

Pitt Meadows Secondary School *Ecole Secondaire Pitt Meadows*

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February 2024 Newsletter

February 2, 2024

Dear PMSS Families:

February marks the second half of the academic year and the countdown by many, to Spring Break. With three snow days and a non-instructional day in January, the month seemed to fly by. Now with 6 weeks to go before another break, the grad season will be upon us and the culmination of another academic year.

In mid-January, a large chunk of our Grade 10 & 12 students wrote their **Graduation Literacy Assessments**, as well as the **French Language Assessment** for our Grade 12 French Immersion students. While the three snow days put a hamper in our schedule, we as a school community were able to pivot, and the remaining students will write their Literacy Assessment in April. Our Grade 10 Numeracy Assessments will take place in June. For further information related to the Provincial Graduation Assessments, please see the ministry site at: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/assessment>

This past week, PMSS celebrated **Cultural Week**. Our Leadership students introduced and helped share the many cultures that make up the Pitt community. With a variety of global food offerings, diverse music playing, and several contests at FLEX, the depth and breadth of our varied backgrounds came alive. This week helped remind us that diversity is a strength and a quality to be celebrated. A HUGE thank you to Ms. Buchan, Mr. Sun, and the Leadership students that helped organize the week's events. Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated.

In athletics, the legendary Pitt **Basketball** program continues to play as the season winds down over the next couple of weeks. Both our boys' and girls' teams, at all levels, are experiencing success on the home court, at away games, and in tournament play. Further, Pitt has seen the return of **Lacrosse**. Practices and games are humming along after a long hiatus. A huge thank you to our coaches, sponsors and Athletic Director, Mr. Oldridge, for your time and expertise.

Thursday, February 8th will be our second **Student-Led Conference** session. Interviews run from 1:00-4:00 and 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the gym. Appointments are still available and can be booked on the Parent Portal. These sessions create a valuable opportunity to connect with teachers regarding your students' programming, celebrate success, or make an intervention plan for the coming months. If you are unable to connect with the teachers you would like, please feel free to email them (a list of teacher emails is on the PMSS Website under the STAFF top tab).

Looking ahead, we have a group of PMSS students joining in with a group from PME who will be embarking on an **Exchange Trip to Quebec**. Exchange trips are a long tradition in SD42's French Immersion program. Students will billet with families, view the sites and engage in local activities. As students immerse themselves in the culture of Quebec, they are presented with a unique opportunity to practice the language they have been learning over the last number of years. I look forward to seeing the pictures and hearing their stories upon return.

Some Important Dates:

- Feb. 6th Grade 9 Immunizations
- Feb. 8th Grade 12 Pizza & Skate Night at Pitt Meadows Arena (9:00 – 10:30 p.m.)
- Feb. 9th Late Start @ 9:50 a.m. (Collab Day)
- Feb. 13th Winter Pep Rally
- Feb. 15th Grade 9 Immunizations (for those who were away on Feb. 6)
- Feb. 19th Family Day (Stat Holiday)
- Feb. 20th Non-Instructional Day (district-based)
- Feb. 26th Parent Grad Committee Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.

As always, if you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's individual teachers, one of our Counsellors or your child's Grade Administrator to discuss. Contact information can be found on the school website at <https://secondary.sd42.ca/pmss/>

Until next time - be well & take care,

Colin Sharpe

Principal – Pitt Meadows Secondary School

Do you follow PMSS on Instagram? Our Vice Principal Ms. Girbav posts all kinds of great pictures of everyday 'Pitt-life' and reminders of school events. @pittsecondary

