

# DECEMBER 2017

## St. Francis Xavier School

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is hard to believe, but December is already here! We have successfully completed the first term and report cards will be sent home shortly. We are proud of the effort that both Grade Seven classes have put forward and we are looking ahead to a successful and exciting second term.

### Language Arts

We are currently studying literature that includes unforeseen endings and unusual story themes. Students will be using *SightLines* to enhance their skills in understanding. We are discussing the use of foreshadowing, flashback, and various narrative perspectives.

In December, we will begin our novel study unit. Students will work with their literature circles groups to complete a selected novel. Throughout the unit, the class will apply the Reading Power strategies. The students will predict, question, and make connections.

### December Birthdays!

Zachary Poon—8th

Brandon Wu—15th

Maddisen Ching—30th

Jake Lam—30th



### December at a Glance:

Tuesday, Dec. 5th:

-Holy Rosary & Fly Over Canada Field Trip

Thursday, Dec. 14th:

-Term One Report Cards sent home

Friday, Dec. 22nd:

-Last day of school before Christmas Break

-SFX Christmas Concert, 11am

-Noon (12pm) dismissal

### January at a Glance:

Monday, Jan. 8th:

-School Re-opens

Thursday, Jan. 18th & 25th

-Whistler Ski Trip

## Social Studies

In November, we visited the Museum of Vancouver. The classes participated in a simulated excavation. The students were able to see a real mummy from Egypt and were able to practice their archaeological skills.

In December, the students will work in groups to study an ancient civilization. Each group will research, take notes, and prepare a written assignment that describes the history, traditions, and customs of their chosen civilization.

## Science

As November came to an end, the Grade Sevens finished studying chapter five and then continued on to the last chapter in their Unit on Chemistry. Students will learn about classifying matter, elements, compounds, and mixtures. Both classes will be completing projects on elements and making models of compounds they chose. Since Christmas is quickly approaching, their projects will be due after the Christmas Break. Students will be given ample class-time to work on their projects but will be expected to complete some research at home.

## Math

As the month of December starts, so will the Grade Sevens' exploration of Probability. Before beginning this chapter, both classes will be completing math work in preparation for any upcoming placement tests. Once we have completed the preparation work, students will begin learning about probability. This chapter will cover theoretical and experimental probability for independent and compound events. As always, students are encouraged to complete as many chapter questions as possible in addition to their assigned homework questions. Exposure to a variety of questions and styles as well as practice will help ensure students reach their potential.

**Keep**  
**CHRIST**  
**in**  
**CHRISTMAS**

