

November 14, 2016

CENTRAL CELEBRATES BIG

Burnaby Central is celebrating a hat-trick of accomplishments this month.

- Burnaby Winter Club hockey player and Grade 9 student Ryan Helliwell has received a full ride NCAA scholarship from the University of Notre Dame in Indiana. He is the youngest hockey player to receive this award.
- Whitecaps Academy and grade 12 student Joel Harrison is the recipient of the 2016 Premier's Award for Aboriginal Youth Excellence in Sports.
- And Math teacher and Department Head, Ms. Maria Nicolidakis received the Ivan L. Johnson Memorial Scholarship for outstanding teaching in mathematics. Congratulations to all - so many reasons to be proud!

LEARNING THROUGH THE ARTS

Confederation Park Elementary has once again been designated an Exemplary School for the Arts by the Arts Schools Network. It recognizes the schools efforts to engage students through the arts using challenges that develop problem-solving skills, critical thinking and creativity. There are 25 schools in North America designated Arts Exemplary schools, and of these, just two are in Canada. Principal Readman and three staff members recently attended a conference in Dallas to accept this designation and learn alongside artistic colleagues. www.artsschoolsnetwork.org

WE DAY - WE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Students and teachers throughout Burnaby Schools lead the way as a District that champions the Free the Children organization's practice of making a difference in the community and globally. As a kick-off to the year more than 800 students and staff from 38 Burnaby Schools were inspired at the WE DAY event held at Rogers Arena on November 3. Highlights included:

- South Slope Elementary students led by teacher Nicole Reuter received a special shout out during the event for the number of goats they were able to purchase for villages in need.
- Grade 12 Burnaby North student Sanaya Rau received the Governor General's Sovereign Medal for Volunteers. It recognizes her involvement with Free the Children and a math mentorship program that she created for Syrian refugees.
- Two District teachers participated in a 'Me to We' training workshop and their upcoming "We Are Canada" project to celebrate Canada's 150 anniversary.

MOSCROP MUSICAL TRIO CREATE CONFERENCE MAGIC

Burnaby Schools was invited to provide entertainment at the BC Government and BC School Trustee Association meeting held in October. And the musical trio from Moscrop Secondary raised the bar a notch. Playing the violin, piano, and cello were students Sarah Baek, Simon Huang and Edward Tang, alongside proud teacher Juliet Rundell. What will they do for an encore?

ROYAL OAK STUDENTS HOST KIDS HALLOWEEN ADVENTURE

Halloween was a day full of community spirit for the kindergarten students of Douglas Road, thanks to the efforts of students in the Royal Oak alternate program. They transformed their classroom into a spook-tacular Halloween haunted house complete with activities including a spider web maze, a ghost story-teller, and a chance to walk the plank over shark-infested waters. And the kinder kids responded with giggly screams and laughter. For those who still had an appetite after sticking their hands in some icky intestines (cold spaghetti), handsome hearts (stewed tomatoes) and nifty knuckle bones (chick peas), there were special treats created by the Foods class. This project provides Royal Oak students the opportunity to connect with the community in a meaningful way and discover how rewarding it is to be involved!!

TOMORROW TODAY INNOVATION CHALLENGE

The Tomorrow- Today Innovation Challenge was recently held at Kwantlen Polytechnic University. This competition had students envision what the job industry would be like in the year 2026 and to imagine a new job. Then they had to create a tool for that job, produce a day in the life video of the job and then pitch it to a panel of judges. Eight of the nine teams were victorious - proving yet again that Burnaby students truly are innovators. The day was hosted in partnership with Skills Canada BC, Destination Imagination BC, WorkSafe BC and the ITA.