

### **Principal's Message:**

As we begin our new year, we are stepping back into our routines. December was filled with many highlights including our Varsity Boys volleyball team at Provincials, the Christmas concert, Jazz at the Clearspring mall, Christmas spirit week, a lunch hour winter sing-along, skating, and volunteering as a school at Salvation Army and the Women's Shelter. Lastly, Corey Wiebe, our school custodian has accepted a new position at Mitchell Middle and we wish him all the best in that transition. Corey has been taking care of our school for the past 15 years and has been an invaluable support stepping up whenever needed.



Looking ahead to January, the end of the first semester is fast approaching for gr. 9-12. I encourage students to finish strong by ensuring your assignments are completed and preparing for exams. I encourage parents to stay connected with your child and to offer support wherever needed as they wrap up their courses.

### **Sports**

Basketball season has begun - thank you to our coaches for the work you've put in so far. If you are interested in coming to watch our students play please call the school for a schedule or [check out our website](#). The middle years schedule will be uploaded as it becomes available. We'd love to have you come cheer on our kids!

### **Final Exam Reminder**

Finals Exams are from January 29 to 31. This will be for most grade 9-12 courses. The grade 12 Provincial ELA Exam takes place during the first week back after Christmas (January 9-12). The Provincial Math Exams take place on January 23 (Applied), January 24 (Essentials), and January 25 (Pre-Cal). [A full exam schedule is on the website](#). Students are required to be present for their exams.

### **Cold Weather Policy and Winter Travel**

Even though the weather is mild, we still need to be prepared for the cold winter temperatures. Please review the [cold weather policy as needed on the HSD website](#). We are asking students to ensure they bring winter jackets, a hat, and mitts when travelling on the bus. In the event of a mechanical issue or unexpected stop we want our students to stay warm!

### **Volunteering**

On the last day before Christmas break, our grade 11 and 12 students volunteered at the Salvation Army and the Union Gospel Women's Shelter. A highlight of the Salvation Army trip is helping out with Toy Mountain - a holiday initiative aimed at ensuring every child can experience the joy of receiving a gift at Christmas. Our students assisted with cleaning, sorting, organizing and a number of other tasks. Several girls visited the Women's Shelter and assisted by cleaning. The silver collection at the Christmas concert raised \$900 for the Women's Shelter and this money was put towards making gift baskets for the ladies.



### **Camp Manitou**

Our grade 8s are headed for a day in the snowy outdoors at Camp Manitou later this month. The camp offers both outdoor and indoor activities that encourage kids to be active and have fun. Days like this are important because it provides an opportunity for teachers and students to make memories, laugh together, and further develop meaningful connections.

### **Upcoming Dates**

Mon, Jan 8 - Classes Resume  
Mon, Jan 29 - 31 Final Exams  
Thu, Feb 1 - First Day of 2nd Semester Classes  
Fri, Feb 2 - Admin/PD Day, no classes