
JQ E-Bulletin - Dec 21

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Hampers: A huge thank you to the JQ community for all of the generous donations to this year's hampers and especially to parents Jennifer Langley and Joyce Gillespie for leading this initiative. With the help of many parents together with grade 6 and 7 students, the hampers were assembled and delivered to Mount Pleasant Elementary and Springhouse in record time and were very gratefully received. Your generosity will make a huge difference to many families at this time of year.

WE Group Holiday Sale: Another thank you to our community for your support at the We Group Holiday Sale. Just over \$2,200 was raised towards water projects in Tanzania. The winners of the craft raffle were Alvin Lau from Div 2 who won the basic package and Ewan Craigie was the lucky recipient of the premium package. For those who ordered Rafikis, they will be delivered in the New Year.

JQ Choirs: All are welcome to the choral celebration this evening: **Thursday, December 21st at 7 pm** in the Byng Auditorium. All JQ Choirs will be singing and will be joined by the QEA Choir. Thank you to Colleen Cotton, Choir Director and Pianist, Ameer Corro, for taking time during this busy time of year to uplift our spirits with children singing. Entrance to Byng off Crown Street, next to school playground. Choir members - please check at which time you should arrive.

Primary Concert: There will be a short concert in the school's gymnasium on **Friday, December 22nd at 11:00 am** for students in Kindergarten, grades 1 and 2. All families welcome.

Winter Holidays: The school will close on **Friday, December 22nd** at the regular dismissal time of 3 pm and will reopen on **Monday, January 8th at 9:00 am.**

Curriculum Implementation Day: **Monday, January 29th** – no school for students.

Severe Weather: Winter conditions have arrived. Please check the VSB and JQ websites for any potential closures due to snow. All VSB schools will remain OPEN if at all possible during severe weather events. Any district-wide closure will be decided by 7:00 am at the latest.

Direct Donation – Thank You: Thank you to JQ families for your generous support of the PAC Direct Donation fundraising campaign. Because of your donations, PAC will be able to enrich our students' learning in this coming year with programs that inspire and teach. VSB issued tax receipts will be mailed out in February.

New Principal: Claudette Alain visited both JQ and the Annex yesterday and is looking forward to working with JQ/QEA families and staff in the New Year and to getting to know your children. Please welcome Claudette to the school in January.

Goodbyes: At an assembly today, students and staff said their final goodbyes to Mme Natalie and Mme Workun. Mme Natalie was presented with a box of hand-drawn apples by students to keep as a memento, a short video featuring messages from students was watched and staff sang a song with adapted words from Johnny Hallyday's "Quelque chose en nous de Tennessee" (words were adapted to "Quelque chose en nous de Natalie"). Mme Haley was thanked for her contributions to the school over the past five years and in particular for all of her coaching of the JQ volleyball teams. It was also announced that Heather Brunt will be stepping down as PAC Chair but will remain on the PAC Executive. Heather has been a dedicated and enthusiastic leader of the parent community and has been instrumental in all of the school's successful fundraising initiatives. We would particularly like to thank Heather for leading the Technology Donation drive at the school which is now benefitting all students.

PAC NEWS

New PAC Chair: Thank you to Marie-Claude Jiles for graciously accepting to take over from Heather Brunt as PAC Chair. Marie-Claude is a busy and involved parent with three daughters at JQ and is at the school most days lending a helping hand.

Extra-curricular programs being offered in January: Please see our JQ PAC website for more detailed information and registration: <https://jqpac.com/programs/extra-curricular/>

- Knitting club, Grades 4-7, Lunchtime on Mondays
- Young Rembrandts Drawing, Grades 1-7, After school Thursdays

- Vancouver Youth Theatre, Grades 3-6, After school Wednesdays
- SeaSmart, Grades 1-4, After school Tuesdays
- Daedolos Lego, Grades 1-3, After school Tuesdays

Our Extracurricular coordinators work hard to make sure there is variety each day of the week. Please email Valerie or Kim at jqpacexec@gmail.com if you have programs you would like to see offered at JQ.

Finally, JQ staff would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a safe and happy holiday. We look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year.

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