

Elementary Ski Day.....	Monday, Feb. 8th
Grad Photo Day	Wednesday. Feb. 10th
Spaghetti Dinner- Fundraiser	Thurs. Feb. 11th @ 5pm & 6:30
High School Reports.....	Friday, February 12th
Grade 11-12 Work Experience	Mon. Feb. 15 to Thurs. Feb. 18
Foundations Skills Assessment	Mon. Feb. 15 to Thurs. Feb. 18
Regional Professional Development Day.....	Friday, February 19th
High School Ski Day	Wednesday. Feb. 24th
Elementary Reports	Friday, March 5
Spring Vacation Period	March 8-12, 2010
Schools reopen after Spring Vacation	Monday, March 15th
Good Friday	Friday, April 2nd
Easter Monday	Monday, April 5th
Norman Foote (performance)	Wednesday, April 14th @ 9 am
Student Led Conferences	Thursday, April 22
Writers Festival.....	Mon. April 26-Fri. April 30th
Project Soul (performance).....	Wed. April 28th @ 1:30 pm
Non Instructional Day	Friday, May 7th
Grade 6/7 Vancouver Trip.....	Mon. May 17 to Fri. May 21
Victoria Day	Monday, May 24th
Graduation Banquet	Friday, June 25th
Graduation Ceremonies	Saturday, June 26th
Administration Day/Schools Close	Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Regional Professional Development

School is closed for **Friday February 19th** as staff will be taking part in regional Professional Development.

Work experience week

Work experience for Grade 11/12 students is from **Monday 15th February to Thursday 18th February**. It is part of the requirement of the Graduation Transitions Program. If your child has not yet found a placement then contact Ms. Patti Sebben with urgency.

Foundation Skills Assessment week

The FSAs for Grades 4 and 7 will take place during **Monday 15th February to Thursday 18th February**. The tests will take place during the morning sessions. Parents can look at the Ministry website: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/info/welcome.htm> to find answers to further questions or contact the school.

Secondary report cards and Semester 2

Semester 2 starts on **Monday February 1st** and reports for secondary students for Semester 1 will come home on **Friday 12th February**. If your child has an 'I' grade this means that the assignments required so far are incomplete and your child needs to work with the teacher to catch up. Grade 12 have a big final semester in front of them and they will need to focus on their learning, their assignments and their attendance if they wish to graduate this June.

Lucerne School

www.sd10.bc.ca/less/

FEB. 1, 2010

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Principal's Message

We are at the half way point in the school year and it is therefore a good time to take stock of where we are and what we still have to do. Staff recently reviewed the School Growth Plan and it was a great feeling to recognise that many of the events, activities and initiatives planned in September focusing on our three goals of enriching the curriculum, improving reading standards and improving numeracy standards have been implemented and have been a success. There is still plenty more to do of course and there is much to look forward to in the second half of the year: Writers Festival in April, Spring into Learning in May, the outdoor Math experience, Spring picnic, Vancouver trip and soccer tournaments.

One of our objectives for the year was for students to decide for themselves what the fundraising priorities should be for the year. One group were so moved by the scenes from Haiti they decided that the school should reach a goal of \$500 to donate to the efforts to bring aid to the devastated country. This goal has been reached within 10 days -thank you. Another group of students have successfully bid for a grant called 'Food for Thought' and will start to volunteer their time to increase the quantity and quality of food offered to our students for free.

COME OUT AND SUPPORT THE SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH
1 PM IN THE LUCERNE GYM
SPECTATORS WELCOME

FUNDRAISER
SPAGHETTI
DINNER
THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 11TH
TWO SITTINGS
5 PM & 6:30 PM
TICKETS
AVAILABLE AT THE
SCHOOL

Head lice

We have had some cases of head lice in our elementary school this January and have carried out a check in this section of the school. Letters were sent home to students in classes in which lice or nits were found asking families to be vigilant at home and giving advice from the public health nurse on treatment. Thank you to families for promptly dealing with the matter. While not a health risk the lice and nits are unpleasant to have and to deal with and there is nothing more disheartening than treating your family only for your child to return to school and catch head lice again. In line with other schools in the district we have a 'no nits' policy and students need to stay at home until the treatment has finished. Please let us know if you find lice or nits so that we can act too to reduce the spread. The Health Unit in New Denver has received the treating lotions which are proven medically to work. Wet combing is also an approved treatment.

Soup days

Our PAC supplements the Hot Soup program that they run once a week in school on a Thursday. The cost of a bowl of soup and locally made, fresh bread is \$2. The purpose of the program is to provide hot food to all students at lunchtime during the winter months. If your family are unable to contribute in any week then a bowl of soup will be given to your child if they want it. On the other hand if you are able to donate a little more to the program then it will be gratefully received. PAC's funding was cut in half at the start of the year but it is committed to the program. Our next PAC meeting is on **Tuesday February 2nd at 5.30pm** and all parents are welcome to attend.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT CBT GRANT APPROVED

LUCERNE STUDENTS LEAD THE WAY TO HELP HUNGRY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AND SUSTAIN OUR COMMUNITY FOOD GROWERS AND LOCAL BUSINESSES

A committed group of Lucerne School secondary students has just learned that their *CBT Youth Grant* application has been approved in full.

Tisha Becker, Brandon Gustafson, Yuki Miwa, Danika Hammond and Mercedes Casley have already spent many hours drafting their proposal and working on the grant application. They were delighted to hear this week, that their hard work has only just started!

Here are some highlights of the *Food for Thought* plan for the next 12 months – till February 2011:

100% of the students at Lucerne in Grades 6-12 will be asked to volunteer to assist with one or more *Food for Thought* program.

Volunteers will work in collaboration with KSCU to expand the very successful Healthy Breakfast program from once to twice per month

Student volunteers will work alongside KSCU staff and help plan, serve, and clean up in this free breakfast program, a healthy start to the day twice per month

Partnered with Lucerne School PAC, students will serve and clean up for the weekly Hot Soup program.

Soup and bread is \$2 each Thursday, and any children who want soup and require a complete subsidy are entitled to a full subsidy – soup and bread for no cost. PAC has subsidized and run this terrific program which supports local bakers and soup-makers for two years, but funds were drying up. The *Food for Thought* initiative will help this program prosper and add much-needed volunteer energy.

A more frequent community Food Hamper program will be revitalized, giving assistance to families and individuals who need support with nutritious meals. The *Food for Thought* committee will partner with local food security groups and local businesses and food growers.

A free weekly Healthy Snack program will be initiated, further helping kids eat healthily.

Food for Thought volunteers will support local businesses and food growers in all these programs, growing a more sustainable future for all.

LUCERNE WRITING CLASS ROCKS!

Last Thursday, January 21st, saw the 21 students in Lucerne's Writing 8-12 class rock the hall with their words.

Almost half of Lucerne's secondary students took Writing as an elective this year. The class annual field trip to Banff WordFest was a blast, and writers, Angie Abdou from Fernie, our own local treasure, Diana Hartog came for author workshops during the fall. The Writing Coffeeshouse is the annual class showcase of their writing talents.

Prose, poetry, and podcasts – the class performed to rave reviews at a packed Silverton Gallery showcase. Enthusiastic parents, grandparents, friends, and community members filled the seats and nibbled the treats at this 12th annual Lucerne School Writing Class Coffeeshouse. As Writing class ends for another year, we celebrate the fine young writers from our school, and look forward to another stellar class next September!

JANUARY 27th, 2010 - FAMILY LITERACY DAY A BIG HIT!

About 50 children and their families attended Lucerne's Family Literacy Day celebration on the evening of January 27th. Organized by CBAL Family Literacy Coordinator, Paula Shandro, the event was a superb hit. Our new *Chapters Love of Reading Grant* books were on display for children and parents to check out. There was pizza, fresh veggies and dip, juice and cookies to share, a puppet show, a free book swap, and then family fun in the school gym.

Look for another Literacy Book launch in late February!

Thanks to Paula Shandro, Katrina Sumrall, Chaez Johnsin and Charlene Alexander for all their hard work in making literacy happen!

CHAPTERS LOVE OF READING GRANT – INSPIRING BOOKS FOR INSPIRING READING

Last year, in recognition of Lucerne's incredible track record in literacy with our Writers Festival, Online Literature Circles, and our teachers' professional development in literacy, we were awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Chapters Love of Reading Foundation. \$6000 a year for the next three years plus \$2000 for our annual Writers Festival, was a tremendous and very welcome acknowledgement of our commitment to literacy and learning at Lucerne.

What fun it has been to see the new books come into our classrooms and our school and community library. And now, student, parent, community, and staff comments, reviews, and recommendations about the new books are most welcome! We'd love to share your feedback about our Love of Reading books publicly on our hallway bulletin boards, and send thanks to the Love of Reading Foundation on your behalf. Drop us a note.

Come in soon to check out some new books from the library, leave your comments, suggest a title or two for our next book order, and help us celebrate Lucerne literacy!