

M.V. BEATTIE BULLETIN

"Kindness is like snow - it beautifies everything it covers."

Upcoming Events

Dec. 2 -

Kindergarten Vision
Screening

Dec. 6

**Community
Christmas Light**

Up - MVB walking
field trip to meet
Santa begins at
8:30am

Dec. 12- PAC

Meeting @ 5:30 pm

Dec. 16 - Pizza Day

**Dec. 18 - Christmas
Concert @ Splatsin
Ctr. 12:30pm. Doors
open at 12:00pm.**

**Dec. 20 - Pyjama
Day**

**Winter Holiday
Dec. 23 - Jan. 3**

Jan. 6 - School
Reopens

On With The Show...



A few weeks ago, if you saw a few hundred youngsters crossing the highway and heading to A.L. Fortune, you would have been witnessing a "pilgrimage" of sorts. Each year our students are able to view 3-4 cultural performances, but this year we were able to enjoy a bit of exercise en route to the "Release the Rhythm" drumming workshop. Daniel Duggan was a one-man show. Not only did he introduce our students to different drums and beats from a variety of countries across our globe, but he also gave many of them the opportunity to join him in making some music. A lot of fun was had by all!

“Wacky Hair Day”



Our gr. 6 leadership students decided that it was time to get wacky! Students and staff were encouraged to show up with the most creative hairdos that they could imagine. The day did not disappoint. We had all kinds of examples, with many participants from each class. Wacky Hair Day is just one of the many FUN Theme Days that our Leadership students are planning throughout the year. Thanks to everyone for showing their school spirit!



Roots of Empathy

The Roots of Empathy program has had a longstanding tradition at M.V. Beattie. The goals of the program are:

- To develop emotional literacy
- To reduce levels of bullying, aggression and violence, and promote children's pro-social behaviours
- To increase knowledge of human development, learning, and infant safety
- To foster the development of empathy
- To prepare students for responsible citizenship and responsive parenting

This year we learned that Roots of Empathy would be discontinued due to a lack of funding. However, our community came to the rescue. Thanks to former teacher and super volunteer, Sheila Forster, and our amazing Enderby Lions Club, our students were able to take advantage of a program that starts our children on the path to understanding the importance of making positive emotional connections

Term One: Goal Setting Conference

GOAL SETTING



We were excited to see so many parents and guardians join us for our first term goal setting conference. I have heard positive remarks from our staff and also from a number of parents who were kind enough to share their insights about the meetings. The power of these conferences is that **together** we create meaningful goals that focus on the individual learner.

The follow up, and our continued vigilance, will be important. Let's keep helping our kids to monitor their progress. Each step forward is worth noticing and nurturing!

Have a great second term, Wildcats!

Take Your Kids To Work Day



Community Spotlight



Many people may be familiar with **Twice But Nice** but probably few are aware of how they help our community - beyond the obvious service they provide. Twice But Nice frequently checks in with M.V. Beattie to find ways to help our students. From donating seasonal clothing, helmets and skates for our PE program, and even financial contributions, Twice But Nice does their utmost to ensure that our students receive advantages that we otherwise could not afford to provide. **THANK YOU!**

Book Fair 2019



A big "Thank You" to Amanda Renner for organizing our annual Book Fair. As usual, she had the support of a number of our parent community - and even enlisted a few of her family members to help in the early mornings. For those of you who may only be aware of this from a consumer standpoint, the book fair revenue provides our classroom teachers with additional resources to purchase new books to build their classroom libraries.

Thanks to the PAC for supporting our school goal to improve the literacy of all students.

Science World Thrills





November 4, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Re: Requirements Under BC's New Vaccination Status Reporting Regulation

BC's new Vaccination Status Reporting Regulation came into effect on July 1, 2019. It supports the gathering of immunization records by Public Health. The regulation applies to all students in all schools within the Province's jurisdiction, including those who are home-schooled. It does not apply to children attending schools in First Nations communities.

In the coming months, our staff will check the immunization records we have on file for school age children. They will identify children whose records are missing or incomplete. Families of these children may be contacted. They will be asked to provide us with the immunization information required under the regulation. We will also let families know where children can receive immunizations.

Our public health centres already have complete immunization information on file for most children. For this reason, most families will not be contacted or need to take any further action. If you are contacted, it may only mean that we need to update some information in our files. It may not mean that your child is missing immunizations.

You can use the online [Vaccination Status Indicator tool](#) to check if your child's immunization record is missing or incomplete. It tells you if your child's immunization record is on file with public health but does not provide any details about their immunization status or history.

Collecting immunization information allows us to connect with families about the importance of disease prevention. It also helps public health to control outbreaks by quickly identifying children who are not fully immunized and helps everyone get back to learning as soon as possible.

For more information, please visit <https://immunizebc.ca/vaccination-status-reporting-regulation> or contact your local health centre to speak to a public health nurse.

Thank you for helping to keep our children and communities healthy.

Sincerely,

Karin Goodison, MD MPH FRCPC
Medical Health Officer



LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH CENTRE PHONE NUMBERS

IH Central					
Armstrong	250-546-4727	Oliver	250-498-5080	Rutland	250-980-4825
Enderby	250-838-2450	Osoyoos	250-495-6433	Salmon Arm	250-833-4100
Kelowna	250-469-7070 Ext 13301	Penticton	250-770-3434	Sicamous	250-836-4835
Keremeos	250-499-3029	Princeton	250-295-4442	Summerland	250-404-8050
Lumby	250-547-2164	Revelstoke	250-814-2244	Vernon	250-549-5721
				West Kelowna	250-980-5150

M.V.BEATTIE'S STARLIGHT NEWS MAKES THE VERNON MORNING STAR

Congratulations to our hardworking newspaper reporters for sharing their journey with M.V. Beattie Alumnus, and Vernon Morning Star journalist, Brendan Shykora. The Starlight News is a great example of what can happen when students take initiative!

www.vernonmorningstar.com

Vernon Morning Star

Friday, November 29, 2019 Page A3

News

Enderby students start own school newspaper

Brendan Shykora
Morning Star Staff

Student newspapers are a vibrant part of most university campuses and many high schools, but it's not easy to find a newspaper written by students for students in elementary school.

Look no further than the team behind Starlight News — a group of a dozen Grade 5 and 6 students at M.V. Beattie Elementary in Enderby.

Sierra Reap is the newspaper's editor in chief. She started the paper after noticing that the school's newsletters were mostly designed for kids to take home to their parents, rather than to be read by the students themselves.

"Usually in high schools there's newspapers and those are student-run, so maybe stuff that students actually want to read about," Reap said at her newspaper's Friday story meeting, attended by fellow students Lexi Derksen, Anna Collins, Molly Korf and Charlie Telford.

The news team spends two lunch hours every week working on their weekly publication.

"I thought that was a really good idea to bring here, because sometimes it's kind of boring to read novels and stuff like that, and you can just read a newspaper instead and see what's actually going on in your school," Reap said.

For last week's edition, Derksen delved into a topic rife with controversy among M.V. Beattie students: Gaga ball.

It's a variation of dodgeball students play during lunch, the problem being that nobody can seem to agree on what the rules should be.



Lexi Derksen, Charlie Telford, Sierra Reap and Anna Collins are just a few of the reporters and editors behind Starlight News at M.V. Beattie Elementary. (Brendan Shykora - Morning Star)

"There's always arguments in the Gaga pit," Derksen said.

From that starting point, she crafted some questions for further investigation: Why do people like Gaga ball?

Is there anything they'd like to see changed? What could be done better?

"I found out a lot of people like to play the waist down," she said, describing one of the handful of rules that constitute a gray area in

the rulebook.

"There's this (rule) that used to be called 'tap-ins' and I was trying to get opinions on who liked it and what they think.

'And riding on the boards — that's another thing that people can never agree on.

"Everybody I ask thinks that's cheating."

Derksen said there have not been any monumental changes to the way Gaga Ball is played as a result of

her reporting, but there has been an increase in rule enforcement — and as far as journalists can hope to affect change through their work, that has to be considered a victory.

"There's more teachers around to try to prevent all the cheating and the not-so-nice language being said, so I'm thinking that it's getting better, just very slowly."

Progress is slow, but the same can't be said about the news cycle.

That said, the team at Starlight

News seems to be handling the pace well. At their Friday story meetings, they can create a plan for the entire week with stories assigned to everyone in about five minutes.

Derksen said she spoke to two or three people for her Gaga ball story, but next time she wants to get a larger sample size of student opinion.

"This time, in hockey, I'm hoping to get more opinions because it's a smaller group," she said, already thinking ahead to some scheduling challenges she'll have to contend with, as journalists often do.

"In hockey, the game doesn't end until the bell rings, so I probably need to get them at a different time."

The newspaper has only been up and running since September, but once the team has gained some experience, they might try their hands at broadcast journalism.

Principal Gene Doray said the students could air the school's daily agenda on a YouTube channel in the future.

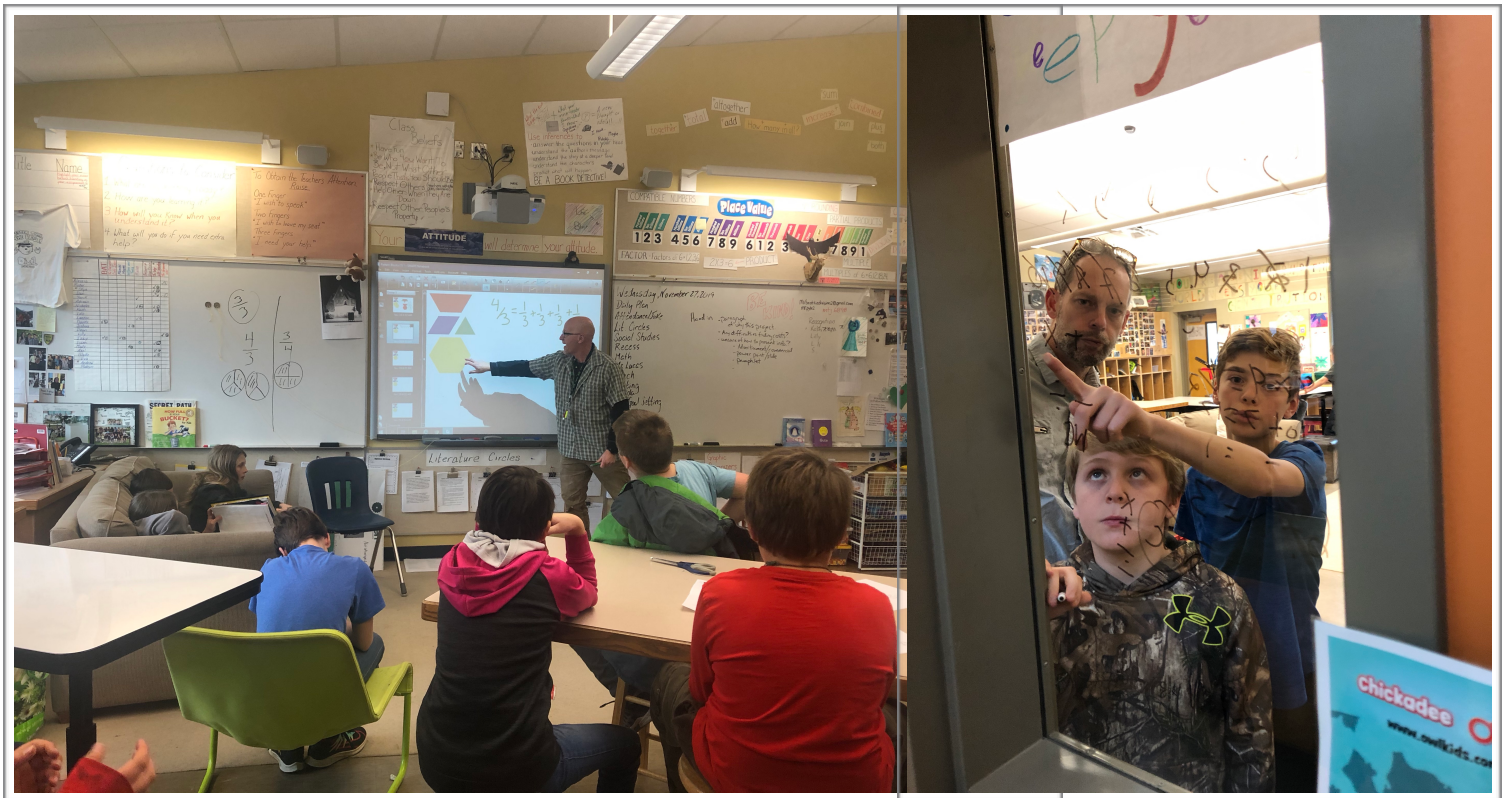
"Instead of the morning announcements from the speakers, he came up with an idea to maybe have us reporting on stuff to put on our Smartboards," Reap said.

Whether they stick to print or go live on the air, the students have left staff at the school amazed by their enthusiasm and self-direction.

"I'm so impressed that they recognize the importance of student's voice and the need for student voice in an elementary school," vice-principal Mishel Quaal said.

"It's the first time I've seen this type of initiative from elementary school children to recognize the need for their voice to be heard in their education here."

M.V. Beattie's Numeracy Goal In Action



O.K., hands up if you ever uttered the phrase, “I’m just not very good at math.”

Perhaps, you even made the excuse, “when will I ever need to use this?” Many of us gladly accepted the notion that a “math deficiency” may even be hereditary. “My mom and dad weren’t good at math either, and apparently neither were my grandparents.”

The truth is that many of us were eager to sign up for some, or all, of these excuses in order not to confront our frustration with not finding it easy. Most people like things that make them feel good, smart and competent. It takes courage to stand up to challenges. Perseverance is another important characteristic for all of us to nurture, and while we may not have realized this during our childhood years, as adults we have seen countless examples of how this is true.

So, what now... while none of us can turn back the clock and undo our negative attitudes or excuses, we can make certain to **not** pass on the “hereditary” argument to our children.

Math is cool!

I have adopted this attitude, and done my best to share it with my children. I don't tell them that I find it easy, but when something “challenging” arrives, I want them to understand that a good attitude combined with a strong effort (and the humility to ask for help, from time to time) is the path to success.

O.K., so perhaps you are willing to try on a new attitude...great, but you are still not off the hook. There is more you can do. We all have heard of the “new math” - but I can attest to the fact that what is truly new are the many wonderful methods that our teachers use to demonstrate math concepts. However, it does seem different from how “we” were taught “back in the day.” So, please accept my invitation to join us at M.V. Beattie on Feb. 11 and March 10 (**6:30pm**) to have some fun with math. ***Parent/ Guardian Math Nights...It just doesn't get better than this!***

