

December 11, 2017

CHRISTMAS TIME IN BURNABY SCHOOLS

The month of December is all about sharing in Burnaby Schools.

Sharing wonderful theatrical productions, including *Almost, Maine* at Burnaby South, *The Outsiders* at Burnaby Mountain and Byrne Creek capped off the year with the musical *Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs*.

Sharing the sounds of the season, through secondary school Winter Concerts that featured their incredibly talented bands and choirs, while District choirs performed across the City and beyond. And what's a Santa Claus parade without the Vikings Marching Band? They were once again a crowd favourite on a beautiful sunny day.

Sharing holiday productions galore that are being staged by elementary schools - and if you listen carefully, you can hear the delightful singing voices of elementary school children in local shopping malls, at Burnaby Village Museum or visiting residents at senior centres in Burnaby.

Sharing the gift of giving. Multiple schools are putting together holiday hampers, including 75 created at Byrne Creek. Burnaby North students raised \$10,000 for the Christmas Bureau and several schools, including Seaforth and Armstrong are collecting toys. Lakeview and South Slope elementary schools orchestrated a Jingle Bell Walk and went out into their community collecting donations for the food bank.

And many schools have been at the receiving end of the giving. Special thanks to the Burnaby Firefighters and various PAC's for hosting the always popular pancake breakfasts.

O' CHRISTMAS TREE

There is a beautifully decorated Burnaby Schools tree in the lobby of the Hilton Metrotown, thanks to a crew of enthusiastic DSAC students. They used pencils for tinsel, a tree skirt of secondary school athletic shirts and a grad cap as a tree topper. Proceeds from this Festival of Tree event support one of our community partners, Burnaby Family Life. Drop by and vote for your favourite tree today!



GOOD NEWS

A CANADIAN MUSIC CELEBRATION

The Canadian Music Class Challenge is CBC Music's salute to music education. In association with MusiCounts, they invite music instructors to teach their students a Canadian song from a pre-approved list. This year, almost 500 music classes across the country added their voices to the challenge, with a video submission of their version of a Canadian song, including submissions from two District schools.

Burnaby South recreated Joni Mitchell's *Both Sides Now* and is a top ten finalist in their category. **Second Street Community School** performed Coeur de Pirate's, *I Don't Want to Break Your Heart*. We are so proud of their work on these music projects. Listen to their songs by clicking on the link on the district website.

LEO'S OF EXCELLENCE

Moscrop's Leo Club was one of just two Leo Clubs in Canada to receive an International Excellence Award. It is awarded to clubs that have demonstrated superior performance in serving others, developing and executing creative fundraisers, exercising effective leadership, enhancing the public image of Leo clubs, and completing administrative operations. The fundraising work they do supports children throughout the world and clean water in Ethiopia. And closer to home, they are regular participants in the shoreline clean up.

CAPTURING THE MAGIC OF THE SEASON

City of Burnaby Mayor Corrigan and counsellors have chosen their art for their Christmas card this year. Submitted by grade 4/5 students throughout the District, this year's winners are Buckingham students **Arnett Butter** and **Cynthia Low**, and **Kashvi Sahu** from Marlborough.

Artwork chosen for the cards of the Burnaby Board of Education and the School District was done by Stoney Creek Community School students **Cedar Fawcett** and **Valentina Matica**. And we are pleased to acknowledge them here tonight with a token of our appreciation. Such incredible young artists!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL, AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!