



# Khowhemun Elementary School

*We are grateful to be learning together on the traditional and unceded territory of the Coast Salish People.*



## Happy Holidays

Khowhemun's staff would like to wish students and their families a happy holiday and all the best for the upcoming year. The last day of classes is Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Khowhemun will reopen on Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023. Have a safe, relaxing and merry holiday!

## Winter Luncheon

Khowhemun's annual winter luncheon will be hosted on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. During the winter luncheon, the classrooms will turn into festive settings and students and staff will come together to enjoy a delicious turkey lunch together. Once again we extend a huge thank you to Nourish Cowichan who will be preparing and providing the meal for Khowhemun. We also thank Khowhemun PAC for providing the dessert and thank Khowhemun's staff for helping in to make this day a huge success.



## 2022/2023 Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the next school year is fast approaching. Kindergarten registration week is January 23 - 27, 2023. Please pass on the dates to families with kindergarten age children. More information will be shared early in January.

## Inclement Weather Information

In the event of inclement weather and a school closure, information will be posted to our school Facebook site, communicated through e-mail, and shared through Cowichan Valley School District platforms. Local radio stations and broadcasters including The Q! (100.3 FM), JUICE-FM (89.7), CBC (90.5 FM) and TV stations, CTV Vancouver Island, Global BC, and CHEK News will also be informed. Student safety is always the first priority.



## UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS:

Tuesday, Dec. 6  
Bottle Drive

Monday to Friday  
Dec. 12 - 16  
Winter Spirit Week  
(See Weekly Reminders for details)

Wednesday, Dec. 14  
PAC Winter Raffle Draw

Thursday, Dec. 15  
Winter Luncheon & School Wide Carolling

Friday, Dec. 16  
Last day of classes before winter vacation

Dec. 19 - Jan. 2  
Winter Break

Tuesday, Jan. 3  
Schools reopen

Wednesday, Jan. 25  
2-Hour Early Dismissal





## Annual Door Decorating Challenge

Every year Khowhemun partakes in some friendly competition and hosts the annual Door Decorating Challenge. This year's theme, chosen by last year's winners, is "Christmas Around the World." Staff and students are beginning to create festive representations of the theme, adding Christmas spirit to the halls of Khowhemun. Judging takes place later next week and a new class will have the honour of being door decorating champions. Stay tuned for pictures of the decorated doors.

## Student and Family Affordability Fund

This fall, the BC Ministry of Education allocated one-time funding to school districts to assist with making the costs associated with school more affordable for families. During this time, when families are feeling the pressures of inflation and rising costs, the funds are intended to expand school meal programs, to ensure students have the school supplies they need, and to cover any additional fees associated with school (e.g., field trip costs and activity fees). Through consultation with the school district, members of the PAC and school community, staff and students, input was gathered about how to distribute and spend the funds.

For Khowhemun Elementary, the initial plans include:

1. To pay for all outstanding student school supplies fees.
2. To offer reimbursement to families who have paid for school supplies and would like to be reimbursed and spend the funds differently.
3. To cover the cost of all field trips for the 2022/2023 school year.
4. To invite parents/guardians to reach out to the school if they require assistance with the purchase of shoes and coats for school.
5. To offer financial help to families who may require assistance with groceries.

If you would like to be reimbursed for your child(ren)'s school supplies or would benefit for a gift card to assist with the purchase of shoes, jackets, or groceries for your children and family, please respond to this email, reach out to a staff member or PAC member, or call the school office and ask to speak to Mrs. Calverley or Ms. Julie.

Please share this information with other Khowhemun families. Our goal is to distribute the money over the school year and to ensure that families are receiving the support they need during this time when families are feeling financial pressures in many ways. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the school.



## PAC Update

Thank you for continuing to support the PAC and the fundraisers we have hosted this year. The Created by Kids Artwork fundraiser was a success, and the orders should be arriving at school soon. Thank you for also supporting the Winter Raffle, which includes 1 x \$250 gift certificate and 5 x \$100 gift certificates from Superstore. Please return both sold and unsold, by Friday, December 9th so the tickets can be counted and accounted for. The draw will take place at 2:00 pm on December 14th.

Have a safe and Happy Holiday! The next PAC meeting is Tuesday, January 17th at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be hosted in the Library and all parents and guardians are invited to attend.

