

Hello Bruce Families!

We hope this update finds you healthy, safe and finding your way through the times as they are. There has been a recurring theme coming up at school and one that is fitting, given the season. That theme is thanks. We are continually surprised and (at times) overwhelmed by thoughtfulness and generosity of our families and community. **Thank You** to those who have reached out to the school in many ways and reminded us that we are all in this together. **Thank You** for doing your best to support your child and their education. **Thank You** to the Westhaven retirement community for donating delicious baggies of cookies for staff. **Thank You** to the critical and essential workers in our community that keep the world moving, that are caring for the sick and elderly and keep us safe.

As a way to reach back and thank our frontline workers, we have placed a large THANK YOU "card" on our front steps to let you all know we appreciate your efforts. Additionally, Mrs. Acorn has been busy with her classes creating and decorating hundreds of salt dough ornaments to be shared with you. Students will be bringing theirs home and extras will be hung on the trees outside the school and in public outdoor spaces as gifts for the community.

We have raised over \$300 through candy cane sales and that money will be used to purchase items for our school hampers! We were lucky enough to partner with Sturgeon Heights and their allies to be able to provide footwear, outerwear and food for deserving families in the St. James area. Due to Covid restrictions, we will not be asking families for donations.

Bruce Middle School will be opening after winter break on Tuesday, January 5, 2021. We welcome students and staff to continue teaching and learning with the COVID-19 safety protocols in place. We continue to support school attendance and believe that the school is a safe place to be. Grade 6 families who wish to inquire about the optional remote learning plan for Jan 5-15, 2021, please contact the school office by noon on Dec 15, 2020.

Please spend some time with your child to go over what assignments are due this week - many teachers will have major assessments due for the break.

Spirit Week Themes this week:

Monday: Dress in Blue and White

Tuesday: Funny and Festive hats/headbands

Wednesday: Ugly Holiday sweaters

Thursday: Disney on Ice

Friday: Comfy and cozy day

Happy Hanukkah to our Jewish families!

D. MacNeil

A. Waters