

# The Grapevine

Alberni District Secondary School  
December, 2016

## Dear Parents and Guardians:

It must be December.

Around the school there are obvious signs of the season. Christmas Trees from our Grade 8 Humanities classes line the Student Commons. Classroom doors are decked out in their finest seasonal decorations and the sounds of Christmas concert rehearsals can be heard through the band room doors.

Last week saw the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Armada Athletics food drive collect a record amount of food for the Salvation Army as students went door to door around the community on a chilly evening that warmed the spirit of giving in many hearts.

Yes, the holidays are upon us.

On behalf of the staff of ADSS I wish all of our students and families the gladdest of tidings and the happiest of new years as we head into the holidays. We'll look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Tuesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January.

## ADSS CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

The ADSS Christmas concerts are being held on Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, December 15 at 7:00 pm. Admission is by donation. There will also be a 50/50 draw that tickets can be purchased for. Wednesday's concert features all of the grade 9 and 10 Groups, Gr. 9 and 10 Concert bands, Jazz bands and Combos as well as the Flute and Saxophone Choirs. Thursday night will feature the Gr. 8 Concert band and Jazz band, the Gr. 11/12 Concert band and Jazz bands, Senior Combo, Brass Choir and Clarinet Quartet. **All performers must be at the school by 6:45 pm on the night they perform.**

The Grapevine  
October 2016

## Important Upcoming Dates

- Dec 6-8 - Talent Show
- Dec 12 – Talent Show Finals
- Dec 13 – Parents Prom Committee Mtg. Kids r Us at the United Church on Church Street.
- Dec. 14-15 – ADSS Band Concerts
- Dec. 16 – Last day of classes before Winter Break
- Dec. 19-Jan. 2 – Winter Break
- Jan. 3, 2017 – First Day back
- Jan 5-7 – Totem 62
- Jan. 11 – PAC Meeting 7:00 ADSS
- Jan. 20 – End of Semester 1

### **PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL(PAC)**

The ADSS PAC will be assisting the Breakfast Club handing out some Holiday treats to all the students on Thursday, Dec 15th at 11:30am. If you have a half hour to spare and would like to put smiles on many faces please join us at the main office. It's a lot of fun!

We would like to invite parents to attend our next meeting on Wednesday, January 11th @7pm at the school. The meetings are about an hour long and a great way to hear of some of the things going on around the school!

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact any of our 2016/17 executive:

Marilee Alexander, Chair [klubhouseforkids@shaw.ca](mailto:klubhouseforkids@shaw.ca) 250-720-1624

Vanessa Schoen, Vice-Chair [vdubord@hotmail.com](mailto:vdubord@hotmail.com)

Darcy Phipps, Treasurer [darcyp@shaw.ca](mailto:darcyp@shaw.ca)

Karlee Knoll, Secretary [tkknoll@telus.net](mailto:tkknoll@telus.net)

### **ADSS FOOD DRIVE**

The ADSS Food Drive is up and running. The donation box is located in the hallway of the main entrance. You can donate any non-perishable food items between now and December 15<sup>th</sup>. All food proceeds will be going to the Bread of Life. We are also hosting a toy chest which is located in the main office to collect toys for local boys and girls. If your gift is wrapped, please identify on the package whether it is for a girl or boy and the age that the gift is appropriate for. Thank you for your generosity.

### **FINAL DAY OF CLASSES**

Our annual Christmas assembly will punctuate the final day of classes on December 16<sup>th</sup>. As in past years, we will forgo a lunch break on the 16<sup>th</sup> and instead run straight through all of our classes before commencing our assembly. As a result of giving up lunch, we expect to release students about 30 minutes earlier than normal. Busses will arrive to pick up students at 1pm instead of the usual 1:30 Friday pickup.

### **HOW ABOUT THOSE GIRLS?!**

Congratulations to the Junior Girls Volleyball team for their amazing season that culminated in a trip to the BC championships – a first in 3 decades for an ADSS Volleyball team. Well done, Girls!

**TOTEM 62 - January 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

It's that time of year again... the 62nd annual Totem Tournament... the longest running high school basketball tournament in the Province! We are looking forward to our students and the community being a part of the amazing atmosphere, energy and tradition that Totem will provide!

We will be continuing with eight boy's teams and eight girl's teams again this year. Like last year, games will be played at both ADSS and across the street from the school at the Alberni Athletic Hall. The participating teams will be as follows:

<b><i>BOYS TEAMS</i></b>	<b><i>GIRLS TEAMS</i></b>
<b>ADSS</b>	<b>ADSS</b>
<b>Ballenas</b>	<b>Ballenas</b>
<b>Edward Milne</b>	<b>Belmont</b>
<b>Esquimalt</b>	<b>Edward Milne</b>
<b>Guildford Park (Surrey)</b>	<b>Esquimalt</b>
<b>Isfeld</b>	<b>Kwalikum</b>
<b>Reynolds</b>	<b>Spectrum</b>
<b>Stellys</b>	<b>Vanier</b>

As per Totem Tradition, the Armada Senior Boys and Girls teams will play the feature game each night at the ADSS Gym. Game Times will be as follows:

**Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>**

*ADSS Senior Boys @ 5:15pm*

*ADSS Senior Girls @ 7:00pm*

**Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**

*ADSS Senior Girls @ 5:15pm*

*ADSS Senior Boys @ 7:00pm*

**Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**

*ADSS Senior Girls @ 5:45pm*

*ADSS Senior Boys @ 7:30pm*

**ADSS Wall of Fame Induction Ceremony**

The ADSS Athletic Department is please to officially announce our newest members to the Athletic Wall of Fame.

***The 2017 Inductees are:***

- Kylee Dawn (Abrahamson): Badminton
- Jason Hubbs: Basketball
- Ty Shannon: Rugby
- Andrew Sturgeon: Basketball

These individuals have achieved the greatest of success during their post-secondary athletic careers (four or more years) or competed at the National level. *The Wall* is certainly something our athletes and coaches look to, reflect on and use for motivation. These four ADSS alumni will be joining an impressive group of many other incredible athletes, coaches and builders. They serve as role models and inspiration for others in our Athletic programs.

The official induction ceremony will be just before the feature game at 7pm on Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>. In a perfect world, this ceremony would be an event all on its own, but we choose to make it part of TOTEM as we have a major audience witnessing the accomplishments of some of our finest athletic alumni.

If you have any questions, please email or call Greg Freethy (Totem Tournament Director) at [gfreethy@sd70.bc.ca](mailto:gfreethy@sd70.bc.ca) or 250-723-1191 (school).

## TOTEM 62 MERCHANDISE



HATS - \$20.00  
PRO-FIT - \$25.00  
T-SHIRTS - \$15.00  
SWEATPANTS - \$35.00  
HOODIES/ZIP-UPS - \$40.00  
TEDDY BEARS - \$10.00  
LANYARDS - \$5.00  
SEAT CUSHION - \$10.00  
SCARVES - \$20.00

PROGRAMS - \$2.00  
PENS - \$3.00  
STICKERS - \$1.00  
TATTOOS - 2 for \$1.00

**Items are for sale now in Mr. Roberts room before school, at lunch and after school. Get your TOTEM gear and get ready to Cheer. Makes great Christmas presents! Contact Mr. Roberts for details or additional information. Please make cheques payable to ADSS.**

**ADSS PARENTS GRAD 2017****Grad 2017 Prom Night is June 10, 2017**

Your Prom Committee Parents Group is:

Co-Chairs: Penny Matthews Sharlene Check	Home: 250-724-6972 250-720-5582	Cell: 250-731-5853	<a href="mailto:rpmjs@shaw.ca">rpmjs@shaw.ca</a> <a href="mailto:checkerson@shaw.ca">checkerson@shaw.ca</a>
Secretary: Karen Kozocari	250-730-5726		<a href="mailto:kordandkaren@telus.net">kordandkaren@telus.net</a>
Treasurers: Stefanie Weber Maria Charlesworth	250-735-0766 Home: 250-723-2020	Cell: 250-735-3800	<a href="mailto:s-weber@shaw.ca">s-weber@shaw.ca</a> <a href="mailto:buckweathoney@shaw.ca">buckweathoney@shaw.ca</a>
Decorating: Lisa Hagan Serena Love	250-723-4517 250-731-6123		<a href="mailto:leese.66@hotmail.com">leese.66@hotmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:loveshack73@shaw.ca">loveshack73@shaw.ca</a>
Entertainment: Anna Jack	250-735-1576		<a href="mailto:doubleajack@shaw.ca">doubleajack@shaw.ca</a>
Fundraising: Michelle Cyr	778-421-3486		<a href="mailto:mbcyr@shaw.ca">mbcyr@shaw.ca</a>

Just a reminder that Sign in Sheets for fundraisers can be picked up and dropped off at the info table in front of the school library on Wednesdays at lunch time (11:30 – 12:10). Prom tickets can also be purchased at this time.

- Poinsettia Pick up is on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 6:00 in Activity Room 2.
- Coombs Baskets can be picked up on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 4:00 in Activity Room 2.
- Hoodies can be picked up at Dec. 12 & 13 at lunch time in Activity Room 2.
- Bottle Pick up and Sorting is happening on December 14<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 8:00 pm. Please call Sharlene at 250-720-5582 if you are available to help.

Just a reminder of the Parents Prom Committee Meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup> at Kids r Us at the United Church on Church Street. All Grad 12 Parents are encouraged to attend. Also Please join the ADSS Grad 2017 – Parents Facebook Page to keep up on planning, volunteering, ideas, events. etc.

**STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES**

Student activity fees for the 2016-2017 school year are \$30 and can be paid in the counseling office. This is not a textbook fee. The fee supports various students' activities and special events throughout the year.

We accept cheques made out to ADSS or cash and have an ATM on site as well. No debit or credit. One cheque can be made to include yearbook and student fees. If \$30 is a bit much to pay at one time, installments can be made over the course of the year.

## CAREER CORNER



ADSS Career Centre  
@CareerADSS  
adsscareercentre



### **QUESTIONS ABOUT CAREERS IN THE TRADES?**

Bring your questions – we will try to have the answers! There are many opportunities for our senior students to earn high school credits while beginning an apprenticeship in the trades...planning can begin as early as grade 9 and 10. Check out the newly updated ITA Youth Website - <http://www.itabc.ca/youth/programs/>

### **ADSS YEARBOOK**

Orders are being taken for the 2017 yearbook – get your order form and money into the Career Centre this month and be entered into a draw for a Totem package!

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Check out the binder in the Career Centre for upcoming opportunities that might need your help.

### **ADSS CLOTHING**

The last order of will be available for pickup next week. A new order will be placed at the end of January – get your order form for an ADSS Hoodie, Tshirt, Sweatpants, etc. from the Career Centre.

### **CONTEST – WILL YOU BE OUR WINNER?**

Don't forget to "like" us on FB and select the Career Centre channel on the ADSS app to be entered into our contest to win a \$100 Gift Card. We will draw a winner once we have 1,000 likes on our FB page and 500 channel subscriptions.

## **GET YOUR YEARBOOK!!**

Yearbook order forms are available now. The books are \$55.00 this year for the basic book or \$60 for a personalized book with the student name printed on the cover. Sales will end December 18th and quantities are limited so don't be disappointed. Any additional sales after December are not necessarily guaranteed and will be at an increased cost. Order forms will be available through the Career Centre. Any questions, please contact Mike Roberts.

## **ADSS AGENDA APP**

The updated ADSS App is now available for students and parents to download. The App is, at its heart, a day-to-day agenda that allows students to track which classes they have each day. Additionally, the app allows students to record their homework or other notes for each class.

The App is also a communication tool as it allows the school to send notifications directly to cell phones. Those notifications can be limited to important notifications such as school closures or reminders of report card release dates. You can also subscribe to specific channels to receive notifications for areas of special interest such as school teams or Graduation. These notifications will be another way that we can provide both parents and students with timely information updates and reminders.

As well, there is now a button added on the School Contacts tab to report a student absence. From the app side menu, select School Contacts, then select Report Absence. Then fill in the email with student name, date and reason and it will be emailed directly to our school secretary.

The App works on cell phones as well as tablets and iPods and is available from either the Android or Apple App store. A handy user guide for the App is available on the ADSS website.

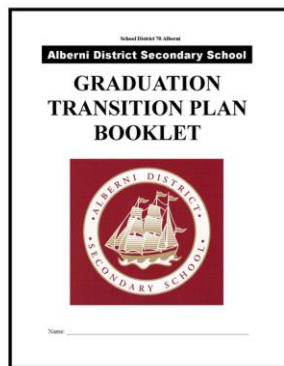
## **UPDATED DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

We want to keep our demographic and contact information for students and parents as current as possible. We know that for some students, our parental contact information and mailing addresses may be 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](mailto:adss@sd70.bc.ca).

## **IMPORTANT REMINDER for Grade 12 Students...**

All Grade 12 students must complete the Ministry of Education - Graduation Transitions Program. Grad Transition is a 4 credit course, which is intended to prepare students for a successful transition to life after high school. In order to meet this goal, all students must:

- Complete a minimum of 30 hours of volunteer OR work experience
- Complete 90 hours of physical activity (if they did not take PE in Grade 11 or 12)
- Complete the Graduation Transition Booklet (introduced in English 12) & hand in a resume
- Attend the Grad Transition - Exit Interview



Graduation Transition Booklets are due on Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>.

You must hand in your Graduation Transition Booklet along with a resume to the Career Centre in order to be eligible to participate in the Exit Interview process.

The Graduation Exit Interviews will be taking place on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. For more information or to book your interview time please come to the Career Centre.

Copies of the Transition booklets are available in the Career Centre or as a fillable document on the ADSS Website in the Grad section.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

It's never too early to be thinking about scholarships. There are hundreds of thousands of dollars in available scholarships for graduating students. Several major scholarships have due dates prior to the Christmas break.

Please encourage your graduating children to take a moment to see Mr. McDonald in the counseling office for more information. An information package containing application details for local scholarships will be available through the Career Centre on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

For regularly updated scholarship information and opportunities, check out the ADSS Scholarship Facebook Page. If you have trouble finding or joining the page, please contact Ms. Bill in the library.

## 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:

**Stirling Images** – book directly with Erica Watson (see handout). CD of photos can be picked up from ADSS Career Centre when they are done, Erica will give you a heads up of when they are ready for pickup. Once you have your CD, you make the copies of the images you like (Costco and Walmart print photos). She submits the photo you prefer for the yearbook and wall composite photo. *\*\*Erica will only guarantee that photos taken by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 will be done in time to be included in the yearbook.*

**Lifetouch** – book online at <http://local.prestigeportraits.ca/bc/qualicum-beach/2701-alberni-highway.html> (\*The website will go live for appointments on December 1<sup>st</sup> for Appointments.) or by calling (250) 738-0983. **They have scheduled Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> to come to ADSS. If the 8<sup>th</sup> fills up, they will open up February 9<sup>th</sup>.** Lifetouch will submit the photo you prefer to us for the yearbook and wall composite. You order packages of photos directly from them and they are delivered to your home.

**Walmart** – book directly with them. Once you have your purchased and received your photos, you would need to bring a photo in to Mrs. Wynans in the Career Centre so it can be scanned and added to the yearbook



and wall composite. Photos need to be submitted to the Career Centre by March 1<sup>st</sup> to be included in the yearbook.

### **NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION**

The Grapevine newsletter is one of our primary ways of keeping parents up to date on info and events at the school. The costs associated with printing 1300 copies of this newsletter are substantial. In order to limit both costs and waste we traditionally send home a printed copy of the newsletter for the first month of the year and then move to emailing electronic copies directly to those who wish to subscribe. If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter via email, please contact our secretary Michelle Bauer [mbauer@sd70.bc.ca](mailto:mbauer@sd70.bc.ca) or at the school 50-723-6251 Ext 2401 and ask to have your name added to our mailing list.

### **OVERDUE TEXT BOOKS AND LIBRARY BOOKS**

One of the single largest expenses that our school deals with on a year to year basis is related to the replacement of textbooks and library books that have been borrowed but not returned. On average, replacement of lost, damaged or non-returned textbooks costs the school \$25,000 each year. This a very large number and greatly impacts the funds that we have available to support other needs in the school. Students are loaned these books on a yearly basis no differently than from the public library. Once signed out, the books are fully the responsibility of the student. Our expectations are that the books are cared for and returned in the condition they were in when the student received them. Damaged or lost books will result in a repair or replacement fine.

### **ADSS BREAKFAST CLUB - December Update**

The Breakfast Club Room is open from 7:35 am until 8:35 am. There are also 18 classrooms throughout the school that offer food for hungry students. There are a few ways that you can help the Breakfast Club:

- **We are currently in need of Tampax Tampons (regular and sports with plastic applicator). If you are able to donate this item, they can be brought to the school office.**
- **Please** save your Quality Foods receipts for the breakfast club; they are collected, totaled (QF \$5000 before taxes= \$20) and turned into gift cards that are then distributed to at-risk students. Receipts can be dropped at the school office for Melody.
- We are always looking for donations of gift cards from any grocery or clothing stores, hygiene items such as disposable razors, tampons with plastic applicators, bar soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, 2 in 1 shampoo/conditioner, shaving cream, deodorant. Suits, tuxedos, ties and grad dresses are always appreciated.
- If you can donate any services that a grad may need (free haircuts, dry cleaning services, nails, etc.) or if you have any questions, please feel free to email Melody at [mjburton@shaw.ca](mailto:mjburton@shaw.ca) or call at 250-724-6115.
- The ADSS Breakfast Club accepts monetary donations. They can be dropped off at the ADSS office, just specify that it is for the ADSS Breakfast Club. If you would like to donate \$50 or more and would like a tax receipt, cheques can be made out to SD 70, subject line- ADSS Breakfast Club, if cash (\$50+), please include your name/address information. Please drop them off at the ADSS office or the School Board office. We appreciate any help.

We would like to thank you the following people and community groups for their donations to Breakfast Club and their continued support of our students and program:

- SD 70
- Save On Foods
- The PEAK
- AV Bulldogs
- Circle Dairy
- Swale Rock Café
- Little Bavaria
- Alberni Valley Christian Reformed Church
- Andrew Schneider
- AV Lions
- Anita Oosterom
- Tooth Fairies and Dentists in 6<sup>th</sup> Ave Medical Building
- Dr. Hughes and Staff
- Chalmers Family
- Mary Anne Creighton
- Beta Rho Masters
- Teresa Monteith
- Salvations Army
- Breakfast Clubs of Canada
- Breakfast for Learning
- Toy Run
- Heather Maddison Studio H
- Western Family
- Rotary Club
- Capital Theater
- Best Western Plus
- Crowning Glory
- AV Lions
- Best Western Plus
- Sharon Reyes
- Nicole Dixon and family
- Allison Dupuis and family
- Nanaimo Prom Closet
- Save On Foods Staff
- Our amazing volunteers from Young Life, ADAPS, RCMP, Family Guidance, Jeff Cook, Susan and Tom Wall, Pat Bouchard, Camie Sogge, NETP, INEO, Carol Devries, City Council Rep Denis Suave, RBC Staff, NIC, ACAWS, USMA, Joe Burton, Marilee Alexander, Life Skills Students, Cathy Cross, PAC parents and ADSS staff.

If we have missed anyone, we are truly sorry, that was not our intention.



**We want to wish you all Happy Holidays!!**

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 or email her at [mbauer@sd70.bc.ca](mailto:mbauer@sd70.bc.ca) to have your name removed from our mailing list.

Rob Souther  
Principal



# *Start a New Christmas Tradition!*

**Purchase your extraordinary Christmas tree from Alberni District Secondary School. 100% of all sales go directly to support the Sustainable Resource and Rugby programs at ADSS.**

## **Two Ideal Options:**

### **1. U-Cut at our Christmas Tree Farm**

Enjoy walking through our Christmas tree farm with your family. Our elves will help you find that perfect tree to celebrate the holiday season. Enjoy **free** hot dogs, hot chocolate and Christmas music. Take a break from the cold and have a seat in our heated 'Sustainable Resource Classroom' and have your picture taken with Santa or enjoy making Christmas crafts.

**Location:** ADSS Christmas Tree Farm, by the Alberni Airport  
(follow the signs to our magical wonderland of trees)

**Dates:** Weekends Starting Dec. 2 through Dec. 18, 2016

**Hours:** Friday 2 pm – Dark  
Saturday 9 am – Dark  
Sunday 9 am – Dark



Santa will be there from Noon until 2pm Saturday's and Sunday's



*Update on B.C.'s New Curriculum from Education Minister Mike Bernier*

November 29, 2016

Dear Parent,

The world is changing and B.C.'s new curriculum is critical in making sure your child is connected with the skills he or she needs to succeed in this changing world. We have just announced important updates on B.C.'s new curriculum – on how it will be implemented in grades 10-12, and on the Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA) written in grades 4 and 7.

**Grade 10-12 curriculum implementation**

Teachers, principals and trustees asked for more time to work hands-on with the redesigned draft curriculum in grades 10-12 – and we agree. The extra time means teachers can try out the draft curriculum and provide feedback before it is fully implemented in the 2018/19 school year. The new curriculum is already fully in place in the earlier grades.

The extra year makes sense because the graduation years are more complex than the K-9 years. They are tied to provincial exams. They are connected to post-secondary choices. We are making sure that we get the Grade 10-12 redesigned curriculum right for students, ensuring their future success in post-secondary and the workforce.

When it comes to provincial exams, we have mapped out which old exams and new exams will be written and when. The most important thing is that new or old, our standards remain high, testing remains rigorous, and combined with in-class exams we will be thoroughly testing student knowledge. Detailed exam information can be found at: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/graduation-info>

**Foundation Skills Assessments**

Along with our new curriculum, we are enhancing our Foundation Skills Assessment that students in Grades 4 and 7 are required to write under B.C.'s *School Act*. The FSA measures reading, writing and math problem-solving skills that students have gained over several years of learning and provides critical information for parents, for teachers, and for the education system.

Starting next year, students in grades 4 and 7 will complete their FSAs in the fall instead of the spring. This means you and your child's teacher will get results earlier – and that means any necessary actions can be taken sooner. More information on the new FSA can be found at: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/assessment-reporting/new-foundation-skills-assessment>

Additionally, we will be giving parents like you a snapshot of the FSA results in broader school reports. You deserve to know how your child's school is succeeding on a variety of fronts – and we will include that information to provide a complete picture.