

# Howitt News



2023-2024 Newsletter #4

November 17th, 2023

**Howitt hosts the Pacific Rim School District School Board Meeting: *Tuesday November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023* in our Library from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Come out to hear what is happening at Howitt and across the School District.**

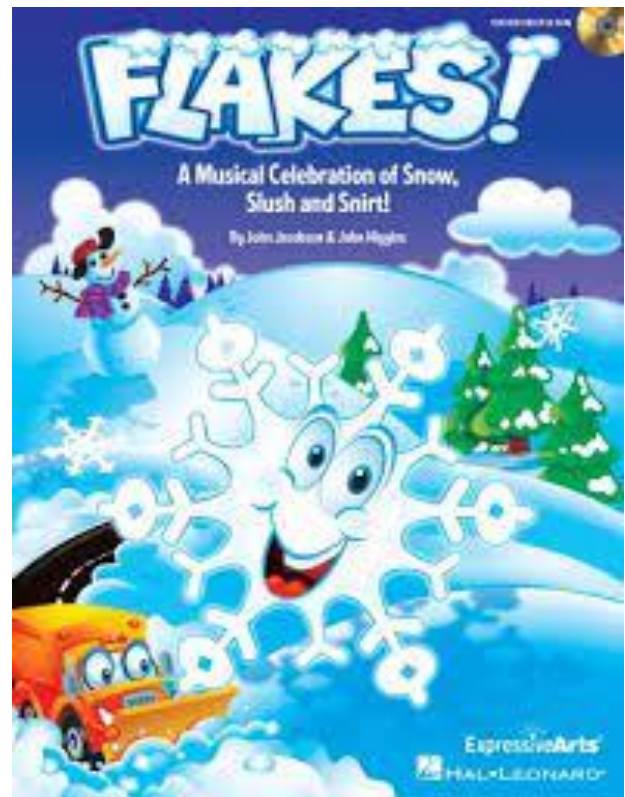
**HOWITT WINTER CONCERT - please save the date! *December 19<sup>th</sup>***

**“Flakes! A musical celebration of Snow, Slush, and Snirt!**

**Tuesday December 19<sup>th</sup> – two performances**

- 1 pm (no tickets required)
- 6 pm (tickets required to the evening performance)

- **Students in Mrs. Kosezgi, Ms. Maschaks, Mrs. Fedirchuk, Ms. Lenormand, Mrs. Davidson, Mrs. Bouchard, Ms. Dyer, and Mrs. Falconer’s classes will be performing.**
- **Tickets will be sent home with the oldest sibling in your family in early December. We are limited in tickets for the evening concert. We will take names on a waiting list for extra tickets but cannot make any guarantees of having extra tickets.**
- **There are no tickets required for the 1 pm show.**



## BASKETBALL AT HOWITT:

Thanks to Mrs. Davidson and Mrs. Dyer for coaching our Grade 4&5 basketball team. Practices are Tuesday after school and Thursday at Lunch. Game days happen on Wednesdays. The wrap up jamboree at ADSS happens on Friday December 8<sup>th</sup>.



Basketball for Grade 6&7 students starts in January 2024. Watch for more details in our future newsletters.

## HOWITT SCHOOL WEAR:

### Online Ordering Open Until *November 18th*

Use the QR code to access our Howitt online school clothing store. We have lots of options for colors, and you can choose from our main school logo or our sports logo. Sizing charts are located online, and you can pay by credit or debit. Get your orders in by November 18<sup>th</sup> for delivery before Christmas. Looking for a Christmas gift, check off the gift option when ordering and you can pick up all items from the office.



- Clothing with our main school logo: the clothing will have logos created with a Direct to Film method. The main logo would be printed in Mirror image on a film and then heat sealed onto the clothing. The finished result is beautiful and colours are very vibrant. They wash and dry easily.
- Sizing charts are available under each clothing item, and there are both youth and adult sizes. If ordering for Christmas, there is an office pick up option for your orders. **Payment is made online through your credit or debit cards.**



## **PAC FUNDRAISERS HAPPENING AT HOWITT:**

### **Growing Smiles Christmas Plant Fundraiser**

***Closes Nov 21<sup>st</sup>. Delivery by December 7<sup>th</sup>.***

Beautiful plants from Devry Greenhouses every year!

**See link below for the online store, or the Howitt Website.**



<https://johnhowitt.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home?fbclid=IwAR2pTC6zjTCSxuTYYGIy0gWGF1h68FQzZTBx3RlzXZpTDIfHWJ3vrXQmRFQ>

### **Wrapping Paper & Accessories, Holiday Decor, Gift Ideas, Entertaining Holiday Supplies**

**Please Check It Out! Directions below:**

**TO REGISTER:**

Visit: [WWW.SHOPDFSCANADA.COM](http://WWW.SHOPDFSCANADA.COM)

To register you will need:

**Our Organization ID:** 8368

Create an account and shop! When you sign up, it asks for the child's name, but I suggest for easy sorting, you put your own name. All orders can be shipped directly to you for a cost (still supporting the PAC) or shipped to the school for free.

**Place Orders By: *November 24<sup>th</sup>***

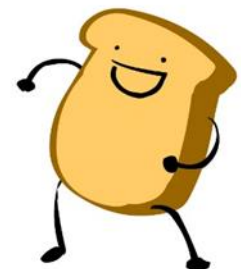


As always, if you have any questions for or about PAC, please let us know!

### **READ-AND-FEED BREAKFAST NOW 5 DAYS A WEEK (Monday to Friday)**



Thanks to volunteers from the Alberni Valley Read and Feed program we are moving our breakfast club to five days a week.. Each morning from **8:20 am to 8:35 am** PAC volunteers will be providing healthy breakfast options for students in the gym.



Thanks to Mrs. Sally Anderson and the Read-and-Feed program for supporting our school with breakfast program food items. A big thank you to our Howitt PAC for volunteering their time to offer this to our students.

## SD 70 Pacific Rim School Bus Pass Registration: 2023- 2024 school year

- Registration for school bus service will begin on September 18th, 2023 and it is expected that all students will be registered and will have received a bus pass card prior to October 31st, 2023. It is mandatory that all students who ride a bus to and/or from school will be registered and have a bus pass card.
- To register, you will require your student's MyEdBC student number. This is the same number your student uses as a computer login. If you require assistance, please reach out (250)723-7521.
- Find more information below, and a link to the online registration form. Each child in your family will require registration form to be completed.



## HOWITT LEADERSHIP STUDENTS- upcoming events

Mrs. Mayes and our Howitt Leadership team are looking forward to leading us through a number of events and fun activities this year.

*Friday November 24<sup>th</sup>*: Twin Day (dress like a twin)



## **IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES FOR FAMILIES:**

Saturday November 18 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to order Howitt Spirt Wear (online store open until the end of the day)
Monday November 20 <sup>th</sup>	School Based Pro- D Day (no school for students)
Thursday November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	PAC Meeting in the Howitt library 6:00 pm
Friday November 24 <sup>th</sup>	Leadership Spirt Day: Twin Day
Thursday December 7 <sup>th</sup>	12 Days of Winter Break begins
Monday December 11 <sup>th</sup>	PAC Gifts for Giving Event
Tuesday December 19 <sup>th</sup>	Howitt Winter Concert: 1 pm and 6 pm
Thursday December 21 <sup>st</sup>	Winter Wonderland Skating at the Multiplex
Friday December 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Last day of classes before the winter break.
December 25 <sup>th</sup> to January 5 <sup>th</sup>	Winter Break (schools closed)
Monday January 8 <sup>th</sup>	First day back from winter break.

## **STUDENT SMARTPHONES AT SCHOOL:**

We continue to have conversations and learning about the appropriate use of smartphones/cellphones at school. As a staff we strongly believe that the 300 minutes they are with us each day should be a cellphone free time for students. Below is a reminder of our school expectations.



### **Morning:**

- Once students arrive at school (i.e., by bus, car, or walking to school) we ask that cellphones are put away. We would like to see them socialize and talk to their classmates!

### **During the day:**

- We ask that students have their cell phones put away. There could be a time where they are needed in class, but they will be used for an educational purpose and under the direction of their teacher (this would not be a regular occurrence!)
- There is no picture or video taking at school at recess or lunch (privacy issues).
- If a student needs to contact a parent, we ask that they speak to their teacher first, we will then find a way to support them in contacting home.
- If you need to get a hold of your child for an important message, please call the school (250)723-7521. We will support them to phone you. Please do not text them.

### End of the day:

- Students can have their phones out as they leave school. We understand that they may need to check texts or contact their families.

## A REMINDER TO DRESS FOR THE WEATHER



Just a friendly reminder to encourage your children to be prepared for colder wet weather. Boots, waterproof raincoat, and an umbrella will all be needed. We plan to go outside each day at recess and lunch!

If possible, a change of clothes left at school would be advantageous, so students won't need to phone home if their clothing accidentally gets wet or muddy. If you have questions, please contact the office.

### **SCHOOL VISITORS and STUDENT SIGN IN & OUT**

To ensure the safety of our students and to minimize the disruption to classes **please check in at the office** whenever you visit the school for whatever reason. Anything to be delivered to a student can be taken to their outside classroom door or it can be dropped off at the office. If you are picking up your child for an appointment, please make arrangements ahead of time with your child's classroom teacher. Or if it is needed, please come to the office and we will help connect you to your child. Please knock on the front door or call the main office at **(250)723-7521**.

### **LUNCH PROGRAM**

John Howitt has a limited number of lunches available for students. Students require a parent or guardian to complete and sign a lunch program envelope for each month. Envelopes are available at the office. For more information on the program please contact the school.

### **HOWITT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL (P.A.C.)**

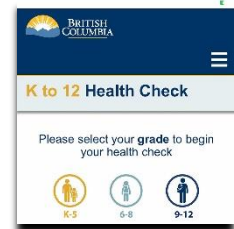
We have a long tradition of parent involvement at John Howitt Elementary with a wide variety of opportunities available for parent volunteers. For its size, our school community is very rich in resources and opportunities for our students thanks to the committed efforts of our parents over the years. The P.A.C. has worked with staff to make John Howitt a cohesive learning community dedicated to student success.



**Our next meeting is Thursday November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the library. Ms. Lenormand and student leaders will be providing childcare for any family who needs this support.**

## REPORTING A STUDENT ABSENT OR LATE

If your child will be absent or late, please contact our school at (250)723-7521. You may also email either [lbehnke@sd70.bc.ca](mailto:lbehnke@sd70.bc.ca), or your child's teacher, to report an absence. Reminder to complete the daily health check if you are not feeling well and stay home if you are sick. You can also download the **BC K-12 Daily Health Check** app for your smart phone.



## KINDERGARTEN BUILDING: STAFF PARKING



The parking spots directly in front of the kindergarten building are staff parking spots. Please avoid parking there in the morning as our staff members use those spots each day. You are welcome to come and park at the front section (near Tebo avenue) of our main parking lot if you are dropping off your child. Thanks in advance for helping us with this!

## PACIFIC RIM SCHOOLS AND JOHN HOWITT ELEMENTARY APP FOR SMARTPHONES AND TABLETS:

You can now download the Pacific Rim School app to your iPhone, iPad, or android device. Search Pacific Rim Schools in the app store. Very easy to set up, and you can select multiple SD70 schools. So, if you have students at Howitt and ADSS you can set up the app to receive information from both schools. You will be able to see the school calendar, news items, and more.



## REMINDER FROM THE RCMP

The RCMP will be enforcing all motor vehicle infractions within school zones and would like to remind drivers of the following common concerns.

- Vehicle speed is 30 km/hr. within all school zones. **The school zone speed limit on Tebo changed last year and was expanded so please watch for the sign.**
- Vehicles **cannot** park within 6 meters of any traffic control device, cross walk or stop sign.
- Reminder to come to a complete stop at all stop signs.



## 2023-2024 IMPORTANT DATES

To assist you in your long-term planning the following days are listed as important events and days that will not be in session for students at John Howitt Elementary:

November 20 <sup>th</sup>	Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)
November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	PAC Meeting at 6 pm
November 24 <sup>th</sup>	Howitt Leadership Spirit Day: Twin Day
December 20 <sup>th</sup>	Student progress reports sent home.
December 19 <sup>th</sup>	Winter Concert at Howitt- 1 pm and 6 pm
December 21 <sup>st</sup>	Winter Wonderland Skating at the multiplex
December 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Last Day of School before winter break
Dec 25 <sup>th</sup> to Jan 5 <sup>th</sup>	Winter Break
January 8 <sup>th</sup>	School Re-Opens (Monday)
January 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)
February 16 <sup>th</sup>	Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)
February 19 <sup>th</sup>	Statutory Holiday: Family Day
March 15 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day before Spring Break
March 18 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Break (two weeks)
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Statutory Holiday: Good Friday
April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Statutory Holiday: Easter Monday
April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	School Re-Opens after spring break and Easter
April 19 <sup>th</sup>	School Based Pro-D Day (no school for students)
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	School Based Pro-D Day (no school for students)
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Statutory Holiday: Victoria Day
June 21 <sup>st</sup>	National Aboriginal Day (school in session)
June 27 <sup>h</sup>	Last Day of School for students

Sincerely,

Mr. S. Brown  
Principal

Sincerely,

Mrs. L. Fryer  
Vice Principal

