

# The Ridgemount Shelf

March 2018

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## From the Office

Please return your Vision Clinic forms to the office as soon as possible. The deadline is Monday, March 19th which is the first day back after March Break.

Also, if your child is going to be absent before or after March Break, please let the office know so we can mark them out of the system.

We would also like to thank you for your continued cooperation with phoning student's absences into the office. You are always welcome to leave a message on our 24hr answering machine at (905) 575-1535. Please contact the office so we know your child is absent even if you have already let their teacher know so as to avoid a phone call home. Please clearly state the student's name, their teacher and the reason for the absence. If you know they will be away for several days, please let us know otherwise you will need to call us each day that they will not be attending school.



## Principal's Message

Hello Ridgemount Families:

We had a great assembly at Ridgemount this week. We unveiled our new school logo which was created by one of our students and shared our new school cheer. We reviewed our school rules and our talked about our new school initiatives (Ridgemount Road to Success and Learning Skills and Work Habits

Posters and awareness). We will be asking our students to create 5 school expectations to design this Road to Success and will then post these and make them a regular part of our school day to encourage positive culture and well being throughout the school. Soon we will have Learning Skills Assemblies to share presentations to show what these learning skills look like, how we can demonstrate and put them into action and then celebrate those making progress with their learning skills and work habits by giving out certificates to these

students.

Our students did a fantastic job in the assembly which lasted almost an entire hour. Well done Roadrunners!! Thanks to the school staff assembly committee for organizing a fabulous assembly! Please be sure to ask your children about some of the messages from the assembly.

We are proud of our Dance Crew as they performed both at the board level and for all of us at the school. Thanks to Ms. Davies and our student participants.

A special thanks to our School Support EA and all of our school EA's (Educational Assistants) for all of their work with our Nutrition Program. The students are really enjoying the healthy snacks. Ms. Manson and Mr., Swinarchin are also introducing our Wampum Belt and our awareness of our Indigenous traditions and cultures. We look forward to sharing and having some of our community/family members in to share their stories and wisdom.

During our PD DAY our staff were engaged in Continuous Learning and Improvement in the area of Math, K-1 Literacy, Positive Culture and Well Being and sharing our instructional strategies. Thanks to the PD team for organizing this day!

Our By Law Enforcement Officers have been coming by the school so please be sure to adhere to the signs posted at the front and side of the school. Be sure to not block the bus loading zones as those violating could be ticketed and we do want to ensure the safety of all students. Please support us by making sure students are on time so they do not miss their buses and by encouraging those that can walk to school to please do so. A reminder to continue to talk to students about bus safety as

we continue to hear from drivers that there are occasionally issues. We apologize for the buses that have arrived late this last month. We are continuing to share our concerns and will continue to address these issues with our Transportation Department.

Thanks also to our Green Team for continuing with their audit of our recycling. They are doing a marvelous job of building capacity and awareness of the program throughout our school and contributing to our achievement towards being the best ECO school that we can be. Well done Green Team!!

We also have had our Gr 3 and Gr 6 After School Scholars Program starting up this week and next week and these programs will run on Mondays and Wednesdays for the next 10 weeks. Some of our students will be working in these programs on improving their math skills in preparation for EQAO coming up in May. Thanks to our 3 scholars teachers - Ms. Murray, Ms. Warrick and Ms. Williams for giving some of our students this incredible opportunity!

Next week we have our Community Liason Officer coming in to meet with our grade 8 students to discuss making good choices and keeping safe.

Officer Dinning will also join in on a few of our Social Skills groups that we are now running and will plan some future visits with other grades to talk about issues involving making good choices, keeping safe and healthy and increasing our awareness of how to address bullying, digital citizenship and street safety to name a few.

Upcoming events also include Ridgemount Chocolate Sales fundraiser, Grade 6-8 Oral Communication / Speech Festival, Girls and Boys Soccer Tournaments. Stay tuned for more updates and information in next weeks posts. March Break is from March 12-16.



# March Break

By: Rosa

This upcoming month, get ready for the March Break. March break is an entire week off school! March break will take place from Saturday, March 10th - Sunday, March 18th.

Bored? Can't think of anything to do? If it's wonderful weather outside, blow some bubbles, doodle along the sidewalk with colourful chalk, ride your bike, or take a walk outside! In addition, if the weather is getting warmer, you could start gardening and grow plants. Try making a cool meal for the family! (With adult supervision)

On a rainy or cold day, you could play some board games, read a book, or work on your drawing skills.

Can't wait to see everyone back at Ridgemount on March 19th! Have a safe and happy March Break!

# Women's History Month

By Alexis

Although it isn't Women's History Month in Canada, the history of women is currently being celebrated in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia! Women's History Month is dedicated towards highlighting and celebrating the trailblazing women that changed the world. To celebrate, here's a few remarkable ladies that accomplished incredible deeds in their lifetime.

## Rosalind Franklin

Rosalind Franklin (July 25,1920 - April 16,1958) was a chemist, biophysicist, and x-ray crystallographer, who made contributions to the discovery of the molecular structure of DNA, RNA, coal, and graphite.

## Noor Inayat Khan

Noor Inayat Khan was a courageous World War II spy and a member of the French Resistance. She acted as the only link of communications between the Allied forces and Nazi-occupied France. Her role in the War was considered one of the most dangerous and important.

## Ada Lovelace

Countess Ada Lovelace (December 15,1815 - November 27,1852) was a mathematician and writer. She's considered to be the first person to realize the potential of a "computing machine" and the first computer programmer.

# Jokes

By Rosa

How excited was the gardener about spring?

So excited he wet his plants.

Does February like March?

No, but April May

What goes up when rains comes down?

Umbrellas!

Why was the bee mad?

You'd be mad too if someone stole your honey and nectar

When do people use trampolines?

Springtime!

What happens when you plant kisses?

TWO-lips

# St. Patrick's Day

By Pavlos

On March 17th, every year, people around the world celebrate St. Patrick's day. You may be wondering why the green? What's the purpose? Well people commemorate the death of the Saint named Patrick. Patrick was the patron saint in Ireland. This day is celebrated by wearing green to make sure a leprechaun doesn't appear to make trouble. Irish people also believe in shamrock and the four-leaf clover as a sign of luck. Did you know that 120 million people in the USA will celebrate St.-Patrick's day. Parades go by major streets to celebrate this day as well. Also the average American will spend about \$40 on this one day celebration. Get ready to celebrate St.Patrick's day on March 17th.

# Dungeons and Dragons

By Alexis

The Dungeons and Dragons Club has been running all year. The club, which runs on Day 1 in the library, features the roleplaying tabletop game 'Dungeons and Dragons'. Dungeons and Dragons is a roleplaying game where you use a character to explore worlds and adventures through the story created by the Dungeon Master. Two groups of adventurers are currently weaving through a basement full of rats to rescue a child, while another group is exploring the tomb of a ghost. Dungeons and Dragons is a fun, strategic, and imaginative game that all members of the club enjoy. If you're interested in adventure games that require you to use your wits and imagination, I'd encourage you to check out this club!



