



BLUMENORT SCHOOL

January 2020 Newsletter

Welcome Back!

Happy New Year to everyone! Before we officially leave December behind, here are a few final thoughts...Thank you to Mrs. Sawatzky our music teacher, our staff and our students for the wonderful Christmas concerts. Thank you also to the Blumenort Community Church for the use of their facility for our Grade 1-3 program.

Welcome Aboard!

Blumenort School would like to introduce Mr. Jason Fehr as our new custodian and Mrs. Leanna Reimer as our new Bus Driver for Bus #279 (formerly Mr. Whitehead - Bus #310). Welcome aboard!

Parents/Guardians & Visitors to our School

In an effort to keep track of the whereabouts of everyone at our school, we want to remind our parents/guardians and visitors of the following...

- Upon your arrival inside the school, please report to our Main Office.
- If your child is leaving our building with you during the day for appointments, special outings, illness, etc., please report to our office first. We will then call your child down to our office where you can sign them out before leaving.
- If your child is arriving following an appointment or special outing, please have your child report to our office to check-in.

The Busyness of our Main Office

Our Main Office is the hub of much activity and there are definitely times where it is busier than others. Here are a few of our concerns that we would like to address during the following times....

- Recess - Recess is scheduled from 10:40-10:55am and 2:10-2:25pm each day. If you need to pick up your child during these times, please ensure our office is aware before they head outside as your child will be a little easier to track down.
- Lunch - Due to our split lunch hour, please let our office know before 12:05pm if you need to get in touch with your child.
- End of the Day - It is our expectation that our students stay with us until 3:45pm each day. If on the odd occasion you need to pick up your child before that time, we ask that you give our office a call before **3:00pm** so that we can ensure the message will make it to their homeroom in time.

School Closures

There is always the possibility that our school may be closed due to the weather. For updated information on school closures, please listen to your local radio station or go online to blumenort.hsd.ca or hsd.ca. During inclement weather when our school is open, our school buses may experience some delays. Please check out the following link for any updates <http://hsd.ca/departments/transportation/bus-delay-bulletins/>

Scholastic Book Fair

Our Scholastic Book Fair is set for January 27-29. Thank you to our librarian, Mrs. Friesen for organizing this special school event and stay tuned for more information in the weeks ahead!

New Online Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for 2020-2021 will open on **January 6, 2020**. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to register their children as soon as possible. Early registration will assist schools in planning for fall entry. Registering before March 1, will provide parents/guardians with the opportunity to attend upcoming Kindergarten orientation events. More information can be found at <https://hsd.ca/schools/kindergarten-registration/>

Blumenort School Updated Electronic Device Guidelines

The following is an update to our Student Handbook that will take effect on **January 6, 2020**. If you have any questions, please feel free to let us know. Thank you.

More and more students are bringing electronic devices to school for a variety of reasons. We wish to ensure the safety of all students and an environment of learning where students can concentrate in order to work effectively.

Hanover School Division Policy states:

- *All communication devices must be turned off when the student boards the school bus or enters the school building. These devices may not be activated when classes are in progress or during any school event during the regular school day. Students may not leave class to make or receive an electronic communication - cell phone call, text message or internet communication.*
- *During school outings, field trips or extracurricular events, use of a cell phone is by permission of the supervising academic staff (principal or teacher) or the designated community coach, where no academic staff is present.*
- *Use of electronic communication devices or digital cameras for any reason during a test or assessment will result in removal of the student from the assessment and the assessment will be considered invalid. A mark of zero may be assigned.*
- *Cell phones equipped with cameras should be avoided. Cameras or phones equipped with cameras must be kept out of sight and not activated in washrooms, change rooms or any other private areas. Use of an electronic communications device or digital camera to record video, still shots or sound must be done with the expressed permission of the supervising staff member and with full advance knowledge and permission of any individual or group being recorded. Sharing, distribution or broadcasting of any such material must be done with full permission of every individual being recorded. Posting to the Internet may require written permission of parents. Recordings made secretly and/or used maliciously will result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion and a police report.*
- *Any use of an electronic communication device during prohibited times or in an inappropriate manner will result in immediate confiscation of the device by school staff. Devices will be returned to parents or guardians under conditions set by administration.*

At Blumenort School:

- *Students in K-5 are not allowed to bring an electronic communication device to school.*
- *Students in Grade 6-8 that bring an electronic communication device to school will ensure that it is turned off and remain stored in their locker.*
- *Students in Grade 6-8 may access their electronic communication device quickly at their locker during break or lunch recess. These devices will then be turned off and remain in the locker when done.*
- *Supervisors have the right to ensure this is happening. Any misuse will result in appropriate disciplinary action.*
- *It is important to note that Digital Citizenship expectations must always be followed, and when necessary, school staff has the right to confiscate electronic devices.*
- *Parents and guardians that need to contact their child during the day can do so by calling our office at 204-326-1757.*

Dear Parents /Guardians,

We are pleased to welcome Constable Gord Olson of the RCMP for a special presentation on **Internet Child Exploitation, also known as I.C.E.**

This presentation will cover the dangers of misusing the internet and social media.

He will walk participants through scenarios, provide resources for support, cover online bullying and other relevant topics that our children may be faced with. All are welcome to ask questions regarding these topics.

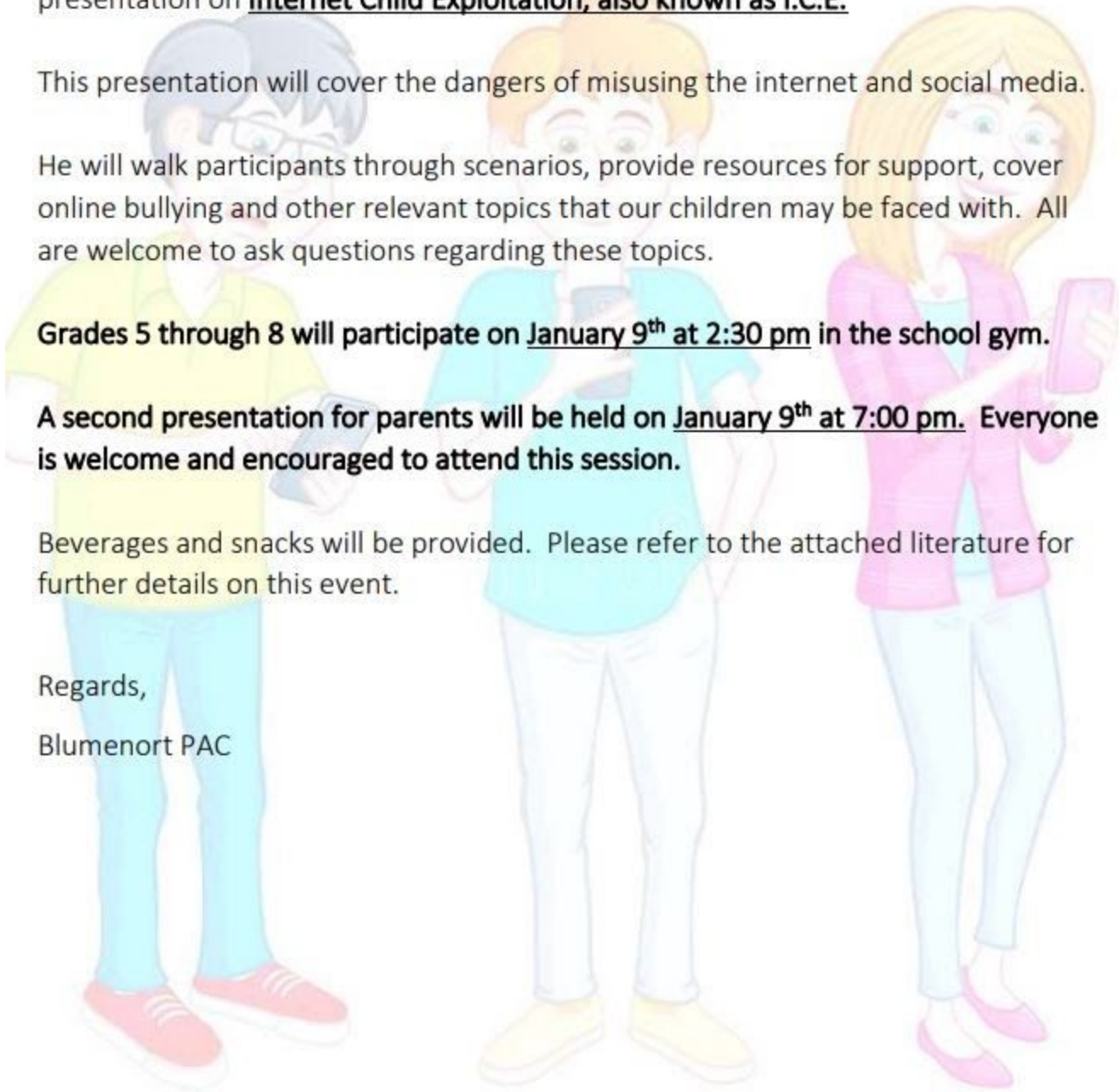
Grades 5 through 8 will participate on January 9th at 2:30 pm in the school gym.

A second presentation for parents will be held on January 9th at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend this session.

Beverages and snacks will be provided. Please refer to the attached literature for further details on this event.

Regards,

Blumenort PAC





Dear educators and friends,

We would like to share an opportunity for girls in your classes to be involved in an interactive, hands-on day of computer science and digital thinking. **On February 8, 2020**, WISE Kid-Netic Energy is excited to be hosting **Go Code Girl** at the **University of Manitoba Fort Garry campus** for girls in grades 7-9.

Go Code Girl is a national event that is hosted at post-secondary institutions across Canada. At the WISE Kid-Netic Energy version of this event, girls will rotate through four different hands-on sessions that focus on different areas of computer programming, computation, and digital literacy. This event is also free to attend and lunch will be provided.

In previous years, we partnered with groups to offer activities that included a choose-your-own adventure algorithm game, a "crack the code" interactive puzzle, block programming/game building, speed mentoring and an opportunity to test out virtual reality devices related to health research. Details on the specific activities for 2020 are still in the works, but you can expect a similar set of hands-on puzzles, games, and challenges once again.

We have also designed our Go Code Girl event in a way that allows exploration leading up to the event itself. We are setting up a series of online coding activities that can be completed in the intervening time before the event. For each activity completed, participants will gain an entry into a draw for some cool tech prizes (ozobots, littlebits, coding kits and more), as well as a free STEM-based workshop from WISE Kid-Netic Energy for their classroom at school.

You as an educator could be a great support for this event and for interested students. If you would like to get involved, we invite you to consider participating in one or more of the following ways:



- a) Share word about the event with your students and colleagues, and any computer clubs or extracurricular computer science groups you may have at your school
- b) Register students and bring them to the event as a group
- c) Support students who are seeking to complete the online coding activities leading up to the event (for instance, by hosting a lunch hour or after-school session in the computer lab, or by checking in with students who are working on these activities)

Please let us know if you have any questions about the event, or if you would like to get involved. Thank you for your shared enthusiasm for STEM education.

Sincerely,

Bea Pueblo
Program Coordinator, WISE Kid-Netic Energy
victoriabeatriz.pueblo@umanitoba.ca
204-474-9556

JANUARY 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
30  Hanover Parent-Child Community Program - 9:30am Day 2	31 New Years Eve Day 3	1  Day 4	2 Hot Lunch - New B's I.C.E. Parent Presentation @ 7pm Day 5	3 Day 6
6 HPCCP - 9:30am Day 1	7 Hot Lunch - Domino's Day 2	8 Day 3	9 Hot Lunch - Taco Del Mar/Subway Day 4	10 Day 5
13 HPCCP - 9:30am Day 6	14 Hot Lunch - Domino's Day 1	15 Day 2	16 Hot Lunch - JT's Day 3	17 Day 4
20 HPCCP - 9:30am Day 5	21 Hot Lunch - Domino's Day 6	22 Day 1	23 Hot Lunch - Sobey's Day 2	24 ADMIN/PD DAY
27 HPCCP - 9:30am Book Fair Day 5	28 Hot Lunch - Domino's Book Fair Day 6	29 Book Fair Day 1	30 Hot Lunch - Sobey's Day 2	31 ADMIN/PD DAY