

# Frank Hobbs Elementary Newsletter

**Mission Statement** - *The Community of Frank Hobbs will provide a safe and supportive environment that enables students to be responsible and successful learners.*

**School Goals** - *Our school goals are:*

- To improve communication skills (written, and verbal)
- To develop responsible, respectful and resourceful global citizens in our school community



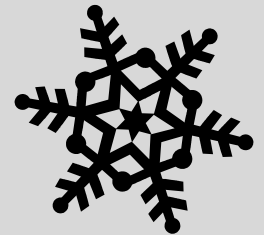
Proud  
Active  
Welcoming  
Safe

<http://www.sd61.bc.ca/school/frankhobbs/>

December 8, 2011

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Fri. Dec. 9	Winterfest 4-6pm
Mon. Dec. 12	Lost and found items will be on display this week, please have a look!
Tues. Dec 13	Dress Rehearsal starting @ 12:30pm
Tues. Dec 13	All Library books are due back
Wed. Dec. 14	1:15pm Concert Performance including Grade 5 strings students
Thurs. Dec. 15	1:15pm Concert Performance
Fri., Dec. 16	Dismissal at 2:50pm for Winter Break
Tues. Jan. 3	School reopens at 8:40am
Sun. Jan. 8	Goward House Art Show and Official Reception, 1:30pm - 3:30pm
Fri. Jan. 20	Ready Set Learn
Mon. Jan. 30	Kindergarten Registration starts today until February 3rd



## Professional Development Days for the 2011/2012 school year - (No School for Students)

1. Friday, February 17, 2012 (Tri-District)
2. Monday, February 20, 2012 (Frank Hobbs Only)
3. Friday, May 18, 2012 (District)

## Principal's Message

We have successfully completed almost 40% of this school year and look forward to continued great learning together in 2012. As the 2011 year comes to an end, I thank each and every one of you for the daily pleasure I have of serving you in my privileged position as the proud principal of Frank Hobbs Elementary.

All students were issued a first term report document this week. A cover letter from our **Superintendent John Gaipman** was copied on the back of the document explaining the nature of the information in the report. In addition, a letter to our Superintendent from the **Deputy Minister James Gorman** was emailed to you on November 30th. Both letters contained messages about the requirement under the School Act for every school principal to ensure students in their school receive a minimum of three formal reports per year. It is for this reason this report document has been issued at this time. If you have not already done so, please return the report card envelope to the school. As always, parents are welcome to contact your child's teacher or me for further clarification or information, if needed.



On behalf of all the staff of Frank Hobbs Elementary, I wish you and your family a relaxing, safe, and happy holiday season. I truly look forward to working with you in the New Year!

Your proud principal, **Diane J. Marshall**

**CALL BACK LINE is available 24 hours: 250-477-3392**

*Please call if your child is going to be late or absent... thanks!*



## *Farewell* **MRS. KIRBY IS RETIRING!**

As I sat down to write this, I realized I had only twelve teaching days left. A sudden sensation of shock passed through me, and I realized that the impact of my decision to retire at Christmas had not really sunk in yet. I have been a teacher for twenty-five years, and my career has defined a large part of who I am. The nature of teaching requires forming attachments to children, so I know I will miss the relationships and the daily interactions I have with my students. I will also miss the connection of shared talk and laughter I've come to expect from my colleagues. This year will have been my ninth at Frank Hobbs, and I can honestly say that these have been some of the best years of my career. It really is a wonderful school, and I will miss this whole community. A sea change is at hand however and, although I feel unsettled at times when I contemplate the future, I know that change also brings opportunity. Retirement will give me more time to spend with my family. It will allow me time to pursue interests that have been 'on the back-burner' until now, awaiting a time when school is not foremost on my mind, occupying evenings and weekends. So, I'm looking forward to the future and the rewards of retirement, but I expect that my attachment to the students and staff of Frank Hobbs will not end just yet. Farewell. **Marie Kirby**

## **WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBER Leah Brumby**

My name is Leah Brumby and I am very excited to be the newest member of the Frank Hobbs staff. I am working as an EAG in Mrs. Grew's Kindergarten class. I have been at Gordon Head Middle School for the last 4 years and I'm truly enjoying Frank Hobbs. Everyone has been so welcoming and I am looking forward to getting to know all of the staff and students.



## Winterfest



**Fun for the Whole Family**

**December 9<sup>th</sup>, 4:00-6:00**

**Admission \$3.00 per person to a maximum of \$10.00 per family.**

**Children must be accompanied by an adult.**

**Please bring all baked goods to the stage in the gym by noon on Friday.**

**All volunteers will be contacted prior to the event.**

***A few more volunteers for our craft table would be wonderful! Thank you for helping out!***

**DON'T FORGET TOMORROW IS WINTERFEST FROM 4 - 6!**

**Please come out and enjoy this fun-filled Family Event!**



## **CONCERT TICKETS**

Our concert is next week...**Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:15 p.m.**  
**Doors will open at 1:00 p.m.** Our Strings group will **only perform** in the 1:15 p.m. Wednesday afternoon performance. **Tickets went home with the eldest or only child on Tuesday (in their report document envelope).** **ALL extra tickets were sent home at that time.**



There will be a Silver Collection at the door! These donations will offset the incidental costs of the performances!



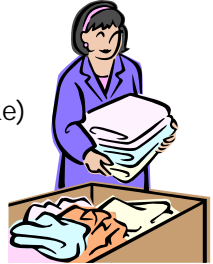
You are reminded that **EVERYONE**, including preschoolers, attending the concerts must have a ticket to gain entrance; the reason for the restriction on the number of people in the audience is based on the maximum gymnasium capacity ordered by the Saanich Fire Marshall.

**If you have tickets to any of the performances and ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND, PLEASE RETURN THE TICKETS TO THE OFFICE, or call to let us know (250-477-1804), as we have a waitlist of families that need more tickets. Thank you.**

To be respectful to all of our performers who have worked very, very hard, **please plan to attend the entire performance and turn off all cell phones/electronic devices.** See you at the concert!

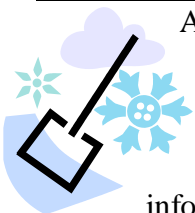
### **DONATION ITEMS FOR STREET LINK, THE ANIMALS AND MUSTARD SEED**

Each December we gather items for those people less fortunate than we are...blankets, towels, socks (even mismatched or singles), toiletry items (even those bottles of shampoo that you tried and didn't like) for "Our Place", food and treats for our animal friends and non perishable items for Mustard Seed **during the week of the Winter Concert.** Donations can be left in the boxes at the front door. Thanks for your help!



**CADBORO BAY SOCKS**.....This year Cadboro Bay Pharmacy is collecting socks to give to the homeless for Christmas. This year we are going to help out them to collect the socks. Cadboro Bay Pharmacy generously helped one of our Frank Hobbs families to go to a medical conference in Los Angeles last summer.....let's help them with their goal. Let's see how many pairs of socks we can collect! Thank you.

### **WEATHER CONDITIONS**



A reminder that current information regarding inclement weather will be updated continuously on the **Greater Victoria School District 61 website at <http://www.sd61.bc.ca/>.** Within the Greater Victoria School District, the Superintendent of Schools will provide media outlets with information about the status of our facilities and transportation services by 6:30 a.m. if there is a concern. Local media outlets, **CFOX or CBC radio**, have indicated that they will provide constant information.

### **Walking Children to School**

We realize that the crosswalk on Haro Road is Saanich Municipality property but as a courtesy, "ice-melt" will be taken out at our "safety patrol" times as required to sprinkle on the cross walk to help with everyone's safety. Be sure to wear winter footwear. Please be cautious and avoid the painted white lines.

### **REMINDER - Quickly "STOP AND DROP - off" your children, please!**



If you are dropping your child off via the drive through, please have your children ready with hats, coats and shoes on so they are ready to get out when you get to where **Mrs. Dow** is standing. Thanks for your cooperation this will really help the flow of traffic!

### **Paws & Tales**



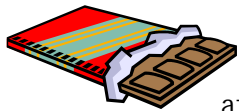
Our Pacific Animal Therapy Society (PATS) dogs **Benson** and **Cooper** accompanied by their dog handler, **Gary Walmsley** (assisted by his wife **Beverley**) took part in SHAW Channel 11 interviews in November of the "boys" working with several students and **Andree Mazure**, EAG and **Diane J. Marshall**, Principal of the staff at Frank Hobbs. She videotaped six of our students who worked with both **Benson** and **Cooper**: **Lily B.**, **Tawab E.**, **Hayden E.**, **Ella G.**, **Colin J.** and **Devin K.**

You are invited to enjoy this presentation by SHAW (see link below) that reflects the role of both the animals and PATS in the Frank Hobbs Elementary School community. The dogs are always eager to go to school and support learning in our school community which is enthusiastic to have the dogs here.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fsspNWKUfFU>

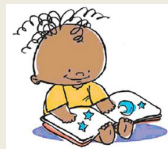
### WHAT IS THAT HANGING IN THE TREE?

Have you seen the strange object that is hanging in the tree in the lower area of the field? We were very curious to find out what it is. Thank you to **Michael Croteau**, SD61 Grounds, and **Ed Wiebe**, UVIC, for helping us solve the mystery. It is a "radiosonde". It's harmless as the packaging makes a big effort to explain. The writing is difficult to read but well enough to see the release site, Washington State, where they release these on the west coast of the Olympic Peninsula. The radiosonde is hung high in the tree right now, but if it should come down and you find it please bring it to the office. We would very much like to display it in the display case outside the gym and then eventually donate it to UVIC so that they can make it part of their outreach program to show other children. For more information about the radiosonde, here is a link for you <http://www.ua.nws.noaa.gov/factsheet.htm>



### FAIR TRADE CHOCOLATE

Here's a link to a slide show that one of our Frank Hobbs Elementary graduates (whose brother attends our school) made a couple of years ago. **Christina M.** invites people to think about their chocolate buying options all year long, but particularly over this season. <http://youtu.be/6HM6CnRqJ6o>



1000X5

**1000 Books by Age Five**  
Children's Book Recycling Project Greater Victoria  
[In this season of giving, give the gift of literacy](#)

Thank you for all the books that you have sent into homes of children with few books – last count is 11,000 books. In December this is even more important as many children will receive few gifts and likely even fewer books. Please part with a few of your "still in good shape" picture books suitable for babies and preschoolers. You will find the drop box in the front entrance of the school. Thank you for giving the gift of literacy.

### January Cleanup of books for 0-5 year olds

Many families do not have the resources for a nightly reading routine. Let's clean our closets after the holidays and share our extra books for 0-5 year olds with families with few books. We will continue our collection during the year, but for the first two weeks of January, let's see what we can do to help young children. Watch for more details in our January newsletter. Thank you for your generous support.



**★ YOU ARE A STAR DRAW!!** - We had our draw from our **You are a Star** names that had been placed in the boxes in the office. **Mrs. Marshall** took this month's stars: **Robi E.** and **Elana L.** to Boston Pizza today. **Robi** received her star for being a good friend and **Elana** for sitting quietly on the mat in circle time. **Mrs. Dow** and **Mrs. Chant** received **Starbucks Coffee** for submitting the students' names. Thanks to our local **Cadboro Bay Starbucks Manager, Leanne Gallagher** for donating the coffee.

## TIME TO LOAD YOUR THRIFTY'S SMILECARD FOR THE HOLIDAY!



By shopping at Thrifty Foods, here is an easy way

to support **FRANK HOBBS ELEMENTARY**

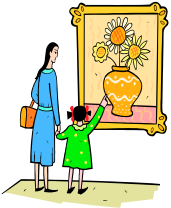


1. Phone Wendy Barlow at the school at 250-477-1804 or e-mail [janiceanderson@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:janiceanderson@sd61.bc.ca) and ask for a Thrifty Foods Frank Hobbs Fundraising Smile Card to be sent home with your child.
2. Take the Smile Card with you to Thrifty Foods when you go grocery shopping. Ask the cashier to load any amount you wish onto the card **BEFORE** paying for your grocery order. Pay for the amount to loaded onto the card with either cash, debit card or credit card.\*
3. Pay for your grocery order with the Smile Card.

### **It's that simple!**

\*Thrifty Foods will donate 5% of the amount loaded on your Smile Card up to \$2,000.00 to Frank Hobbs Elementary. These funds will used for **technology**. There is absolutely no cost to you. When the card is running low, load it again to continue to supporting Frank Hobbs every time you shop!

## GOWARD HOUSE: OPEN HOUSE ART GALLERY JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>



Once again, Frank Hobbs School will be participating in the Art Gallery Exhibition at Goward House. Selected students' art work will be displayed with artwork of students from other schools in our catchment area. The Open Studio will take place on Sunday, January 8, 2012 from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. All our students will be going to Goward House over the month of January to have a look at all the artwork.

### HUGE THANKS TO KATHY WON

The artwork representing each class has been selected for our upcoming art exhibit at Goward House on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012. A very big thank you to **Kathy Won** a parent in our school who has been taking all our students' artwork and doing an amazing job of framing it all.....thanks Kathy. We are still in need of 2 parent volunteers to transport the artwork to and back from Goward House. If you would be able to volunteer in this capacity, please contact the office at [frankhobbs@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:frankhobbs@sd61.bc.ca) or 250-477-1804 to put your name on an **art cartage list** for next year.

Once the framed art is returned to the school in the new year, it will be displayed in our hallway until the end of November 2012. Your help is greatly appreciated and much needed so we can continue this wonderful tradition with Goward House. Please see the newspaper clipping in the office window which features our special relationship with seniors from Goward House.

**Hot!**

**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2011-2012:** Registration for full day Kindergarten students who will turn five before December 31, 2012 will take place from **January 30<sup>th</sup> to February 3<sup>rd</sup>** at all School District #61 schools. **Parents are asked to register their child at their catchment school during this week.** To determine your catchment school, either go to our school locator on our website at <http://www.sd61.bc.ca/html/catchments.html#locator> or call the district board office at 250-475-3212.

If you wish your child to attend a school other than your catchment school, if space is available, transfer forms will be available for you to pick up at your catchment school at the time of registration.

All schools, including Frank Hobbs Elementary are scheduled to have full day kindergarten for 2011 -2012. **Please let your neighbours and friends know that Kindergarten Registration week is January 30<sup>th</sup> to February 3<sup>rd</sup>** Thanks.



## READY SET LEARN SESSIONS

Ready Set Learn for **3 and 4 year olds** will be held on **Friday, January 20th, 2012**. There is a choice of either attending a session in the morning or a session in the early afternoon. If you would like your child to attend a session, please register by email to either

[frankhobbs@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:frankhobbs@sd61.bc.ca) or [janiceanderson@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:janiceanderson@sd61.bc.ca) or by calling the school office at 250-477-1804. Please tell your neighbours and friends!



## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR IN THE LIBRARY:



We had a very successful Scholastic Book Fair; all profits will be used to purchase new books for the library and for each classroom. A huge thank you to all our parent and staff helpers who helped out at our book fair; we couldn't have done it without you! A special thank you to **Mrs. Taylor, our Teacher Librarian** and **Mrs. Barlow, our School Assistant, and all our parent volunteers** for their tremendous efforts in getting the book fair organized and making it such a fabulous success!

We had a draw from the Scholastic Book Fair for \$25.00 in books for your family plus \$25.00 in books for the classroom. We are pleased to announce the winner is **Drake S.** from **Mrs. Ewart's** grade 2 class. Congratulations!

## LOST AND FOUND



WOW...have you seen the amount of clothing and personal belongings that have been put in our lost and found since September? Everything will be set out in the hallway near the library for you to claim! Please make sure you check through the items. On **December 16<sup>th</sup>**, we will bag and hold the items until the end of June, at which time they will be sent to a local charity.

## ALLERGY ALERT

We recognize that the upcoming holiday is a time of celebration with friends, family and food. However, there are a number of students and staff in our school with life-threatening food allergies to peanuts/nuts and they are especially vulnerable at this time. You can help to keep them safe by celebrating with stickers, games or prizes and keeping peanut and nut containing products at home during and after celebrations such as Christmas, birthdays, class and end of the year parties.



## DID YOU KNOW THAT....

All school playing fields are closed to community use for the months of December and January. The District Facilities Department will assess the fields prior to February 1<sup>st</sup> to ensure that they are once again able to sustain sport activities. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

*Before the delivery of fresh fruit and vegetables to the students, Grade 5 students practice their oral reading with **Mrs. Marshall** of the interesting information provided by our parent **Cathy Boraston**. The students then read this information on daily announcements prior to the delivery of the featured fresh fruit or vegetable. This week **Max G.** and **Abby M.** educated students and staff about **mandarin oranges**. Ask your child/ren what they learned about the name of the mandarin oranges they enjoyed eating on Tuesday.*



- Our Brummitt-Taylor Readers have completed their service for this term. Thank you very much to **Olivia W., Danielle T., Chantal S., Molly P., and Sophia B.** for their excellent reading of very challenging passages over the public address system. You did an excellent job!
- Three teams of readers will be reading in the new year. Our January and February Brummitt-Taylor Readers are: **Danika L., Abby M., Yalda S., Sabrina S., and Sam S.**

- Our last hot lunch day for 2011 will be a Subway Day on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to our **lunch Moms and their helpers** for feeding us on our school lunch days! We love those lunches!
- The **Grade 5 Tour Guides** have completed their training with **Mrs. Marshall** and will be taking new parents on tours, helping with Ready Set Learn and new Kindergarten students coming for next school year. **Grade 4 Tour Guide partners** will be trained in the New Year. Congratulations to all of our very important school ambassadors!
- The School District link for Aboriginal Nations Education: <http://www.sd61.bc.ca/aned2.aspx>



## Ski and Snowboard for FREE this Winter

**A reminder that all Grade 4's and 5's (and nine and ten year olds) can get a SnowPass, valid from Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> to end of season.**

**SnowPass registration** is completely digital. Just visit [www.snowpass.ca](http://www.snowpass.ca), complete the registration form, upload a photo, proof of age/grade and payment. Learn more about the Grade 4 and 5 SnowPass online at [www.snowpass.ca](http://www.snowpass.ca) or [www.passeportdesneiges.ca](http://www.passeportdesneiges.ca) You can also pick up an application form at Sport Mart, Sport Chek, Sports Experts, and Intersport stores Canada-wide.

# COMMUNITY NEWS



Greater Victoria School District #61

invites you to...S.J. Willis Education Centre, Auditorium | 923 Topaz Avenue

**Learn more about our District's exciting Kindergarten programs.**

**Tuesday, January 24, 2012**

6:30 – 8:00 pm | **General Kindergarten Information**

**Wednesday, January 25, 2012**

6:30 – 7:30 pm | **Early French Immersion Registration Information**

for Kindergarten & Grade 1 Entry

We invite you to visit our website at [www.sd61.bc.ca](http://www.sd61.bc.ca)

## Remember

**School Reopens at 8:40am – 2:50pm on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012**

