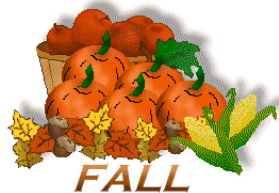


Holly PAC Newsletter

Holly Elementary - Home of the Holly Hornets

October 2011



PAC MEETING SCHEDULE

October 25

November 22

January 24

February 21

April 10

May 8

7pm IN THE LIBRARY

PLEASE NOTE

Meetings have been changed to only Tuesday nights because of trends in attendance last year and to accommodate parents that work during the day.

PAC Executive for 2011/2012 Year

Jennifer Griffiths, Co-Chair
tjgriff@dccnet.com

Lorelei Dake, Co-Chair
leidake@yahoo.ca

Jenifer Gentle, Vice Chair
jgentle@telus.net

Jana Wachowski, Secretary
jcwachowski@gmail.com

Rose Kroeker, Treasurer
rose_kroeker@telus.net

Janice Ayach, DPAC Representative
mjayach@telus.net

WELCOME BACK TO HOLLY!

It's great to see everyone back at school, routines established and families reconnecting after the summer break. The children have been outside enjoying the new playground, adjusting to new teachers and getting to know new friends. It's amazing how big the grade 7's look and how little the kindergartens look! A special welcome to those families new to Holly - I'm sure it will seem like home in no time!

The PAC Executive would like to extend a big welcome back. We have some new changes this year with the addition of Jana Wachowski as Secretary and Janice Ayach as DPAC Representative. Welcome aboard and thanks for volunteering your time! We also send a big welcome to our new principal Ms. Chapman who seems to have become enmeshed in the Holly culture already! We look forward to working with you!

As a PAC we continue to work towards raising money for the school to bring in things that enhance our children's education - like field trips, fine art presentations, physical education enhancement, technology upgrades, library books and so on. In addition to some of the tried and true fundraisers like Big Brothers clothing drive and the spring fair (the children will be happy), this year we are bringing in some new ones like spirit wear, Mabels Labels and a family pancake breakfast. Should be fun!!

Did you know that just by being a registered family at Holly that you are already a member of the PAC? We would love to have you come out to one of the PAC meetings to meet the executive and school administration, find out about activities around the school and meet and socialize with other parents. It's also a great way to have your questions answered and voice heard about your children's education and where fundraised dollars should be spent.

We also welcome you to help out where and when you can, no pressure! We really appreciate the regulars as well as look forward to seeing new faces. We can always use the extra help, even if your schedule permits on a last minute basis! If you have any comments/questions to pass along to the executive please feel free to contact us via our email addresses. We look forward to working with you in this 2011/2012 year! Welcome back!

WELCOME BACK BBQ AND WEST JET AUCTION

The PAC successfully hosted another well attended BBQ on September 15th welcoming families to Holly School.

Despite some wind, it did not rain and there was enough food to go around! Thank you to all who brought veggies, salad, fruit and dessert to round out the hot dogs and smokies. The 50/50 draw saw the winner, Corey Edge walk away with \$228.

The WestJet silent auction (2 tickets to anywhere WestJet flies & a bottle of wine) brought in an additional \$1,550 thanks to determined bidding by Lucky Gill, a new family at Holly. A special thank you to Jason Harris for donating this item! Of course, all funds raised will go to enhancing our children's education.

FUNDRAISING

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

What better way to promote reading than to welcome the Scholastic Book Fair to our school! Fall is here and we're gearing up to host an incredible reading event that's out of this world! Supporting this literacy event helps us purchase more books for the library and allows our students and staff to enjoy some great new reads. Help us make that happen from November 1-3. Hope to see you there!!! If you wish to help out at this fantastic event please email mjayach@telus.net.

BIG BROTHERS CLOTHING DRIVE

Once again we will be collecting clothing donations (and shoes, purses, etc.) for the Big Brothers Clothing Drives in November and March. Just a reminder to continue collecting your items for those drop-off days!! Much appreciated and thanks for keeping us in mind!

MABEL'S LABELS

Need help preventing lost clothing, dance gear and sports equipment? Mabel's Labels offers labels that are colourful, easy-to-use, fun and virtually indestructible - dishwasher, microwave, laundry and kid-tested! Perfect for any Holly Spirit Wear you may have ordered! Mabel's Labels also offers personalized stationary products, shoe labels, bag tags, household labels and more. To order, go to www.hollyelementary.mabel.ca. Holly PAC receives a percentage of all orders placed through this site. Orders can be placed throughout the school year.

COBS BREADS

Don't forget!! Holly is registered with Cobs Breads as a "Dough Raiser" Group in Ladner. When paying for your purchases simply tell them that you are with Holly Elementary. The PAC will receive 5% back on all purchases for the year! There is no additional cost to you - so please tell all your friends and family to mention the Holly Elementary group when paying for items at COBS Bakery in Ladner! Last year's Holly Dough Raiser families generated \$241.67 for Holly PAC!

PLEASE NOTE!

Please be advised that the Drop Off and Pickup Zone in our school parking lot is a **NO PARKING** Zone. This lane is reserved for parents dropping off and picking up their children from their vehicle. Leaving your vehicle unattended is strongly prohibited.

There is alternate parking available at the Turf Field or along 60B by Association Park.

When walking with your children through the parking lot please encourage them to be aware of cars backing out of spaces.

Thank you for taking the time to work with us to keep our children safe!

Sincerely,

Parent Advisory Council

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Holly's Emergency Preparedness committee has had the opportunity to meet with Ms. Chapman early into the new school year to discuss our emergency preparedness status. The EP Committee will focus on simplifying the procedures for student release.

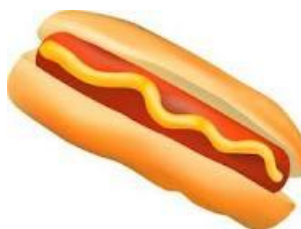
All parents and guardians are asked to please update their children's Parent Connect information with 4 contacts. This will be the only information source in an emergency from now on. We had some mix ups releasing the children last year so we are going to one format for contact information only. Please go online and check it out. If you don't know your username and password, please contact Mrs. Blair at hblair@deltasd.bc.ca.

This year we will be reevaluating and restocking all class room emergency supplies as usual. Volunteers will be needed and an email will go out when we are ready to go ahead with this important task.

Last year we managed to accrue almost everything on our wish list! This year we have a few supplies yet to get. **If any Holly families out there have a spare ladder minimum 12 feet high that is just taking up space in the shed, or a pick axe and hand saw, please let us know and we will pick them up from your home if need be.** Otherwise we are generally well stocked and prepared for an emergency at Holly Elementary.

PARENT CONNECT INSTRUCTIONS

It is imperative that you go to Parent Connect and update the information there. Most importantly, you need to identify the names of the people who may pick your child up in the event of an emergency. To do this, go to <https://cimsweb.deltasd.bc.ca/schoolconnect/parentsignon.aspx>. Click on the "Basic" tab (top, left), then click on the yellow button "Emergency/Out of Prov/Other Contacts" (middle, right). You can enter up to 5 contacts. The emergency prep committee is getting ready to print student emergency information tags. This information will come directly from Parent Connect. The forms that were used in the past will no longer be coming home for you to fill out. You must go onto Parent Connect to enter the necessary information.



HOT LUNCH!!

There is also a new menu item, Caesar Salad!
The Hot Lunch dates for 2011/12 are:

October 26 - Pizza
November 30 - Hotdogs
January 25 - Pizza
February 29 - Hotdogs
April 25 - Pizza
May 30 - Hotdogs



Please note...
Hot lunch is now the last Wednesday of the month!

DELTA PAC ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPAC)

*Highlights of Delta Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) Meeting - September 19, 2011
Attended by Janice Ayach, Holly DPAC Rep and Lorelei Dake, Co-Chair*

Superintendent Diane Turner gave a presentation on Delta School District “Bold Vision”. She reviewed the vision, explained the journey on how the vision was developed (partnership of teachers, parents, students, principals and members of school district). A discussion about how to act on the vision - and how to pump the kids of Delta up to be included in the vision and also to understand it. “*Delta learners are being asked to explore the district’s new vision and to be as innovative as they want in the process*”. Please visit www.voiceyourvision.ca to learn more about VOICE YOUR VISION contest for children. Many great prizes to be awarded.

Paul Steer of BC Teachers Federation commented on many questions regarding the current job action by the teachers.

PARENT EDUCATION: DPAC helps to organize and fund many parent education presentations. They are currently in the planning stages of putting together a series of workshops in conjunction with Bruce Beairsto. The first of these workshops will be held on October 20 (location TBA). An “All Candidates” meeting” will be held on November 7 at Genesis Theatre as well as on November 14 (location TBA). Each PAC is invited to submit a question to be answered by the candidates. Please email your question to mjayach@telus.net to be considered for ‘Holly’s PAC Question’.