

The Ridgemount Shelf

December 2017

Principal's Message

As we quickly approach the end of December and prepare for family time over the holiday period, it is time for us to be mindful of those in our community that are in need. We are once again having our annual food drive and hat and mitten tree drives. If you can support either or both of these initiatives your donations would be truly appreciated.

On behalf of the entire Ridgemount school community it is my pleasure to congratulate the Junior Boy's Volleyball for their hard and bringing home the City Championship to Ridgemount! Thanks to Mr. Massie and Mrs. Davies for their masterful coaching skills. Way to go Roadrunners!!

The last day of school is Friday December 22 and classes resume on January 8, 2018!

The Ridgemount Shelf was edited this month by Jessica Fu Jiang and Kirsten Beaulieu.



Ms. Skinner and Blenda read together

Every Child Reading By the end of Grade 1

At Ridgemount, we're committed to supporting a goal where every child is reading by the end of Grade 1, where developmentally appropriate. A child who is reading by the end of Grade 1 is set up for positive academic outcomes and future success. In September 2017, HWDSB celebrated the deployment of 48 Reading Specialists across the district to work directly with students and educators in all Kindergarten and Grade 1 classrooms. Reading Specialists are working with children within classrooms, alongside classroom

educators, to deliver appropriate strategies and/or interventions.

They support reading acquisition and respond to student learning needs. We're pleased to welcome Lisa Mclean in our school this year.

If you have any questions about the Reading Specialists and their role in your child's class, please contact the school.

From the Office

Thank you for contacting the office with relevant information! We have seen a drop in interruptions in the office and in the classrooms during learning time and things are running smoothly.

Just another reminder that if your child will be absent for any reason or going away on vacation, please call (905) 575-1535 and leave a message on our 24 hr answering machine. Please spell the child's name, state their teacher's name and the reason for the absence.

If your child comes to school late, they need to check in at the office to let us know they were late.

Finally, if you will be dropping off a lunch for your child, please let your child know to come to the office during nutrition breaks prior to them leaving for school in the morning.

Junior Boys Volleyball Team Wins City Championship!

A HUGE congratulations to the Jr. Boys Volleyball team for the win on Monday, December 4th against Elizabeth Bagshaw and becoming City Champs! Also, many thanks to the fans that supported the team along the way. Especially, thank you to Mr. Massie and Mrs. Davies for their time and efforts with this group.



Taste Test Tuesdays

By Rosa Pham

In the past three Tuesdays at Ridgemount, we've gotten the opportunity to try some new foods. The edamames, zucchini and the seaweed were delicious and super healthy! Can't wait to try the upcoming foods, grapefruit and pomegranate! Thanks to Ms. Dean and the SMARTT Team for introducing us to these dishes. Let's keep up the healthy eating Ridgemount!

Note to parents, if your child has allergies to any of the upcoming foods, please notify to your child's classroom teacher so they won't take part of tasting.



Remembrance Day Artefact Display

By Rosa Pham

On November 10th, Ridgemount gathered into the gym for assembly to honour the soldiers that have fought and died for our country. There were 2 classes that sang poems and some of the grade 6,7, and 8 students helped manage the assembly and made sure it ran smoothly, giving the soldiers the respect they deserve. On that very day, class 8A made a Remembrance Day Artefact Display in the front foyer. The artefact display lasted until the 17th of November. There was many beautiful and informational artifacts to view and learn from. Thank you to class 8A.

Upcoming Dates

Holiday Dates

18 Crazy Sock/Hat Day
19 Red, Green, White Day
20 Santa's Squad Day
21 Ugly Sweater Day
21 Middle School Dance
22 Winter Pyjama Day

Skating Dates

December 8, 15
January 12, 19
February 2, 9, 16, 23
(all Fridays)

Holidays at Ridgemount

Christmas Poverty

By Pavlos

Did you know that 1 in 5 kids in Hamilton will live in poverty? Poverty means not having enough money to afford basic things to live. It's not right for people who live in the same city as us to miss out on being excited in the holidays. These kids don't wake up on Christmas morning and hope they will find their wanted gift under the tree, but you can help. You and your family can donate money to a local poverty fundraiser or a shelter of any kind. Make someone's Christmas wish come true. It only takes a single act of kindness to make someone's Christmas better!



Rafiki Bracelets

By Alexis

In spirit of the Christmas season, the Me To We team at Ridgemount sold Rafiki bracelets! Created by Kenyan mothers, Rafiki bracelets are made from colourful glass beads on a stretchy cord. Their name comes from the Swahili word 'rafiki' which means 'friend'. The Me To We foundation sells these bracelets on their online store and various commercial buildings to raise money for

good causes such as providing clean water, girls education, and medical care. At Ridgemount, the Me To We team sold 5 types of rafiki bracelets, ranging from \$12 to \$16 dollars. If you pre-ordered a rafiki, it'll be delivered to you sometime before Christmas. These bracelets make a great Christmas present for friends or family and they help others in the world with the proceeds going to good causes.



By Huda

Here are some ideas for things you can do over the break:

- You can go tobogganing
- You can cut out snowflakes
- You can put on a talent show
- You can bake
- You can make gifts
- You can go shopping
- You can watch T.V
- You can organize your room

Jokes

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?
[Frostbite!]

What do elves learn in school?
[The Elf-abet!]

What do you call a pepper that is cold?
[A chilly pepper!]

What do you call an elf who sings?
[A wrapper!]

What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus?
[Claustrophobic!]



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