



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Teachers at Evergreen work to foster a learning environment that covers the BC curriculum while being shaped by, and nourished by student-chosen themes and corresponding values from the Virtues Project.

Each year in June we host theme choosing circles. These are groups of mixed-aged students who take turns sharing what they want to learn about in the year ahead, topics that inspire, motivate or interest them. After all students have had their say, teachers then select 5 themes to include in the the curriculum development for the year ahead.

This year we have focused on mental wellness & the brain, indigenous arts, Greece, outer space, and birds of a feather.

After the themes are confirmed, we work to align virtues that we feel will help deepen the students learning, and our school community. These are taken from the Virtues Project, and their definitions can be found here: www.virtuesproject.com/virtues-definitions-1

An example of this would be during our Greek theme, teachers listen for opportunities to notice, name, and nurture the Virtues of strength, understanding, and justice.

Our first theme of the year is always getting acquainted, with the virtues of kindness and respect. Our final theme of each year is reflections, with the virtues of thankfulness and joyfulness.

Each theme is celebrated by incorporating a food literacy day that reflects the theme. Recently we enjoyed a day of making, and eating Greek food with the support of our incredible parent helpers!

The final celebration of each theme are the Theme Activity days. Again we create mixed-aged groups of students who get to live into 4 or 5 activities or workshops that explore an art, craft, activity or experience that deepens their knowledge and understanding of the theme.



Also coming up is the annual Ski Trip on Friday, February 16th. It will be a wonderful opportunity to get outside with the family, or perhaps challenge old rivals to a downhill skiing competition to win the hearts of the crowd. For the younger ones, there will be skiing lessons and downhill inner tubing. We all hope this skiing event will go down hill very quickly.

Be mindful that re-enrollment is coming up fast for families to hold their spot. Please have all forms and your deposit paid by March 1st. Thank you to those families who have already done so. And please continue to spread the good word of Evergreen, as new students and growth are the best way to ensure Evergreens success for hundreds of years to come.

Dave

# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

As the great Abraham Lincoln may have said, "The Evergreen volunteer parents have, and always will be, the glue that holds the community in togetherness." This past Cleaning Bee for instance, allowed us to present the school at its best for our annual open house. There was a fair bit of cleaning, which was long overdue. Unfortunately however, our work is never done. We are in need of more volunteers to move the green playground in preparation for the ramp project over March break. We are all very excited for construction to begin. If you can help out, please let us know. There will also be opportunity to get involved with the ramp project, due to complete this summer, we will need help with the decking.





### **COMMUNITY CORNER**

**Thank you!** To our wonderful families that came together over the weekend to help clean, tidy, organise, and maintain our school facilities and classrooms!

Community Ski Day - Friday, February 16 This is an opportunity for families, students, siblings, alumni, and friends of Evergreen to spend a day together up at Mt Washington.

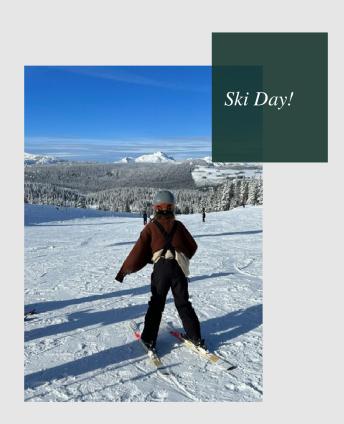
**Scotch Broom Workshops** with Ingrid! A set of workshops where we learn and play with making coil baskets out of scotch broom. Details on Eventbrite

Cari Burdett hosts **Backyard Sessions: nature connection & ancestral skills** classes once a month on Sundays. Details are available <u>HERE</u>.

## CALENDAR & REMINDERS

The school calendar can be found on our website under *Calendar* (click link to go to calendar):

- February 13 Bottle drive
- February 13 Winter Soup day
- February 15 Theme Activity day
- February 16 Community Ski Day
- February 19 School CLOSED for Family Day
- February 22 Board meeting
- February 23 school OPEN in lieu
- February 23 Sharing gala, open to parents 9am
- February 27 All school skate
- March 1 Re-enrollment deadline
- March 1 Family fun night at Duncan lanes
- March 6 Report cards ready for signing
- March 7 Student-led conferences 3:30-6:00
- March 8 Student-led conferences 8:30-12:30
- March 8 School CLOSED for Spring Break
- March 25 school Open for Spring term





### **FOOD LITERACY**

To celebrate each theme, our parents volunteers, led by Agata, support students food literacy skills in the preparation of meals we eat together. Our next event is the Winter Soup day on Tuesday, February 13! Students are asked to bring in a vegetable (not beets) that we can prepare. Students will peel, dice, chop & cut the veggies and prepare a communal meal. Please remember to bring a bowl and spoon.

Spruce class have been busy making cheese twists this week that will be served with the soup.

If you are available to help out, please reach out to Agata!

#### **UPDATES & REMINDERS**

Spring is just around the corner, and this means students tend to come to school with sweaters and jackets, that then get discarded as the day warms up. Please help us by gathering all their belongs at the end of the day.

Please check <u>lost & found</u>, downstairs in the library, as we will be donating all items during Spring break..

Through the province's <u>Feeding Future</u>s School Food Program Funding, we will be continuing our program of having snacks available to all students in Leslie's office.





