



# Brighthouse School News

*“Where Everyone Counts”*

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## **Social Responsibility**

Our social responsibility focus for the month of November is respect, courtesy and fostering student leadership. As part of our ongoing commitment towards social responsibility and academic excellence, we at Samuel Brighthouse School strongly believe in instilling in our students critical leadership and lifelong learning skills. We believe that students are further able to engage as learners when they are given the unique opportunity to be mentors, leaders and peer helpers themselves. Moreover, when students are given the responsibility to ‘give back’ and further contribute to the school community, there seems to be an innate sense of satisfaction and positive affirmation of one’s ability that becomes immediately evident. In this regard, we continue to offer several leadership opportunities for students at our school, such as being office and lunch monitors, crossing guards, morning announcers, student council members, breakfast club helpers, and environmental monitors.

“Do not follow where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”  
Ralph Waldo. Emerson

## **Remembrance Day Assembly**

This year, as Remembrance day approaches (Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>), take some time to reflect on how extremely fortunate we are to live in a peaceful society that values diversity. We will be holding a Remembrance Day Assembly in the gym on Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am. Parents and families are cordially invited to attend. We will be asking for a small donation in payment of receiving a poppy. All monies collected will be donated to the Poppy Fund. Please remember: **schools will be CLOSED Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>.**



## **Phone Use**

School phones are for emergency use only. Students are not allowed to use them for social arrangements. Parents: please arrange after-school pickup prior to the school day!

## **Parking, Drop-off and School Access**

Whenever possible, we ask that you and your children walk to school. It is a healthier and greener alternative to driving. When that is not possible, parents are now able to drop off their children in our Drop-Off Circle, which is entered just north of the staff parking entrance, off Azure Road. **Please do not use the staff parking lot at any time.** Once the building opens at 8:30 am each day, students may enter the school through our main entrance at the east end of the school, or through the north doors adjacent to the elevator.



## **Photo Retakes**



Individual student photograph retakes will be taken on Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. Wear your smile!



## **If your child is sick...**

In an effort to keep the number of illnesses down at school, we thank you in advance for **keeping your child at home if they are showing symptoms of a cold or flu.** As the cooler months approach, we would like to remind parents to make sure your child(ren) are dressed for the weather. When the weather permits, we believe in 'outside days' where students are to be outside during recess and lunch breaks. This is a great way for students to get

fresh air, exercise and socialize with their friends. Please kindly remember to call our early warning number **(604-668-6522)** if your child is home sick; and leave your child's name, grade and division. Thank you!

### The PAC

Brighthouse PAC is a group of people working together to support the Brighthouse School community. The PAC provides a forum for community building and information sharing on issues impacting the education of our kids. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate. There are many ways to be involved from pizza days to guest speakers. If you have any suggestions, please share your ideas and help make them a reality. Stay in touch - talk in person, call or email. We all share in making Brighthouse the best place possible for our kids and community! The next **PAC Meeting** is **November 24<sup>th</sup>** at **3pm** in the **library**.



### DIWALI

Diwali is India's most important holiday of the year and is celebrated around the world. Originally a Hindu festival, Diwali is now celebrated by most Indians regardless of their faith. Diwali means "row of lighted lamps" and is the Festival of Lights. It is celebrated over 5 days. It is said that Diwali is as important to Hindus as Christmas is to Christians. Diwali is celebrated between mid-October and mid-November. The main festival night of Diwali is determined by when the darkest, new moon night occurs. People prepare for Diwali by cleaning and decorating their homes and offices. On Diwali night, people dress up, light lamps and candles inside and outside, join in prayers and enjoy fireworks and family feasts including sweets. People also exchange gifts and celebrate with dancing, music and storytelling. The biggest Vancouver Diwali celebration is the annual Vancouver Celebrates Diwali Festival organized by the Diwali Celebration Society. This festival goes on for a week and celebrates Diwali as well as South Asian arts and culture. Their mission is to break down cultural barriers - that's what we want to do at Brighthouse too.

## What's Happening at Brighthouse!

### October

- 29 Saturday ..... *School Community Dance* (free **family** event 6:30-8:00 p.m.)
- 31 Monday..... *Halloween Assembly* 9:30a.m. (parents welcome)

### November

- 04 Friday ..... *Pizza Day*
- 04 Friday ..... *Photo Retakes* (9:00 a.m.)
- 10 Thursday ..... *Remembrance Day Assembly* (9:30 a.m.) Parents welcome
- 11 Friday ..... *Remembrance Day Holiday- students DO NOT attend school*
- 16 Wednesday ..... *Volleyball tournament*
- 18 Friday..... *Pro D Day - students DO NOT attend school*

### December

- 02 Friday ..... *Fine Arts Performance Assembly* (1:30 p.m.)
- 05 Monday *Pro D Day - students DO NOT attend school*

## Halloween Dance for the entire Family!

We are holding a school community Halloween Fun Night and Dance with games and activities. It is **free** and all community members are welcome! Please bring a snack to share (no peanuts please) and wear a costume if you like. This community gathering will be held:

**Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**6:30 to 8:00 pm**  
**Brighthouse School Gym**

