

January 2016

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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>

Walton PAC Twitter Account: <https://twitter.com/waltonsd43pac>

Walton PAC Facebook Account: <https://www.facebook.com/waltonSD43PAC>

Read-a-thon is Going Strong!

Our read-a-thon fundraiser is well underway. We are two thirds of the way to raising the \$12,000 needed to support the library which will keep the existing books in good repair and purchase new ones for the next 4 years. Every student visits the library at least once a week - it's a valuable resource that keep the kids interested in learning. Every donation receives a charitable tax receipt.

Many thanks to our sponsors who are matching donations. That is, for every dollar you're donating, they're doubling it with their own contribution. A shout out to Cortney Lessard (Realtor), Church's Chicken, James Garbutt (realtor), Monarch Pediatric Dentistry, the Tang Family, the Kho Family, and the Jacobson Family. If you're interested in becoming a sponsor, please send us a note at waltonpacfundraising@gmail.com

Check out our read-a-thon fundraising site, <https://chimp.net/groups/walton-read-a-thon>, to see the books the students have read and a fun video the students helped make. Don't forget to add the books your child has completed reading.

If you have any questions, check out our read-a-thon FAQ page, <http://www.waltonpac.ca/read-a-thon-faq.html>, or drop us a note at waltonpacfundraising@gmail.com

Many thanks for your support!



Movie Night: Hotel Transylvania 2

The Walton PAC invites you to come out for Movie Night on Friday January 22nd for our feature film: Hotel Transylvania 2.

Concession opens at 6pm and the movie starts at 6:30pm. The cost is \$3 per person or \$10 for a family.

Watch out for posters around Walton for additional details.

If you'd like to volunteer for this event, please sign up at www.waltonpac.ca



Hot Lunch Update

Thanks to everyone who supported the PAC Subway Hot Lunch! It was our first special hot lunch using the new online ordering system and we raised over \$300. Our next special hot lunch will be Mexican food from Taco Del Mar on Wednesday, February 17th and you can place your orders starting on January 11th.



We will be delivering lunches to the students in their classrooms for this special hot lunch and we will require extra parent volunteers to help with the organization and delivery. If you are able to help out from 11:00 to 12:30 pm on February 17th, please email us at waltonpachotlunch@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support,
Connie and Fanny
PAC Hot Lunch Committee

Can You Donate any Gardening Tools?

The Gardening Program is in need of some tools for the students' to use in cultivating the garden that will be planted this spring.

If you have any of the following in good working order that you would be willing to donate, please drop them off at the school office by Monday February 15th.

- class set of hand trowels
- class set of hand forks (cultivators)
- good quality rubber non kinking hose that runs the length from spigot to garden
- sturdy hose reel to store and hose - lee valley
- watering wand
- watering cans
- 1 hard rake
- 1 soft rake
- 2 shovels



Don't forget to sign up for Saleema Noon

Saleema Noon Sexual Health educators will be holding workshops on the evenings of Jan 25th and Feb 1st. Separate workshops will be held for parents, primary students, and intermediate students. Sign up now at www.waltonpac.ca

Walton Gardening Program

project provides children the opportunity to play in the dirt, plant some seeds, harvest what they grow, and to taste something fresh and delicious. It promotes community, local organic food, healthy eating choices, and food sustainability.

Through this program children learn to grow, harvest and eat nutritiously. Outdoor classroom activities integrate the complete food cycle, from seed to table and from table back to soil.

The program is run by Ian Lai from the Richmond Schoolyard Society. The Richmond Schoolyard Society has been teaching children about health and social responsibility for the last 10 years. Their vision can be summed up in a simple equation:

“Kids + gardens + healthy food = stronger communities”

The Garden Project links well with the Science and Social Studies curriculum for all grade levels at Walton:

Kindergarten: Plants and animals have observable features and daily and seasonal changes affect all living things. Content: Basic needs of plants and animals, seasonal changes, First Peoples' uses of plants and animals.

Grade 1: Big Idea: Living things have features and behaviours that help them survive in their environment and observable patterns and cycles occur in the landscape. Content: Classification of living/non-living things and behavioural adaptations of animals in local environment.

Grade 2: Big Idea: All living things have a life cycle and water is essential to all living things, and it cycles through the environment. Content: Water



sources, metamorphic and non-metamorphic life cycles of different organisms.



Grade 3: Big Idea: Living things are diverse, can be grouped, and interact in ecosystems. Content: Biodiversity, Aboriginal knowledge of ecosystems, energy needed for life.

Grade 4: Big Idea: Organisms in ecosystems sense and respond to their environment and biomes. Content: Features of biomes and the way organisms in ecosystems sense and respond to environment.

Grade 5: Big Idea: Aboriginal concept of interconnectedness in the environment. Content: Basic structures of body systems (digestions), Aboriginal interconnectedness to environment.

The Garden Project is currently being run with select classes and feedback from those teachers and students has been very positive. Last week the Grade one students in Mrs. Dupius and Ms. Cui's classes had a great opportunity to learn about the intricate work and life of worms. Mr. Lai explained that worms are living creatures that have a brain and five hearts. He also let the children know that worms eat compost that is nice and soft, explaining their important role in the life cycle of a productive garden.

Each child had their own container of worms, a stir stick to gently move the worms around, and a magnifying glass. They watched the "Red Wigglers", listened to them with the lights out and many children handled the worms.

More information on the Richmond School Yard Society is available at www.kidsinthegarden.org

A big **THANK YOU** to Mr. Michael Beet and the SD43 Maintenance and Facilities Department for offering to install our garden boxes free of charge. Following discussions regarding our upper playground installation, they have kindly offered to build and install our garden boxes as good will for some oversights that were made this summer.

Fundraising Update

Thank-you for all the support for our PAC Fundraising initiatives. Our winter bake sale and seat raffle raised a total of \$1935.20. The popcorn sale held afterschool on Thursday January 14th raised \$322.



Look for our next Popcorn Sale on Thursday February 4th.

Walton's Emergency Supplies Shed

With the recent local earthquake activity, it is a comfort to know that at Walton our Emergency Shed is well stocked with supplies for our children should a major quake ever strike while they are at school.

Thanks to the money collected each year as new students enter our school, the shed is currently being restocked with additional food, new solar radios, solar flashlights, tools, and first aid kit items. The shed includes enough supplies for 540 students and 45 staff.



A big thank-you to Rene and Monica Norena, our PAC Health and Safety Officers, for overseeing the Emergency Shed this year.

Join the Walton Sun Run Team!

Whether you are in kindergarten running your first 2.5km run (Shaw mini run) or a teacher or parent running 10km (Sun Run), the largest running race in Vancouver is back on April 17th! Get your PR or train for your first long distance race. Join team **Walton Elementary 2016** and get a Sun Run T-Shirt with your school name printed on it and set an example and get that New Year's Resolution completed! Run or walk or do both and we'll see you at the finish!!!

Walton is part of the Dairyland Youth Division so anyone (whether they are connected to Walton or not) registering on team Walton Elementary will get the discount. Savings up to 25% if they act now! Any of your friends or family can take advantage of this discount. We will coordinate with them on how to pick up their package.

Early bird rate (valid until February 11, 2016) **only \$22** for youth (plus GST)
\$35 for adults (plus GST) which is much less than the \$49 individual rate

To join our team go to: <https://register.vancouversunrun.com/#!/events/2016-vancouver-sun-run>

Select: **Join an Existing Team**

Our Team Name is: **Walton Elementary 2016**

Here are some of the exciting team benefits we can look for in 2016:

- Each team member will receive a SOUVENIR TECH SHIRT with our team name printed on it!
- Register before February 11th and receive 2015 pricing!
- Custom Bib option
- Convenient pick-up for our team Bibs and Timing Tags
- Team shirts are couriered to us free of charge



A big Thank You to Walton Parent, Clement Cheung for organizing the Walton team this year!

Upcoming DPAC Events

The District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) hosts free events open to all parents of children enrolled in school district 43. Please consider attending the following events:



The next General DPAC meeting is Wednesday January 27th at 7:00pm in the Gallery Room at Winslow Centre. School Counselor Harriet Chang will be speaking of her Real Acts of Caring (RAC) project at Maple Creek Middle School and how it ties in to anti bullying.

Parent Education Opportunity: 'Big Behaviors' at Panorama Elementary

The PAC at Panorama Elementary School has booked Bridgett Miller to come speak about "Big Behaviors" on January 27th from 7-9pm and has invited Walton parents to come join the session.

Bridgett Miller is an Authorized Facilitator and Course Assistant at the Neufeld Institute. She has a background in education, Special education and Psychology. Bridgett uses the developmental wisdom of Gordon Neufeld and will speak on how to help parents uncover and address ways to help children navigate their BIG emotions.

Pre-registration is required for this session at a cost of \$5 per family. Childcare will also be provided at a cost of \$2 per child. Please email parenteducation@panoramaheightspac.ca for more information.

Monday Mouthful

In an effort to respect everyone's email inboxes, the PAC is moving towards a new email format – The Monday Mouthful. Rather than send out numerous emails to parents via Mr. Mah every week, the PAC is making an effort to consolidate our information into one weekly email that will be sent out each Monday.

We hope this new format clears up your inboxes and makes it easier for everyone to keep track of upcoming events and activities.

PAC Meetings for 2015/2016 school year will be held at 6:45pm on:

Monday February 22nd
Monday April 11th
Monday May 16th (our Annual General Meeting)
Monday June 6th

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.

The Walton PAC invites all students and staff to the

Taco Del Mar

Hot Lunch Fundraiser

* special offer - A complimentary Taco Del Mar Kid's meal coupon will be provided with every lunch.

The Hot Lunch will include:

*Choice of Beef Taco
(Soft Taco Shell)

OR Bean & Cheese Burrito

OR Cheese Quesadilla with
Sour Cream Dip

* Carrots & Ranch Dip
* Peek Frean Cookies
(Lays Baked Chips with
Gluten & Dairy Free
Lunches)



Wednesday, Feb 17th, 2016

Cost - \$5.50 for the Lunch

\$6.00 Gluten & Dairy Free Taco Lunch

Online ordering is required for this Hot Lunch at
<https://walton.hotlunches.net/admin/>

No cash accepted for this lunch.

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

Please notify us if your child has any food allergies or dietary restrictions of concern. For any comments or questions, please email Connie or Fanny at waltonpachotlunch@gmail.com.

