



# WESTVIEW WHISPER

WESTVIEW PUBLIC SCHOOL HOME OF THE WARRIORS

## WORKING TOGETHER: SYNERGY

December is a super month for synergy in Grade Three! The students in 3K and 3L are presenting *The Canadian Twelve Days of Christmas* in our concert, December 12th. We have been practicing together, blending our voices and enthusiasm, to make this an energetic and entertaining number for our concert audience. The lyrics are funny and have been easy to learn. We hope you will enjoy hearing it as much as we have enjoyed preparing it for you!



Working and learning together is something we really like to do at Westview School! This year in Grade Three, we've shared our skills to learn about geometry and fractions in math, Remembrance Day activities, art projects, and science assignments. Coming up in the new year, we are looking forward to language presentations, math games and activities, and lots more science! Students working together learn plenty about taking turns, active listening, discovering their strengths, building trust, and friendships.

Synergizing...no wonder it's one of our favourite habits to practice!

### IMPORTANT DATES IN DECEMBER

December 11—Westview School Concert, 7:00 to 8:00 pm (students, please arrive by 6:45). Food Bank items will be collected at the door.

December 16—Westview's Annual Kid's Bazaar. Volunteers needed to wrap treasures!

December 18—Ski Day, Division 2

### MORE DECEMBER INFO!

December 20—School Assembly, 10:45. You are welcome to join us.

Reminder: Students are expected to go outside for recess when temperatures are minus 20 or warmer. Please ensure that your child is properly dressed for playing in the snow!

## LEARNING ABOUT CURSIVE WRITING

December is handwriting month in Grade Three. We are discovering the beauty of the cursive alphabet and finding out that while it isn't easy to form some of the letters, it sure is interesting! The flowing movements are exercising our hands in new ways and we are developing a real appreciation for neatness and style.

We asked some of the Grade 3

students to share their thoughts about learning to handwrite.

"I like that I can write faster," says Megan, "but it was hard at first."

Josh says, "I like that you can connect letters."

"Turning the letters into words isn't easy," Brooke tells us.

The cursive writing program

we are using was shared with us by occupational therapists years ago. It places letters into four groups, according to their shapes, to help children see the similarities between letters and develop their skills quickly. Many of our students are anxious to learn the rest of the alphabet so that they can write all of their assignments in cursive script. That's a goal we can all understand!

On the weekend of November 15 and 16, the École McTavish Volleyball teams (approximately 72 athletes) headed into the final tournament looking for some great play and teamwork from their student athletes. Not only did they get that, they set a record in the process! The senior boys and girls teams both had hard matches, but won the gold medal and banner for the Tier one level tournament. In the Tier two side, it was an all McTavish final on both the boys and girls sides as our two intermediate teams earned their way to the finals to play each other! It was an impressive site to see four Marauder teams on the floor for the finals in tier two, after all four earned their way past the other schools to make the finals. So for the first time at a major sport weekend in junior high, one school walked away with all four banners and two silver medals! École McTavish is the home to athletic excellence with Edge Hockey, Flex Academy for swimmers, gymnasts, and figure skaters (or any sport), and our consistent strong placing at interschool athletics. Are you a future athlete for our squads? We know there are many future Marauder stars out there and we look forward to working with you!

Scott Barr

Principal, École McTavish Junior High Public School

# December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 PACAHT	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Set up for Christmas Bazaar	16 Christmas Bazaar	17	18 Ski Day	19	20	21 Winter Break Begins
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	See You Back to school on Monday January 6			

