual is an important life skill that kids can learn at an early age. This helps students begin their day on a positive note. We also need your help in reducing classroom interruptions. If you need to visit with the teacher, please do so before school or after school. If your child forgets something, please leave it at the office, and we can have them pick it up at a convenient time. Please do not pick up your child early unless you cannot make other arrangements. Our students' learning time is precious, and as adults we need to show them that we respect what they are doing each day.

At our assembly on Monday Mrs. Ingham and I talked about the second 'R' in our Watson ROAR's, Reaching out. Students watched a video demonstrating people reaching out and helping others. We asked classes at the end to reflect and think of ways students can Reach Out in their classrooms, in the school and in the community. Please ask your child about their discussions about reaching out.

As always, if you have any questions, please let me know. Your partner in education.

Terry Bateman

Valentine's Day



Many of our students bring in Valentine cards for their classmates and teachers. We are asking if you are planning to bring cards to please bring them in by Wednesday February 10th. (The 14th is a Sunday) This will give them enough time to sit untouched before they are handed out to students on the Friday. Please do not bring in any candies or food items. Thank you so much for your understanding.

February Thoughts from Mrs. Ingham:

Happy February everyone! Our focus this month will be on our Watson ROAR trait of **Reaching Out**. At our February virtual assembly, we asked our students how we can **help others** and **show kindness** to one another? Teachers are discussing with their classes ways we can reach out in the classroom, the school and in the community.



Including others is a great way to reach out! We have 16 new students to Watson Elementary since the beginning of 2021! We want to extend a warm Watson Wildcat Welcome to all of our new families! We are so happy that you have joined us!

February 15 is Family Day. This is a great day to spend time together and as a family, think of how you can reach out to each other at home, and ways your family can reach out in our community.

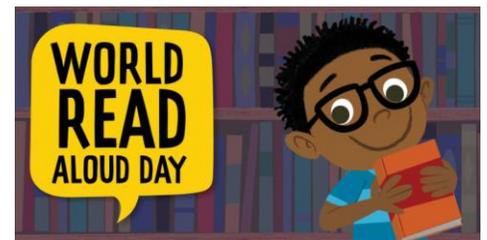
February 24 is Pink Shirt Day, and our focus is on how we can show kindness and be inclusive of everyone.



Thursday, February 11th is our **Early Dismissal Day**. Group 1 students will be dismissed @ 11:25, Group 2 will dismiss @ 11:35. This time is used to help support our teachers to communicate with families about student progress. This is an opportunity for teachers to reach out to families to discuss student academic progress and social behavior at school. Teachers will be sending out further information.

World Read Aloud Day

February is a busy and exciting month! February 3 is World Read Aloud Day! This would be a perfect day for reading *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*! There is Valentine's Day, Chinese New Year, Family Day, Pro-D Day, and Pink Shirt Day. Did you also know that February is Black



History Month? Black History Month is a time to celebrate and remember all the ways that Black Canadians have contributed to Canada's history and culture. Please visit the following websites for more info and resources:

<https://www.cbc.ca/kidscbc2/the-feed/all-about-black-history-month>

<https://bctf.ca/socialjustice.aspx?id=17660>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month/poster.html>

Kindergarten Registration

If your child will be five (5) years of age by December 31, 2021, please register him/her online at <https://sd33.bc.ca/registration> . Please provide their birth certificate or passport, and proof of residence.

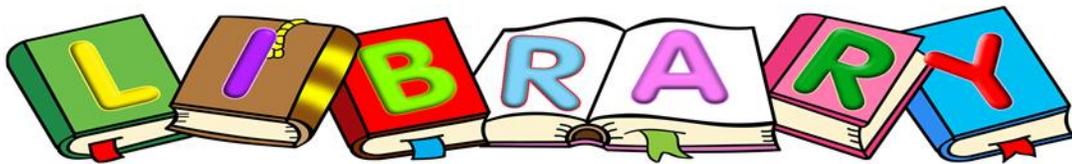
Pink Shirt Day- Wednesday February 24th

We are encouraging our entire school to wear a pink shirt or something pink on Feb. 24th. Pink Shirt Day was started in 2009 in Nova Scotia when a group of boys wore pink shirts to support another boy who had been teased for wearing one.



Bullying is defined as unwanted aggressive behaviour, repeated over time and intended to harm another person. The bullying can be verbal, social or physical. As children grow up they need time to learn how to behave appropriately with others. Sometimes their behaviour is not bullying but part of the journey of a young child learning how to behave. Either way, we do teach our students to use strategies to deal with unwanted behaviours. They can walk away, ignore it, talk about it in a calm, assertive way or seek help. So put on that **Pink Shirt and Be a Buddy!**

Library News



Continue reading The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe each weeknight, or watch one of our Watson Teachers read out loud. https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGJsaRn-pqGyRrurOx_WhQ9TT9yhIGero Keep on submitting The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe Trivia answers every morning for the chance to win prizes!

Dress as your favourite book character on **Feb 17**



All students need a pair of inside shoes!

Please ensure your child(ren) have a pair of inside shoes at school every day. Some students are walking the hallways wearing their sock feet, which is not safe. Inside shoes help keep our halls and classrooms sanitary and more importantly keep students safe from slipping and hurting themselves.

Wednesday, February 3

This Wildcat Wednesday is Pajama Day! Show your school spirit and wear your pajama's to school.



FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER:

February 1	February virtual assembly
February 3	WILDCAT WEDNESDAY! PJ Day
February 8	PAC Meeting 7pm
February 10	Deadline for Valentine cards to be sent to school (no treats)
February 11	EARLY DISMISSAL at 11:25
February 12	Red, White & Pink Day!
February 15	STAT HOLIDAY (FAMILY DAY)
February 17	Dress as your favourite book character
February 19	PRO DAY (NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS)
February 24	Pink Shirt Day



LOOKING AHEAD:

March 15-26	SPRING BREAK, SCHOOLS CLOSED
March 30	Schools re-open
Apr. 2 and Apr. 5.	Good Friday and Easter Monday

IMPORTANT! A reminder to our parents/guardians to please keep your child(ren) home if they are ill:

Parent and caregiver responsibilities: Daily health checks start at home. Ask these questions:

- Does your child have the symptoms of a common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease?
- Has your child been outside Canada in the last 14 days?
- Has your child been identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak?

If the answer is **yes** to any of these questions, you must keep your child at home, self-isolate, and seek care from a health-care provider.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/covid-19-return-to-school>

