



The Grapevine

Alberni District Secondary School
December 3, 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It's hard to believe December is already upon us. We still have a few weeks of classes but since this will be our last newsletter before the December break, on behalf of the staff at ADSS let me extend our wishes for a restful and happy holiday season to you and your families.

Term 1 Report Card

Our first report cards of the year were issued yesterday afternoon. If your student did not bring one home with them, please contact the school and we will ensure that another copy is made available for you.

In the aftermath of report card distribution yesterday we did notice some strange things happening with a few students' reports. It appears that there are still some glitches in the new computer program we are using. In particular we are noting some cases where students have changed classes at some point in the term yet a mark from the withdrawn course is somehow appearing on the report cards. We are working on both determining why this happened as well as trying to fix the mistaken marks. If this has happened to your student's report card, please contact the school so we can reprint their report for them.

The related concern is that these phantom marks have, in some cases, impacted a student's status on the honor or principal's role. As a result we will hold off on publishing either the honor role or principal role until we are satisfied that the information is correct. Our apologies for any frustration or stress that this may have caused.

Important Upcoming Dates

- December 2nd – Term 1 Report Cards Issued
- December 3rd – Athletics Food Drive
- December 10th – PAC Meeting 7pm
- December 11+12th – Grad Photos
- December 16+17th – Band Christmas Concerts
- December 19th – Christmas break begins
- January 5th – Schools Re-open
- January 8-10 - 60th Totem Tournament
- January 23+24th – ADSS Armada Invitational Wrestling Tournament
- January 30th – “Splash” Musical 7pm

Athletic Department Food Drive

The ADSS Athletic Department will be holding their annual **Food Drive for the Salvation Army on Wednesday, Dec.3, from 5:30 - 7:30pm.** Coaches and athletes from ADSS will be out in neighbourhoods around the Alberni Valley collecting non-perishable food donations for the Salvation Army that night.

Let's kick off the season of giving in grand fashion... Please help our students fill the Salvation Army truck!

Lockdown Drill

On the morning December 8th ADSS will be practicing a lockdown drill. ADSS and the school Board are working closely with our local RCMP detachment to ensure that our students and staff know how to respond to a crisis of this nature. Over the next few days we will be doing a series of presentations for students to familiarize them with how the drill will happen and what to expect. As with fire drills and earthquake drills, the goal is to prepare students for an event which we hope will never occur, but for which we still need to be ready. If you are concerned about anxiety that your child may experience as a result of the drill, please contact the school so that we can work to support him/her prior to and during this event.

Yearbook Ordering Deadline

Capture your ADSS memories in your copy of the 2014/15 Yearbook. Order forms are available in the main office or the Media Room (118). Orders need to be placed prior to December 19th to get the early bird rate of \$45. Orders made after this date will cost \$50. Our final deadline for orders this year is February 28th. For more information contact Mr. Wall jwall@sd70.bc.ca or 250-723-6251.

Outstanding Textbooks/Library Books

Due to the unfortunate way the school year ended in June, a lot of ADSS textbook and library books have yet to be returned.

We have printed off overdue notices for both ADSS library/textbooks and have attached them to student report cards. Every year ADSS loses thousands of dollars' as a result of unreturned materials. We are asking for your assistance in returning any books you may have to ADSS. Both textbooks and library can be returned to the ADSS library. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

New Staff at ADSS

We are very pleased to welcome Ms. Sarah Mayo to our teaching staff. Ms. Mayo is replacing Mrs. Omilusik who is currently on maternity leave.

ADSS Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club would like to thank the following businesses, organizations and individuals. We achieve success because of their support:

- Fraternal Order of Eagles #2096
- School District 70
- Rotary Club of Port Alberni
- Karen Ross and Walmart
- Susan Addy
- Dragon Boaters
- Circle Dairy
- Swale Rock
- Starbucks
- Jericho Road
- Scotiabank
- Kathy Ruissen
- Royce Nordstrom
- Ernest Bodger
- Jesse Bailey
- Brent Ronning and Capitol Theater
- Preceptor Gamma Beta
- Port Alberni Toy Run
- Randy at Buy-low
- Dr. Nikfar and Staff
- Breakfast Clubs of Canada
- Breakfast for Learning
- Salvation Army- Marilyn Burrows
- Young Life crew
- Meagan McRae
- Cst. Jamie Wasylie- School Liason Officer
- Deana Clutesi
- Axel Lajuenesse
- Rhonda Doughty
- Pat Bouchard
- Camie Sogge
- Denis Suave
- Cathy Cross
- Heather Mallory
- Bobbijo Basarab
- Vicky Seredick
- Francine Emmonds
- Janis Almond
- Joe Burton
- ADSS- Stephanie Smith, EAs and students
- The ADSS Step Up class
- Louise and ladies from the Eagles
- Sandra Karlsen
- Penny Matthews
- Kim Erickson
- Melinda Sinclair
- Angie Smith
- Jeffrey Kizuk
- Susan Wall
- Tom Wall
- Nancy Hines
- ADSS Staff and Students

From December 15-19th, Ernie Bodger will be selling his handmade Christmas stars at Scotiabank from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm, with all proceeds going to the ADSS Breakfast Club. Please come out and support the ADSS Breakfast Club.

If you would like to donate, Scotiabank, located in the 10th Avenue Plaza, is currently collecting donations for our Breakfast Club. They will match donated funds up to \$5000 at the end of the year. We would like to thank the staff for their continued support of ADSS students.

Celebrity Show

Looking for ideas for stocking stuffers? How about tickets to the Unity Community Celebrity Show? See former professional mountain biker Jason Schwinny, former professional skateboarder, Preston Pollard and former Harlem Globetrotter Harold "Lefty" Williams perform Friday, February 6 or Saturday, February 7. Tickets are \$13 each and available at Echo Centre. A portion of funds raised will benefit the ADSS Breakfast Club, and the Alberni Valley Community School.

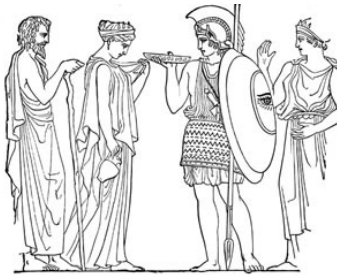


TOTEM Tournament January 8-10, 2015

Totem 60 is fast approaching! The committee has been working hard for the past month to make sure all of the details are in place to ensure this year's Totem is a first class event. The Senior Boys and Senior Girls are on a quest to defend their titles from last year. This year will feature five Totem Spirit candidates who are already fast at work creating hype, pride and awareness for the tournament. Totem is the longest running high school basketball tournament in the province and it is always action packed with a very enthusiastic crowd. This tournament has become an iconic event in the valley and is fun for the whole family. We hope to see you here on January 8-10, 2015. Details on game times and ticket prices will be released very soon. For more information, contact tournament director Greg Freethy or athletic director Mike Roberts.

Updated Parent Contact Information

We continue to try to update our demographic and contact information for students and parents. For many students, our parental contact information and mailing addresses are terribly out of date. Our information is generally inherited from the records that have followed your child from elementary to middle school and then finally to us. If you think your child's contact information may be incorrect, please update us. You can contact the school by phone at 250-723-6251 or by email adss@sd70.bc.ca.



Travel to Greece – Spring Break 2016!

A trip to Greece, including Athens, Delphi, Olympia, Patras, Epidaurus, and Mycenae, is being planned for Spring Break 2016. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn about the history and culture of Greece. For more information please email Laurie Hurst at lhurst@sd70.bc.ca

Grad 2015 – Notes from the Counselling Centre

- Grads should have by now started their **early admissions applications** for September 2015 Post Secondary Colleges. If you need help, come into the counselling center.
- An academic advisor from UVIC will be at ADSS on December 11th. Any students interested in meeting with the advisor should contact the counselling office to make an appointment
- **Graduation Transition** is a required course. Grads must have 90 PE hours and 30 volunteer/work hours completed to meet this requirement. Not sure what to do? Come into the counselling/career center to find out.
- Don't forget to "LIKE" the 'ADSS GRAD 2015' Facebook page to find out about all the social information about your grad.
- **Supports for Grads.** All grads should be a full participant in Grad. If you have any financial concerns please come into the counselling center to find out how we can support you.
- Your Grad counsellors this year - GRAD 2015- are Ms. Candace Graydon and Mr. Robb Ostwald

Students in grade 12 are invited to 'like' the ADSS Grad 2015 Facebook page. Information for grade 12's and grad information will be posted here throughout the year.
Here's the link: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/ADSS-Grad-2015/692548290852634>

Graduation Photography

Graduation photos are often a very important piece of the celebration of school completion. Professional photographers are available to assist you with capturing this important moment. Three options to assist you with graduation photo planning are:

1. **Lifetouch Photography:** December 11th and 12th at ADSS. Contact a Lifetouch photographer via the Lifetouch Website at lifetouch.ca and select "graduation portraits".
2. **Stirling Images Photography:** September-February by appointment only. Contact Erica at 250-720-5575 or stirlingimages@shaw.ca
3. **Walmart Photography:** Anytime the store is open.

An Update from our Nuu-chah-nulth Education Worker

Greetings

My name is Diane Gallic (Nuu-chah-nulth Education Worker at ADSS). I am here to assist students with academic, cultural, and social needs.

This past fall has been very busy indeed. Busy in a good way. We have transformed our Yaquwiimit (elders) room into a very warm and inviting space for our guests. We held a successful Post-Secondary/ Success Forum in October. We brought in representatives from many colleges and universities as well as other training programs, to set up tables and meet and inform students.

Guests came in and shared stories/history in the elder's room, during the Paul Martin visit in November. During the Paul Martin visit we also brought in the Ha-huupayak schools, song and dance group to perform to a packed audience in the auditorium. The performance was very well received by students and special guests.

We have also had guests/elders share their personal experiences on residential school in classes. The Foods Department had a first nations chef come in and do demonstrations on pie making to the students. The students then made the recipes on their own (with the help of the Foods teachers of course). We have a storyteller coming in to visit with different departments and collaborate on ways to incorporate, storytelling into our curriculum.

We had Huu-ayaht and NTC education be a part of our school wide Post-Secondary Career Fair this past week. We are also having our NTC post-secondary counsellor coming in to ADSS in December 2014 and January 2015 to meet with interested students. We shall keep you posted as to dates and times she will be here in January. I also have NTC applications, as well as Ahousaht, Ucluelet, Huu-ayaht and Kyuquot applications. The application deadline for NTC P.S./TVT is January 31st, 2015.

Tlecko tlecko to volunteers, students, and staff who have helped assist me in one way or another to make the above happen.

*Chuuch
Diane*

START A NEW CHRISTMAS TRADITION!

Visit our Tree Farm for a true holiday experience
or pick one out of our beautiful pre-cut trees

U-cut at our Christmas Tree Farm

- Free hot dogs & hot chocolate
- Pictures with Santa noon until 2pm
- Helpful "Elves"

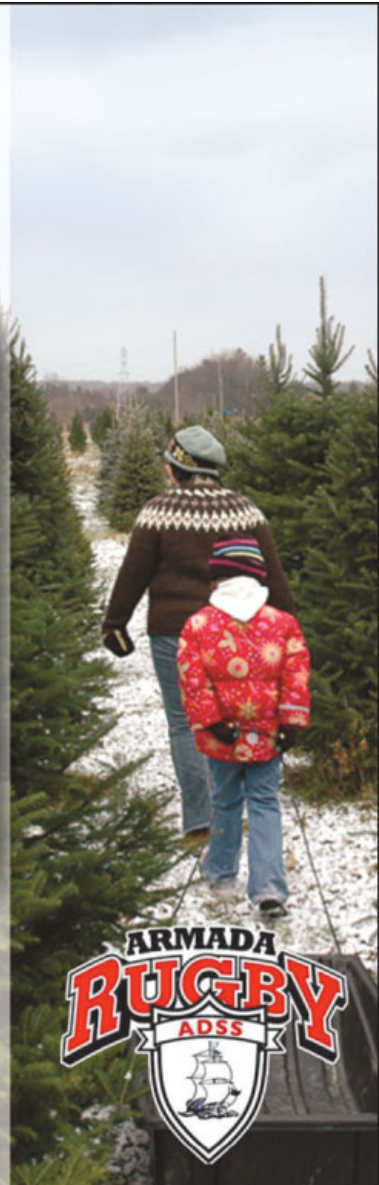
ADSS Christmas Tree
Farm by the
Alberni Airport

Pick a Pre-cut Tree

Come to ADSS and find
your favourite from our
HUGE selection
Sat & Sundays
10am - 3pm
Dec 6, 7, 13 & 14
at Alberni District
Secondary School
4000 Roger St.

U-cut open weekends Nov 29 - Thru Dec 14
Fri 2-6pm Sat 9am-6pm Sun 9am-6pm

100% of all sales go directly to the Sustainable
Resource & Rugby Programs at ADSS



Please contact me at (250) 723-6251, extension 2405, if you have questions or concerns about this newsletter.

If you have received this newsletter via email and you no longer wish to receive The Grapevine, please contact school secretary Michelle Bauer at (250) 723-6251 extension 2401 to have your name removed from our mailing list.

Rob Souther,
Acting Principal