



Duncan Cran Elementary School

*8130 – 89th Avenue
Fort St John, BC V1J 5S5*



Telephone: (250) 787-0417 Fax: (250) 785-1581

January 12, 2011

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope your family had an excellent holiday and that 2010 will be a great year. This term is a very busy and an important learning time for the children. Please make sure they are here on time, as it affects their learning when they come in late and it disrupts the learning of the other students in the classroom. **Classes start at 8:45.**

Please make sure your child is dressed to go outside at recess and lunch time if it is warmer than -15. Also, shoes, boots, jackets etc. should have their names on them for easy identification. All students must have inside shoes for safety reasons.

SKATING RINK

We have had some difficulties getting the rink flooded, however we are hoping that in the month of January we will have the rink ready for students to use. We will send a notice home to parents when the rink is ready for use.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC):

There will not be a PAC meeting for the month of January, but there will be one in February.

FOUNDATION SKILLS ASSESSMENT (FSA's)

The Foundation Skills Assessment tests (FSA's) are a series of tests that focus on students' ability in reading, writing, and mathematics. The tests are given once a year to ALL grade 4 and seven students. **The FSA tests are mandatory for all students** (except those designated as students with special needs and who are on Individual Educational Plan). All grade 4 and 7 students in BC are expected to write the FSA's as highlighted in the British Columbia School Act *School Act*, sections 81 and 168 (2). For further information please follow the Ministry of Education link at:

<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/>

Please note that the FSA's will be administered from January 17th to February 25th

STRONG START PROGRAM

Our parent and tot drop-in pre-school program is open every morning (8:30-11:30) except Tuesdays for children and parents to come and play with some great toys. We are open Tuesday afternoons from 12:30-3:00. Please let your neighbors and friends know about the program as everyone is welcome. The program provides the opportunity for children to play with other children and for parents to interact with their children.

READY SET LEARN

The Ministry of Education in conjunction with the school district sponsors this event. It is an evening program where parents can bring their preschool children ages 3-4 years old to the school and participate in a variety of activities. Duncan Cran will be hosting Ready, Set, Learn on Wednesday, February 9, 2011. All families are welcome. Please let your

friends and neighbors know. Each family will receive a goodie bag weekly with books, etc. to have at home. Please call us at (250) 787-0417 to register.

SCIENCE FAIR

The school date for the Science Fair is Thursday, February 24th. Intermediate students will need their projects completed by this date as we will be having judges come to our school that day to examine the projects. Primary students are welcome to participate. The District Science Fair is April 12th.

KINDERGARTEN SCREENING

Parents of kindergarten children received a letter informing them of the screening and immunization clinic at the Health Unit, February 8th to 12th. Please call the Health Unit at 263-6000 to make an appointment for your child as soon as possible.

2011-2012 REGISTRATION

We are now accepting registrations for next year's kindergarten class. Please bring in the child's birth certificate and proof of residence when registering. Please let your neighbors know.

BASKETBALL

Basketball season has started. You'll be able to find permission forms and schedules on our website as soon as they're available.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Friday, January 14 th	Pajama Day
Monday, January 31 st	Non-Instructional Day – no school for students
January 17 th to February 25 th	FSA assessments for Grade 4 Students
Wednesday, February 9 th	Green Thumb Theatre @ 1 pm
Wednesday, February 9 th	6:30-7:30 Ready Set Learn
Thursday, February 24 th	School Science Fair
Thursday, March 3 rd	Jump Rope for Heart
Friday, March 4 th	Non-Instructional Day – no school for students
Friday, March 11 th	Kodiak Days
March 16 th & 17 th	Early Dismissal Day (dismissal at 1:43)
March 21 st to March 31 st	Spring Break
Monday, April 4 th	First day back after Spring Break
Tuesday, April 12 th	District Science Fair

----- Please cut here and return only the portion below -----

NEWSLETTER SIGNATURE RETURN

Lucky students will be awarded a special pencil from the Early Newsletter Entry box.

Yes, I have received and read the January 12th, 2011 newsletter.

Parent's Signature: _____

Student's Name: _____