



## DECEMBER 2017 SCHOOL MESSAGE

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

#### Important Dates December 2017

- 1 – Killarney Connects 12:00 pm
- 3, 11, 18 – Sewing Club
- 4,12,19 – Trashie Club
- 7 – Scholastic Book Fair  
(4:00 – 8:00 pm)
- 7 – Student-Led Conferences  
(4:30 pm – 8:00 pm)
- 8 – Student-Led Conferences  
(8:00 am – 1:00 pm)
- 8 – Scholastic Book Fair  
(8:00 am – 1:00 pm)
- 8 – No Classes due to  
Conferences
- 15 – Fun Fit Friday 12:00 pm
- 19 – Carolfest – Ambrose  
University
- 20 – I am a Scientist - Kindergarten
- 20 – Family Winter Celebration  
(doors open at 6:00 pm,  
carols begin at 6:15 pm)
- 20 – WE Bake for Change –  
bake sale at noon
- 21 – Spirit Day – PJ Day
- 21 – Fun Lunch – Boston Pizza
- 21 – Report Cards to home
- 21 – Last day of classes
- 22 – PD Day (no school for  
students) – see you on  
January 9<sup>th</sup>!

Seasons Greetings! We have had a wonderful few months and can't believe December has arrived. So much goes on in our wonderful Montessori school and we hope we are able to share what our students are doing so we can celebrate as a school community.

We continue to make Killarney Connections each day whether through service work, clubs, curricular learning, or playground interactions. I find the best parts of my days are those moments I get to observe the greatness of the children and it is our wish that we support each student to recognize, grow and celebrate his/her strengths.

Some of the highlights this past month have included our continued collaboration with Artist-In-Residence, Chris Sandvoss. Students have been able to view and be part of the design process working through ideation, prototyping, and production. A big piece of learning for the students has been that not every idea is able to be followed through, mistakes are o.k., and working with others takes important skills. Our Lower Elementary classes had the wonderful opportunity to connect with the outside environment with trips to Fish Creek Park. Many signs of animals were spotted in the fresh snow and students enjoyed learning a bit about the Indigenous culture through games and nature. The Me To We students enjoyed a day at the Saddledome with various presenters who have demonstrated perseverance, gratitude, compassion, and service...all virtues we promote in our students.

Our amazing Killarney Student Council organized a fun spirit day; Backwards Day. Staff and students wore their clothes backwards and changed their names to reflect the backwards theme.

Our Carols, Crafts and Candlelight/ Festival of Trees family evening will be held on Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. This wonderful festive event will be a time for students to invite their parents to share in making a craft, listening to the choir and connecting with other families in the spirit of the season. Invitations will be sent via school messenger. We hope you will join us for this delightful evening!

Our second Parent/Teacher Conferences (Student-Led) will be held Dec 7 and 8. Parents will spend the first 15 minutes of their booked time with the teacher and then another 15 minutes being guided through their child's learning. I can't think of a better way for parents to become part of their child's learning journey by having them share their progress and work. Having the opportunity to ask your child questions about learning is such a valuable gift and children love to speak to their hard work at school.

We have our first formal report cards being shared out just prior to the Winter Break. After parent-teacher conferences, the report card serves to formalize what was discussed during the conferences. It is another way for teachers to highlight successes and to offer strategies and supports for areas for growth. The indicators (1-4) articulate areas where the student: is not yet achieving grade level expectations, is achieving basic levels of grade

level expectations, is achieving a good level of grade level expectations, or is achieving excellent levels of grade level expectations. We hope after both conferences and the report card, you have a better sense of who your child is as a learner, where he/she demonstrates strengths, and where there are areas to grow.

We will continue to provide multiple opportunities for students to learn both in and out of the classroom setting. As Maria Montessori stated, “education is a process carried out by the child and is not acquired by listening to words but by experiences in the environment”. We look forward to the many experiences our new year will bring and wish you all a wonderful festive season!

With gratitude,

Bonnie Caldwell – Principal

## SCHOOL INFORMATION



A promotional banner for kindergarten registration. At the top left is the website [cbe.ab.ca](http://cbe.ab.ca). Below it are four small photos: a boy smiling, a girl reading a book, a group of children playing, and a woman with a child. To the right of the photos, the text reads: "Kindergarten | 2018-19 Registration", "Kindergarten registration begins Jan. 22, 2018", and the website [cbe.ab.ca/kindergarten](http://cbe.ab.ca/kindergarten). At the bottom center is the Calgary Board of Education logo.

## SCHOOL FEES

For your convenience school fees may be paid online by going to My CBE Account via our webpage: <http://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/Killarney>.

Incidental Activity fees (if your child stays for lunch) and Agendas should now have been paid. If your child has had fieldtrips already, these fees should now have been paid. If your child has upcoming fieldtrips, be sure to check My CBE Account so that you can pay the fee online. Of course we still accept cheques, Visa, MasterCard and Debit as well as cash (exact change only). Cheques are to be made payable to Killarney School.

If you are having trouble with your payment, please contact Bonnie Caldwell to discuss your payment options.

(Noon Supervision fees and Transportation fees are not paid at the school and must be paid online thru My CBE Account – they are payable to Calgary Board of Education.)

## **SCHOOL HOURS**

### **Grades 1-6**

Monday-Thursday: 9:10 am – 3:50 pm (lunch from 12:10 – 1:10 pm)

Friday (early dismissal): 9:10 am – 12:30 pm

### **Morning Kindergarten**

Monday – Thursday: 9:10 am – 12:00 pm

Every other Friday: 9:10 am – 12:30 pm (starting Sept. 29, alternating each Friday afterwards- not including Non-Instructional Days)

### **Afternoon Kindergarten**

Monday-Thursday: 1:00 pm to 3:50 pm

Every other Friday: 9:10 am – 12:30 pm (starting Sept. 15, alternating each Friday afterwards- not including Non-Instructional Days)

The school office is open from 8:05 am until 4:05 pm. Monday through Thursday and 8:05 am until 12:30 pm on Friday. An answering machine is available to take messages at all other times.

## **SUPERVISION**

Supervision is available at 8:55 am. Please ensure the supervisor is on duty before leaving your child at school.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Regular and prompt attendance is important for all students. If your child is going to be absent or late please contact the school office at 403-777-8360, ext.1, before 9:30 am to let us know. If your child is ill, please leave a message advising us.

If the school is not contacted, we will phone you as soon as possible after attendance is taken in the morning and the afternoon to confirm the safety of your child.

## **PICKING UP YOUR CHILD**

Sometimes parents wish to take children out of the lunchroom or from school for a special occasion or appointment. It is important that we are informed so that we know where your child is. A sign-out binder is kept on a table outside the main office. Parents are asked to inform the office and sign out their child. Please also help us to be aware of any custody agreements that may dictate who your child is permitted to leave the school with.

If you are picking your child up early for appointments or arrive late for pickup, please come to the main office. In the interest of safety, children are not to stand alone outside. Children will be directed to go to the office if you are late or have not picked up your child immediately after school.

## SECURITY

All parents and visitors are required to sign in at the office. Please be aware that all adults who are working with children in the school are required to complete a police security screening as described in our Volunteer Program section below.

### CBE VOLUNTEER SECURITY CLEARANCE PROCEDURES

In 2014, Calgary Police Service changed the process in which volunteers will obtain police information checks. Under the new system:

1. Volunteers will report to the school to **register to become a volunteer**. (must complete school volunteer letter annually – same procedure as before)
2. School administration will verify the potential volunteer's identity. (volunteer must provide 2 pieces of gov't issued id to school administration in order to verify identity, one of which must be photo id)
3. Using the Online Volunteer Security Clearance Process Website, school administration will enter the name of the potential volunteer into the CBE database.
4. After entering the potential volunteer's information, school administration will obtain a volunteer letter from the CBE database.
5. School administration will give or email this letter to the potential volunteer, who can then apply for their own police check using the online **ePIC system**. As well as the ePIC letter, a "takeaway instructions" are given to the potential volunteer explaining what they need to do to obtain their security clearance. (They can enter online or they can visit Calgary Police district office)

#### The takeaway letter to the volunteer states:

1. Before beginning this process, you (the volunteer) should scan or take a picture of the letter provided to you by the CBE, which includes the Volunteer Organization Authorization Number (VOAN). You should also scan or take pictures of 2 pieces of valid government issued ID, with at least one being a piece of photo ID. **Pictures or scans of both sides of the identification are required.** Acceptable forms of non-photo gov't issued id are: birth cert, health care card, immigration document, marriage certificate, social insurance card. Acceptable forms of photo gov't issued id are: driver's license, citizenship card, firearms card, military id, native status card, passport, provincial photo id card, permanent residency card, Nexus card.
2. You will need to upload copies of these files to the Police Information Check (PIC) system for identification verification purposes using the following URL: <http://www.calgary.ca/cps/Pages> You should now be taken to the PIC system.
3. Click the 'Police Information Check' button on the right side of the screen. CPS has online documentation for applicants posted on their web page. \*\* If a volunteer has chosen to use DDE (Direct Data Entry) at a Calgary Police district office, or has had to report for fingerprinting, their PIC status will not be updated automatically. The volunteer will be given a letter from CPS and will bring it in to the school. When the volunteer brings in the letter school administration will update a volunteer's application status in the ePIC system. \*\*

At this time, only volunteers who reside in Calgary are able to volunteer with the CBE according to the new system (unless you were approved previously and your clearance has not yet expired).

### QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR “NUT SENSITIVE” POLICY

We have children at our school who are allergic to nuts and related nut products. The specifics and the severity are different for each individual. At Killarney School we discourage the consumption of these nut products at recess and during the lunch hour. Parents must indicate any special health concerns on the school registration for their child and are encouraged to ensure classroom teachers are also aware of health issues.



Please note that should your child come to school with a product that includes nuts, we will offer them a comfortable place to eat that food. A friendly reminder notice will be sent home with the child to remind families to avoid packing these types of products.

We sincerely thank you for your continued support with our desire to keep all students healthy and safe.

### PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Our new early dismissal Fridays allow us time to get together as a staff and participate in collaborative professional learning. Staff at Killarney are working towards enhancing student achievement in Math and Literacy which are both focuses of our School Development Plan. Our Montessori lens is what guides us as we seek to improve student learning and we will be embedding a design thinking process to support our students in building the ability to inquire, take risks in their learning, and problem solve. We hope to foster the best in the world and the best for the world.

## SCHOOL EVENTS TO CELEBRATE

### SEWING CLUB

Ms.Szeretva is the best sewing teacher for sewing club. Ms.Szeretva pre-cuts some of the material that you sew with, so you get your project done faster. All the classes that Ms. Szeretva teaches have cute projects. The projects are simple and fun to make.

Sewing is a pretty good skill to have because if your bag ripped, you could sew it right up. If you do not know how to sew, then go to sewing club.

Sewing Club is the best club to be in because it teaches you how to sew. If you want to learn how to sew then sewing club is right for you.

Sewing Club is a calm way to make projects and talk to friends. Just the simplicity of the thread going in and out of the fabric made it feel like all the bustle in the day stopped.

Sewing is a pretty good skill to have. If your bag ripped, you could sew it right up.

Sewing club is the best!

- Sarah Y., student room 17

### FROM THE CLASSROOM – Ms. Tolton’s class

Room 12 has been learning about many things in the past two weeks. Social Studies has been a main focus. For about the last two weeks we have been working on filling our logbooks with information about the St. Lawrence lowlands. A few kids in my class have been working their two page spread.

- Natalie, student

### LEARNING COMMONS

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR - Killarney School will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair during the Week of December 5 – 8, 2017 in the Learning Commons. Take some time to come and visit us during our upcoming Student-Led Conferences. All purchases benefit our school.



Roots of Empathy

### ROOTS OF EMPATHY

Room 2 and Ms. Hubbard have been learning about ourselves through visits with Baby Conor and his Mom, Ms. Reinhardt. During delightful visits once/month, the students observe and read the cues the baby gives as to how he is feeling. “Is the baby happy or sad?” “How can you tell?” Later we use this interaction as a lever for the children to talk about their own emotions and to understand how their classmates feel. Being able to understand how other people are feeling is called empathy. This month we have been talking about crying and how our temperament traits play a vital role in how we cope with our world. **Roots of Empathy** is an International evidence-based program intended to lessen aggression in children and grow peaceful citizens. This is our second year of the program at Killarney with teacher Baby Charlotte and teacher Baby Lewis instructing two previous classes in 2016.



### CALGARY READS

Killarney School is proud to venture into a new partnership with the program Calgary Reads thanks to the support of our Killarney School Council. We recognized a need to have trained reading mentors in the school to support the love of literacy, build community, as well as support our brand new ‘early readers’ in having a special one-on-one connection with a reading mentor. At this time we have initiated two of the Calgary Reads programs **Wee Reads** and **Read2gether**. Over the past two weeks 5 adult mentors have received training to support 10 early readers and 38 older Killarney students have received lessons in how to reading with their reading buddies as part of the Upper Elementary Leadership program. We are so pleased to have the joy of literacy and the sharing of very special literature happening at Killarney School!



### KILLARNEY CONNECTS

How do we connect with: ourselves, others, the world around us, our learning? These are all questions we will be examining this year as our school focus. Recognizing and realizing the impact of *Connections* (#Connect4) will be the guiding theme as we build our learning

and nurture the citizens of tomorrow. We encourage families to join us on Fridays at Killarney Connects assemblies which will highlight ways we connect and celebrate students!

## STUDENT CLUBS

We encourage students become involved in extra-curricular activities as part of their learning experience at Killarney School. We offer both teacher-led clubs as well as student-led clubs. Parents are invited to host a club, too. If you are interested in starting a club, please contact Mrs. Caldwell at: [blcaldwell@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:blcaldwell@cbe.ab.ca)

## FROM YOUR SCHOOL COUNCIL

### THE 2017-2018 KILLARNEY SCHOOL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

- **Chair:** Greg Macijuk
- **Vice Chair:** Amy Wong
- **Treasurer:** VACANT
- **Secretary:** Becky Lynn
- **Casino Administrator:** VACANT
- **Communications Chair:** Miranda Shannon
- **Key Communications:** Peter Jamieson
- **Casino Coordinator:** Tracey Loewen
- **Volunteer Coordinator:** VACANT
- **Special Events Chair:** Andrea Purdy
- **Special Events Chair:** Joanna Anagnostakos
- **MAPPS Liason:** Shan Rahim
- **Fundraising Campaign Chair:** Amy Wong
- **Gardens Maintenance Chair:** Darren Wolski
- **Gardens Maintenance Chair:** Peter Jamieson
- **Assistant to the Gardens Maintenance Chair:** Maurice Doll
- **Website Maintenance:** Miranda Shannon

## COMMUNITY EVENTS AND RESOURCES

### SCHOOL NURSE

#### HELPING YOUR KIDS GET ENOUGH SLEEP

Research has shown that not getting enough sleep can have an impact on children's behavior, emotional well-being and school performance.

Today's kids are getting less sleep than children from past generations.

Certain aspects of modern life, such as heavy use of cellphones, computers, iPads and other electronic devices, are interfering with the amount of sleep children get.

Things parents can do to encourage their children to get the sleep they need:

- Set regular bedtimes for your kids and consistent bedtime routines. This helps young children develop a sort of rhythm for sleep and waking.
- Try to get your children off the computer (and other screens) at least an hour before bedtime. Computers, televisions, tablets and cellphones (and the light they emit) stimulate the brain in ways that make it harder for kids to feel ready for sleep.
- Help your child wind down before bedtime. Do something relaxing together – read stories, listen to quiet music or do some belly breathing (deep, slow breathing that helps to reduce anxiety and stress).
- Encourage your child to get exercise earlier in the day. Research shows that children who are physically active during the day fall asleep faster and get more sleep than kids who spend a lot of time sitting.

#### TEENS AND SLEEP: A BIG CHALLENGE

Teenagers' internal clocks work differently, they tend to stay up late – it is hard for them to feel sleepy at the time when we think they should be going to bed, and then have trouble getting up in the morning. Many teens are chronically short of sleep. This can affect their mood, school performance and more.

This is a tough one for parents. Here are a few strategies that may help:

- Have a weekday bedtime and a curfew on weekends. Of course, you can't **make** kids sleep, but having a time when they need to be in their rooms without a cellphone, computer, tablet or gaming console, may help them wind down for sleep. A set bedtime also gives them the message that you think sleep should be a priority.
- Don't make sleep a battleground. Talk to your teenagers about why sleep is important, and encourage them to get enough (without nagging). Do some research together to learn about how sleep promotes learning and overall health.
- Have a "no cellphones in bed" policy. Studies show that teenagers send and receive text messages at times when they should be asleep. Some are even woken up by text messages from their friends. Make nighttime the time when **everyone** charges their cellphones.
- Some professionals discourage sleeping in on weekends, but teenagers do need to catch up on their sleep, so weekend mornings are the easiest time, as long as they do not sleep in to cause insomnia troubles on Sunday night.
- Services

INFORMATION FROM YOUR SCHOOL NURSE – EVERYMINDMATTERS.ORG

Nasreen Sunderani R.N. B.N. CCHN(c)

Shaganappi Community Health Centre

Alberta Health Services



## **KILLARNEY PARENT FUNDRAISING SOCIETY (KPFS) ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN**

KPFS's Annual Fundraiser has launched! Brown envelopes were sent home with students last week with the fundraiser information to go home to parents. We are asking that the envelopes be signed and returned to ensure that all parents are informed about the campaign and where the funds are going. If we all work together we can ensure that the KPFS can keep funding special programs and support the students and the teachers.

For more information, please go to: <https://www.killarneyparent.ca/blank-2>

We appreciate your support,

KPFS



## New Board of Trustees

The Calgary Board of Education is pleased to introduce the newly elected Board of Trustees.

Wards 1 & 2 – Trina Hurdman  
Wards 3 & 4 – Althea Adams  
Wards 5 & 10 – Marilyn Dennis  
Wards 6 & 7 – Lisa Davis  
Wards 8 & 9 – Richard Hehr  
Wards 11 & 13 – Julie Hrdlicka  
Wards 12 & 14 – Mike Bradshaw

The trustees were sworn in on Oct. 27, 2017 by the Honourable John D. Rooke, Associate Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta.

The CBE welcomes two returning trustees, Trustee Hurdman and Trustee Hrdlicka, and five new trustees, Trustee Adams, Trustee Dennis, Trustee Davis, Trustee Hehr and Trustee Bradshaw to the Board.

You can learn more about all of our trustees and find the public board meeting schedule on the CBE website.

### Did you know?

You can watch the public board meetings at home. All public board meetings are live streamed and videos are archived online. Watch for the link on the CBE website.

## CBE Celebrates Student Achievement

Calgary Board of Education students achieved high standards on the 2016-17 Provincial Achievement Tests and Diploma Exams.

The hard work of students and teachers is once again evident in our Diploma Exam and Provincial Achievement Test results.

Teachers, students, parents and our community partners continue to work together to support student learning and academic success. As always, we review the results, analyze the data and look for areas of future improvement.

Provincial achievement testing is one of several ways the CBE measures student success. Other measures include report card data, student survey data and the province's Accountability Pillar. Full student results are available on the CBE website. Individual school results will be posted on your school website.

## Grade 6 and Grade 9 PAT Results

- CBE student results in Grade 6 were equal to or better than the province in all measures at both the Acceptable Standard and the Standard of Excellence. In Grade 9 our results were equal to or better than the provincial results in French Language Arts, Science and Social Studies at the Acceptable Standard and in French Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies at the Standard of Excellence.
- While the CBE is 4.3 percentage points above the province in Grade 6 mathematics, our Grade 9 result at the Acceptable Standard shows a point from which we can improve. Our K-12 Mathematics Strategy is being implemented this year and is designed to support student success in mathematics.

## Grade 12 Diploma Examinations

- CBE results were above provincial results in all but three of the Diploma Exams and in 10 out of 11 at the Standard of Excellence. More than 40 per cent of CBE students writing the Biology 30 and Chemistry 30 Diploma Exams have achieved the Standard of Excellence. In Physics 30, more than half the students achieved the Standard of Excellence this year.





Nov. 2017



**KILLARNEY SCHOOL**

**A MONTESSORI PROGRAM OF CHOICE "SERVICE"**

**DECEMBER 2017**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>December's virtue: Service</b> <b>Dec 5 – 19 – Mayor's Food Drive</b>				<b>1</b> Killarney Connects 12:00 – 12:30 pm
<b>4</b> Sewing Club	<b>5</b> Trashie Club	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  Scholastic Book Fair 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm  Student-Led Conferences 4:30 pm – 8:00 pm	<b>8</b> Scholastic Book Fair 8:00 am – 1:00 pm  Student-Led Conferences 8:00 am - 1:00 pm  (no school classes)
<b>11</b> Sewing Club	<b>12</b> Trashie Club	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Fun Fit Friday 12:00 – 12:30 pm
<b>18</b> Sewing Club	<b>19</b> Trashie Club  Carolfest at Ambrose University  	<b>20</b>  I am a Scientist - Kindergarten  Family Winter Celebration Carols, Crafts & Candlelight 6:00 pm  WE Bake for Change – bake sale at lunch	<b>21</b>  Spirit Day – PJ Day  Fun Lunch  Report Cards go home  Last day of classes	<b>22</b> <b>CBE PD Day</b> (No school for students)  See you January 9 <sup>th</sup> !
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

**WINTER BREAK – SEE YOU ON JANUARY 9<sup>TH</sup>.**

