



BALMORAL JUNIOR SECONDARY

IB WORLD SCHOOL



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NEWSLETTER

December 18, 2009

Principal's Message...

During the Winter Holidays we hope that you will all take some time to rest, relax, and recharge, as well as spend some quality time with family and friends.

The first part of the school year has gone very quickly. Students have been very busy participating in athletic teams (including two Vancouver & District Championships), numerous extra-curricular activities, community service, and school life in general. Doubling the school's population has been a unique process, and we are proud of the efforts of students and staff in coming together in working towards the formation of our new community.

Now that Term 1 Report Cards have been distributed, this is a great opportunity for students, with their families, to reflect on academic progress and establish some goals for the New Year.

Should you have questions regarding the information you receive on Report Cards, please contact teachers directly so that they can provide the first hand feedback needed to help improve students' standing in specific classes. E-mail addresses are available on our website. In addition, Counsellors are excellent resources in enhancing communication between home and school, and can work with students and parents in setting and planning educational goals.

On behalf of the staff at Balmoral we wish you and your families best wishes for the upcoming holidays.

Mr. M. Kee
Principal

Mrs. K. Barter
Vice-Principal

CALENDAR UPDATE

January	4	• Schools Open
	12	• IB Early Dismissal
	18	• BPAC @ 7:00pm in the library
	18	• IB Homeroom
	21	• Grade 9 Immunization
	22	• Pro D Day School Based
	29	• Semester 1 Ends
February	1	• Semester 2 Starts
	12	• Opening of Olympics
	15	• IB Homeroom
	19	• 24 Hour Famine
	22	• Pro Day NVTA
	25	• Grade 9 Pascal Math Contest
	25	• Grade 10 Cayley Math Contest
March	1	• BPAC Meeting 7:00pm in the library
	5	• Last day of Classes
March 8	- 12	• School Closes for Spring Break
	15	• School Reopens
	8 -19	• Europe Trip
	19	• End Term 2
	22	• Term 3 Starts
	22	• IB Homeroom
	27	• Bingo & Boogie Night
April	1	• Report Cards Home
	1	• Parent Teacher Request Form Home
	2	• School Closed Good Friday
	5	• School Closed Easter Monday
	15	• Parent Teacher Interviews
	15	• 1pm Early Dismissal
	16	• 1pm Early Dismissal
	19	• IB Homeroom
	20	• IB Early Dismissal
	22	• Fine Arts Night/Earth Day
	23	• Pro D Day District Wide

BPAC News

Thank you to the parent community for your generous and ongoing support for the Computer and Technology Fund. With your donations, computers and other electronic equipment can be assessed and upgraded. Tax receipts from the North Vancouver School Board will be mailed home December 17.

Due to demand, BPAC will be placing a second order in January for the Official Olympic Programs. These are a great souvenir of the games, filled with interesting stories, photos and event information. BPAC makes \$6 from each program sold at our school. Order forms are available on the school website and may be submitted to the office with a \$20 cheque payable to "Balmoral PAC". Programs will be delivered before the games.

BPAC is delighted to have hosted the first Family of School's PAC Executive Meeting. Representatives from Braemar, Capilano, Carisbrooke, Larson, Norgate, Queen Mary, Westview and Carson Graham came together to share our common concerns and discuss plans for the future.

Save the date! Bingo & Boogie will be held on Saturday, March 27 at 6:00pm. This year our annual fundraising event will be held at the Mosquito Creek Bar & Grill. Lots of fun and entertainment for the parent community, it's a great evening out for a worthy cause – the kids. Tickets will be available late January. Hope to see you there!

The next PAC meeting is on January 18, 2010 at 7:00pm in the library. Our speaker for the evening will address drug and alcohol awareness. Minutes from previous meetings and other items of interest are posted on the Parent section of the Balmoral website.



BPAC wishes the staff, students and families of Balmoral a safe, happy and fun-filled holiday!

Winter Weather Ahead! How will you know that the school is open?

Winter weather ahead!

All schools in the North Vancouver School District will remain OPEN, if at all possible during winter weather, including snowfalls. Any district-wide closure will be decided by 6:30 a.m. at the latest and will be posted to our website (www.nvds44.bc.ca) and announced via CKNW AM 980 radio, News AM 1130 radio, CHMJ AM 730 radio, CBC AM 690 radio, Fairchild AM 1470 radio, CHQM FM 103.5 radio, CBC television, BCTV, City TV and CTV BC.

Individual school closures due to unique circumstances (e.g., power outages) will be announced as early as possible in the same manner. No announcement will be made saying that schools are open. Only closures will be announced.

Each of the Municipalities of North Vancouver has provided useful information on their respective websites to assist our community to prepare for and manage conditions related to snow and ice.

District of North Vancouver Snow and Ice Removal with important information related to Children and Snow
<http://www.dnv.org/article.asp?c=288>

City of North Vancouver Snow Preparedness and Clearing
<http://www.cnv.org/?c=3&i=587>

Parents/guardians are responsible for their child's safe travel to school. If for any reason, there is concern that a child cannot travel safely to school, other arrangements should be made. Parents are encouraged to establish an emergency plan for their children in the event that schools are closed, start late, or dismiss early. Please ensure that your children are dressed appropriately to get to and from school. Take time to review your own preparation for winter weather!

ACADEMIC BOOK CAMP

**Need Help Studying?
Need homework help?**

Want to improve your grades but don't know how?????

Well, we can help. Ms. Burns and Ms. Barter will be conducting Academic Boot Camp starting January 12th. We will be offering after school tutorials and homework help for students. The sessions will be voluntary and will begin at 3:00pm every Tuesday in the library.

If you have any questions feel free to contact either Ms. Burns or Ms. Barter at 604-903-3400.