



Quigley Elementary Quasars

March 2018

Spring Break Is Around the Corner

It is time for the snow to melt and fresh flowers to start blooming! We are looking forward to longer sunny days and a chance for the students to play on the grass again. We hope you have an opportunity to spend some quality time with your family during the upcoming spring break. Classes end on Friday, March 16th at 2:30 pm and resume again on Tuesday, April 3rd at 8:30 am sharp. Have a great holiday!

Report Cards Coming Home Soon

Quigley teachers are busy preparing for term two report cards. The primary teachers are completing the district-wide standardized assessment tool known as the Early Learning Profile to ensure their observations from class time are correlated to district-wide expectations. Communicating student learning is an essential part of the learning process for students, parents and teachers, but it also is a time consuming process for our teaching staff. Report cards will be ready to go home on the afternoon of Friday, March 16th.

Staffing Update

It is with mixed emotion that we say farewell to a number of Quigley staff at spring break. Congratulations to Mrs. Benita Crombie who has been promoted to Vice Principal at École Glenmore Elementary. Mrs. Crombie has been an important part of our school community and it will be very difficult to replace her. We are also saddened (and excited) to say farewell to two of our CEAs – Mrs. Amy Answerth is heading off on an amazing family adventure and Mrs. Britney Morrison is going to have a baby! We are in the process of finding replacements for these ladies.

Family Active Night with the City of Kelowna

The City of Kelowna will be hosting its second Family Active Night of the school year on Friday, March 2nd in the Quigley gymnasium from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. It is always a great evening with lots of enjoyable activities to engage the whole family...and it is free! To register, please visit www.eventbrite.com/e/family-active-night-quigley-elementary-tickets-43461488482

Monster Theatre Visits QGE

Our students were entertained by a visiting drama troupe from Monster Theatre. The three actor performance exposed the students to Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream, but in a fast paced and comical manner that hooked our students and had them wanting more. It was a great assembly.

Sigmund Brouwer Creates Story Ninjas



Sigmund Brouwer has written over forty novels for children and it was a real treat for our students as he taught them how to become great writers using story ninja moves. His Rock and Roll Literacy presentation was full of engaging music and emotionally activating stories. Thank you to our Story Diva – Mrs. Rosie Stuart – and our PAC for sponsoring this event.

Pottery Experience

Professional potter, Marijanel Knight, spent a week with Quigley students teaching them how to use a potter's wheel and work the clay. Students in grades 1 – 5 created individual pieces that Marijanel took away to be fired up in the kilns. These pieces are coming home with students following our next pottery session on March 6th. Students also created smaller pieces that have been added to a school-wide mural which will be revealed at our next session. Special thank you to Ms. Hokazono for organizing the event, our volunteer parents and grandparents for helping out during the week, Art Starts Canada for providing a funding grant to cover part of the expense, and to our PAC for financially supporting another great learning opportunity for our students.



DARE Program for All Grade Five Quigley Students

Auxiliary Constable Beglaw has been meeting with our grade five students to talk about the RCMP's drug abuse resistance education program. Students are taught strategies when making personal choices to help them navigate through the challenges of peer pressure when facing high-risk, low-gain opportunities. The students meet weekly for ten sessions culminating in a celebratory 'graduation' from the program.

Kangaroo Math Contest at OC

Mrs. Crombie and Mr. Goodwin have been working with approximately twenty students who love math challenges to prepare for the Okanagan College Kangaroo Math Contest. Students work during their own time to solve challenging math problems and then travel to OC during spring break to compete in the local contest. The cost of the competition is paid for thanks to a partnership between Central Okanagan Public Schools and OC. Thanks to our sponsors for helping to prepare our students.

Digital Citizenship Workshop for Students and Parents

Digital citizenship is becoming even more increasingly important for all citizens as the impact of being connected 24/7 infiltrates all sectors of our lives. Even though most of our students do not have a digital presence (yet), it is important for them to understand the challenges of a digital lifestyle so they can

prepare themselves for the future. As a parent, I can personally attest to the challenges of having children growing up in the digital age.

Quigley is very fortunate to be hosting Darren Laur (aka, The White Hatter) on April 25th for our grade 4 and 5 students (www.personalprotectionsystems.ca). Darren will also be presenting in the evening at the Quigley gymnasium for parents from all across our school district. Darren is a retired Staff Sergeant with the Victoria Police Department who assumes a persona of sorts for his presentations. The result is a memorable experience for students and parents. Please try to make it on the 25th.

On a related note, below is a powerful article worth 10 minutes of your time to read. While being a huge supporter of technology to enhance classroom learning, I also think we have a serious responsibility to facilitate more discussions about the dangers of technology and its impact on our brain/relationships/governance.

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/appview/opinion/can-we-ever-kick-our-smartphone-addiction-jim-balsillie-and-norman-doidgediscuss/article37976255/>

Professional Development Day

Most of our Quigley staff spent our Professional Development Day designing and sharing innovative approaches to teaching mathematics through a growth mindset perspective. Students will be experiencing some of the approaches over the next few weeks. It was an inspiring day for our teachers.



Maker Day and Spaghetti Bridge Building – The Library Is Always A Happening Place

If you ever want to see a hundred students engaged in creative design, drop by the library on a Thursday during lunch time. Mrs. Stuart with help from Mrs. Verhagen and Ms. Christenson organize a wide variety of opportunities for students to explore their creative side. Mrs. Stuart is also taking 34 grade 4-5 students to Okanagan College on March 2nd to participate in the annual Spaghetti Bridge Building Contest. Our young engineers have been busy designing strong structures in preparation for the contest. Good luck team!



Science Comes Alive In The Classroom



Our grade two students were very fortunate to get an opportunity to work with a scientist from High Touch High Tech Science Made Fun. The students watched a couple of exciting experiments and then got to get their hands dirty and mixed chemicals to observe some interesting reactions. Science is always fun when it is hands-on and you are trying to blow stuff up!

PAC Meeting

Cars 3 Movie Night was another success. Thanks to all the families who made it out for the evening and special thanks to our parent volunteers for making it happen. Talking about Cars...in the month of March we are going to introduce Quigley Elementary Parking Tickets for vehicles that are left without a driver in the areas designated as 'Kiss and Drop' or parked in designated handicap areas without official handicap signage displayed in the vehicle. The first ticket is a friendly reminder, the second is a warning, and if we need to issue a third ticket we will call for the vehicle to be towed off the property. Drop by and discuss this and many other interesting topics about our school at the next scheduled PAC meeting on Tuesday, March 6th at 6:30 pm.



Together we can create exceptional learning environments for our students.

Des Sjoquist
Principal

Important Dates

March 2 Spaghetti Bridge Building Contest @ OC
March 6 Kenneth Oppel Author Visit for Grade 5s @ Mission Creek Alliance Church
March 6 Pottery Mural Unveiling @ 1:45 pm Gym
March 6 PAC Meeting @ 6:30 pm
March 14 Basketball Jamboree for Grade 5 Girls and Boys @ RSS
March 16 Report Cards Sent Home @2:30 pm
March 17 Spring Break Begins!
April 3 Classes Resume @ 8:30 am
April 3 PAC Meeting @ 6:30 pm
April 14 PAC Spring Craft Fair from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
April 25 Social Media Safety for Intermediate students 12:10 pm Library
April 25 Social Media Safety for Parents 6:30 pm Quigley Gym
April 26 Early Learning For Families @4:30 pm Quigley Library