

December 2014

Volume 2, Issue 2

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Walton PAC Newsletter



Walton PAC e-mail address: waltonpac@gmail.com

Walton PAC Website: <http://www.waltonpac.ca>

School Website: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/elementary/walton/Pages/default.aspx>

Update: Tot Lot Renovation Fundraising



Thank-you to everyone who has already graciously responded to the PAC's request for fundraising assistance for the soon to be replaced Tot Lot playground. We have already raised \$8,000 towards our goal of \$30,000. We're off to a great start!

We welcome all donations, big and small, from families, relatives and friends of our community. Details on how to receive a tax-deductible receipt from School District 43 are available on the PAC website at www.waltonpac.ca/donate2.html. While we have passed the deadline for tax receipts for 2014, donations of \$25 or greater are still eligible for a receipt for the 2015 tax year.

As you will have read in the flyer that went home with students last month, the City of Coquitlam generously awarded us a \$20,000 grant towards the \$50,000 renovation project on the condition that we can get construction underway before the end of the school year in June 2015. We need to raise a total of \$30,000 to fill the financing gap.

If you have a good contact with a business or person who might be willing to contribute, please contact waltonpac@gmail.com. You can check the PAC website regularly to view our 'fundraising thermometer' to see how the efforts are progressing.

Litter Less at Lunch

Walton teachers, administration and parents would like to help our school produce less garbage every week, recycle more and reduce our community's footprint on the environment our children grow up in.

Right now, students are encouraged to sort paper and cardboard into recycling bins and rinse and recycle food and drink containers whenever possible. A big thank you to Mrs. Nicole St. Pierre and the grade four and five recycling volunteer students for their work and leadership in our recycling program! The empties are taken to the depot once a week and we have earned over \$100 in refunds since the beginning of the school year.

All students can contribute and learn how to reduce the amount of garbage they create day by day. Mrs. St. Pierre is working on expanding the recycling project to include collecting green waste (food leftovers, apple cores, fruit peel, etc.) for composting.

This said, ideally a student's lunch and recess food and drink would not leave any garbage behind at all. So how can families come closer to the goal of an entirely litter-less lunch?

Happily, often eating healthier and creating less waste go hand in hand. Here are some tips to consider:

Reduce

- **Water for drinking:** Did you know that a box of fruit juice contains more sugar than the same amount of Coca Cola? It is not only healthier for children to drink water when they are thirsty; it is cheaper and better for the environment too. Consider a reusable water bottle to fill with fresh tap water in the morning. Students can easily refill an empty water bottle themselves at our drinking fountains.
- **Do it yourself:** Ready-packed portions of puddings, fruit snacks, cheese and crackers create lots of packaging waste and are quite expensive. To go easy on the family budget and the environment, buy large containers of yoghurt, a chunk of cheddar, a bag of apples, and portion out yourself. If you are pressed for time in the mornings, pack snacks the night before and keep ready in the fridge.

- **Natural packaging:** A small apple or a mandarin orange come in their own natural packaging, unlike a throw-away pouch of apple sauce or a snack container of mandarin pieces in syrup. Less processed food is better for your children's health too!

Reuse

- **Reusable containers:** Pack snacks and lunches in reusable containers with reusable cutlery. Stores offer clever lunch-boxes with nesting, dishwasher-proof, lidded containers just the right size for a recess snack, fruit slices or sandwich. They are fun to unpack, easy to re-close with leftovers and small enough to take down to the playground in a coat pocket.
- **Wash me:** Almost anything can be reused. Washing and reusing items we already have at home (like plastic bags or cutlery) will still be easier on the environment.
- **Reuse don't lose!** Make sure your children know to bring reusable containers back home - and don't forget to put their names on bottles and boxes

Coming Events

After School Activities

Registration for the Winter Session begins December 5, 2014.

Activities at a Glance:

Monday	Lasermasters Zumba
Tuesday	Beginner Mandarin. Science Made Fun
Wednesday	Toastminors Running Club
Thursday	Beginner and Intermediate Mandarin Lego Robotics (K-3)
Friday	Tennis (K-3) Art (Gr. 3-5)

Comfy Couch at Winter Concert

Stay tuned for details on how to buy raffle tickets for the comfy couches during the Winter Concert on December 18, morning and afternoon performances.

DPAC Meeting

All Walton are invited to attend the DPAC (District Parent Advisory Council) meetings.

The next DPAC meeting will be held: Wednesday January 28th at 7:00pm Gallery Room, Winslow Centre, 1100 Winslow Avenue, Coquitlam
For more information regarding DPAC, please see inspire.dpac43.org

Walton Family 2014 Winter Bake Sale

Please join us for our Annual Winter Bake Sale following the Winter Holiday Concerts. There will be a delicious selection of homemade baked goods to purchase and enjoy. All proceeds to go to the Tot Lot.

When: Thursday, December 18, 2014 following each concert (9:15am & 1:00pm)

Where: Inside the Walton Library, across from the gym



Fundraising Activities

Entertainment Book Drive

We are thrilled with the results of this year's Entertainment Book drive. Thank you to all who supported this fundraiser. We sold 287 books and raised over \$4,300.

The winners of the Pizza parties were Mrs. Evans class and Mr. Finlay/Ms. Ji's class. Way to go! There were also two lucky kids who won the "Hot Lunch for the Year" and "Lunch with the Principal" awards.

If you purchased an Entertainment Book this year, and you have a smart phone, don't forget to download the free app for additional coupons.

Movie Night

Another successful movie night was held on Nov 28th. Everyone enjoyed Planes: Fire and Rescue! We also collected 2 boxes of food for the Share food bank and had 3 lucky raffle winners.

Thank-you!

We would like to extend a big thank you to Nufloors Coquitlam, Paul Lowey, and Faith and Mathew Tang for their generous donations of new carpets for our students.

In total they provided five much needed rugs for our classrooms at Walton!



Volunteers Needed

After School Activities Coordinator for 2015

After School Activities is looking for an innovative and enthusiastic volunteer to start the process of taking over the organizing of the after school activities for the 2015/2016 year. If you are interested in being the after school coordinator or would like more information, please email waltonactivities@gmail.com

Movie Night Coordinator Needed

The PAC fundraising team is looking for a volunteer to take on and run the PAC Movie nights. These are fun and popular evenings with the children. Please email waltonpacfundraising@gmail.com if you are interested or for more information.



Traffic Volunteers Urgently Needed



We urgently need someone to help with crosswalk duty on Wednesday afternoons and Friday afternoons. Perks include donning a cheery sunshine yellow vest, command of the mighty stop sign stick (affectionately called the 'lollipop'), and receiving many smiles and thank-you's from Waltonites as they cross the street.

No prior experience is required. If anyone is interested or would like more information, please contact waltonpac@gmail.com.

Popcorn Machine Volunteer

We need a volunteer to run the PAC commercial popcorn machine at events such as Movie Night and Sports Day. Experience with a commercial popcorn machine is a plus but training can be provided. For more information, please email waltonpac@gmail.com.

Join a Committee

We are looking for volunteers to join the Tot Lot Fundraising Committee and the Sip 'n Savour Committee. If you are interested in helping out with either of these projects, we would welcome your assistance. Please contact waltonpac@gmail.com for more information and committee meeting times.

Please see the Walton PAC website at <http://www.waltonpac.ca> for more ways to get involved at the school.



Upcoming PAC Meetings 2015

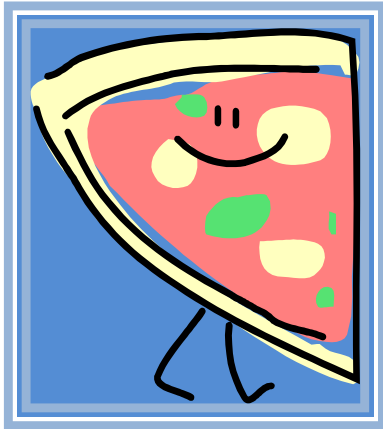
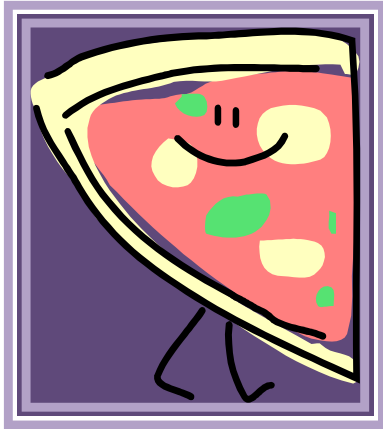
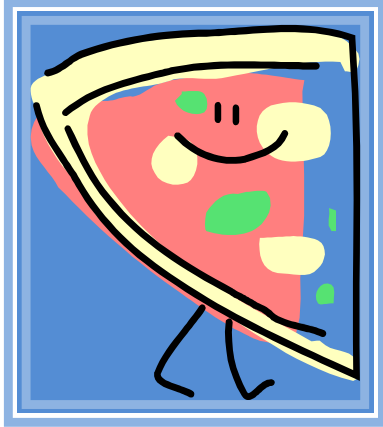
PAC meetings will be held on the following Monday nights for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year:

January 19, 2015
February 23, 2015
March 30, 2015
May 4, 2015 (Annual General Meeting)
June 8, 2015 (final meeting of the school year)

The meeting will begin at 6:45p.m.

Please contact us at waltonpac@gmail.com if you require child-minding
(for potty-trained children over the age of three) during the meeting.
Minutes from each PAC meeting will be e-mailed to all parents.

This newsletter is also available in Chinese and Korean. Thank you to our volunteer translators! This version, as well as all of the translated versions can be found on the PAC Website.



*The Walton PAC invites all
Walton Students & Staff to the*

Pizza Hot Lunch

Wednesday, December 10th

The Hot Lunch will include:

- ♥ Choice of Cheese, Pepperoni, or Hawaiian Pizza (Flying Wedge Pizza, Whole Wheat Crust)
- ♥ Carrot Sticks, Cucumber Slices, & Ranch Dip
- ♥ Bottled Water
- ♥ Choice of Chocolate Chip Cookie or Rice Krispies Square*

*Cookies do not contain nuts but are produced in a facility that uses peanuts and tree nuts.

*Rice Krispies Squares will be provided to students with nut allergies.

*Lays Baked Original Chips (contains soy) will be provided as a vegetarian option and to students with milk or wheat allergies.

**Please notify us if your child has any food allergies*

Cost for this lunch - \$5 per lunch

***\$2 for a second slice (depending on availability)**

Students will need to bring their lunch money to school on Hot Lunch day

If you would like to order a dairy-free (Daiya Cheese), gluten-free, or special order pizza, or require ingredient information, please email waltonpac@gmail.com by December 3rd, 12:00 pm.

All menu items meet the requirements outlined in the Guidelines for Food and Beverage Sales in BC Schools

Volunteers are needed on Hot Lunch day! Please contact Connie or Karen at waltonpac@gmail.com for further information.