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# Silverthorne Post

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## Silverthorne Elementary School

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### Principal's Message

Holidays are coming! Not long until students and staff get to enjoy a well-deserved break. We have already started to enjoy the holiday season and teachers have enjoyed working on a variety of crafts and art projects based on the holiday season. Over the last couple weeks, we have been listening to classes prepare for a virtual Concert!

Since this will be the final newsletter of 2020, I would like, on behalf of the Silverthorne staff, to wish you a very Happy Holiday season filled with all the richness you deserve!

### Lost and Found

Lost and found will be laid out for your child to look at and collect missing garments. Teachers will walk children by, asking them to check for items they may have lost. We will be posting images of lost and found items on Face Book so caregivers can look at the items and remind children what they need to pick up. It will be picked up on December 18<sup>th</sup> so the halls are ready for the custodians to clean over the holiday.

### Hot Meal Program

As you are aware, we continue to run a hot meal program to ensure all of our students have full bellies to help them learn. We continue to fill bins with healthy options and they continue to be emptied! We are currently seeking donations to support the hot meal initiative so we can continue to provide breakfast and lunch to all our students in the New Year. If you are able to donate, you can drop it off at the office. If you would like a Tax receipt let Ms. Clee know, and she can issue you a one. THANK YOU for the ongoing support from the community!

The Salvation Army continues to provide 17 suitcases of food each week; these are delivered to feed whole families every weekend! We are indeed seeing the difference full bellies can make on our students' learning!

### Learning Summaries

Learning Summaries will arrive in your child's backpack December 11<sup>th</sup>. These reports will update you on both Language Arts and Mathematics. Teachers will continue to use a variety of ways to communicate how your child is doing across the curriculum. If your child's teacher is using the Fresh Grade platform make sure you log in to enjoy student electronic portfolios and see exactly what your child is learning and how they are engaging in the classroom. Emails, paper portfolios, assignments, criteria-based performance standards and phone calls are all ways that teachers are communicating student learning. **IF** at **ANY** time you feel you need more information, please feel free to contact your child's teacher. They will be happy to fill you in!

### Hamper Donations

Sadly, many families and community members go without housing and food throughout the year. Both the Food Bank and the Salvation Army work hard to fill this need. Last week Ms. Lea's class started a food drive. Thank you to families that have already donated. If you have not yet contributed and would like to, they are taking donations until Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at the end of the day.

### Spirit Days

The Silverthorne Leadership Team have dedicated all next week to holiday spirit. On Monday students are encouraged to wear an Ugly Holiday sweater, Tuesday is Jersey Day, Wednesday is Reindeer Day, Thursday is Wacky Christmas Hair Day and finally, Friday is PJ Day. Please encourage your child to participate – it is a fun way to come together and end the year on a positive note 😊

### Christmas Concert

**YES**, we are having a concert but it comes to you in a new way! Students have been working hard over the last couple weeks on a song or skit and this week we are taping them. Mr. Mark's class is weaving

together a production that will be available to you to watch from the comfort of your home. We are still working on logistics for this, but by mid-week next week, we will let you know how to access the performance.

### **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

This year, kindergarten registrations will take place the week of **January 18<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup>** for children who will be five (5) years old on or before December 31, 2019. Registration during this time is required to assist in the planning and organization of our schools. Proof of age (original birth certificate) and BC Care Card must be presented at the time of registration. We will be sending out guidelines to meet COVID protocols in early January. If you have any questions, please call the school. If you know of families that have kindergarten age children for next year please pass this information on.

Please note, that although your child may be 5 prior to December 31<sup>st</sup>, many families that have children born in the latter months of the year choose to enter their child into Kindergarten the following September. If this is the case for you and you are contemplating what entry date is best suited to your child, feel free to pop in and discuss this with me. It can be a challenging decision but one that should be well informed.

### **Reminders!!**

A few reminders for parents:

- Please remember that due to the unusual start-up in the fall, the school calendar has been adjusted to make up the Non-instructional Day that was used to prepare for students returning to school. January 4<sup>th</sup> was initially the first day back after the break. This is now scheduled as a Non-instructional day. **Students return to school January 5<sup>th</sup>.**
- As we near the holiday season, we would like to encourage you to try to keep routines as consistent as possible. Regular bedtimes, wake-up times and meal times are essential to keep our

bodies and brains working at their best and allowing us to regulate our emotions.

- It is very important that students come prepared to be outdoors. We do not have in-days until the temperature falls to -15. Students need to be able to stay outside for up to at least 45 minutes on colder days.
- Pizza Fridays will begin in January
- Buy Low grocery Cards are available in the office
- If your child is choosing to wear a mask please try to send them with a re-usable one. We have given out a number of masks at the office. These masks are reusable and should be taken home and washed on a regular basis. Supplying a large number of masks to students that do not reuse them is not sustainable.
- **PLEASE** continue to keep children home if they are sick. Thank you for the effort to date. We are seeing a reduction in all the other illnesses that typically travel through the school at this time. Perhaps a good side effect of COVID guidelines! We will continue to do regular health checks as children arrive. Beyond the COVID protocols, please ensure you are keeping children home until they have completely recovered from all illnesses such as the stomach flu.

### **PAC**

The next PAC meeting will take place January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. This will likely be a Zoom meeting. Stay tuned 😊

Yours sincerely,



Bev Forster,  
Principal