School Message

Dear Sikh Academy Families,

December is upon Sikh Academy, and it is amazing to think the first term of the school year is nearly at its end. As we head into Winter Break, we would like to wish all SA families happy holidays and a wonderful New Year. Additionally, please review the newsletter as there are numerous events happening around school to send us off into the holiday season.

“None of us is as smart as all of us.”
- Ken Blanchard

Important Dates

*Please note the dates below in your home calendars.

- Sikh Academy Winter Toy Drive Dec 1-10th
- Drama Club Play (Newton) Dec 11th
- Book Fair Dec 14/15/16th
- Religious Assembly Dec 15th
- Report Cards (Term 1) Dec 15th
- Parent-Teacher Conferences (Early Dismissal @ 12:00PM) Dec 16th
- Winter Assembly Dec 17th
- Winter Break Dec 21-Jan 1
- School Re-Opens Jan 4th

Report Cards (Term 1)

The Report Cards for Term 1 are set to go out on Tuesday, December 15th. We remind parents to discuss the report cards with their child(ren) to discuss their progress in the first term. Parents are then to sign the report card envelope, acknowledging they have received it, and return only the envelope to the classroom teacher. We ask that students do not damage the Report Card envelope, as it is used again for the Term 2 and Term 3 Report Cards. Parents keep the original Report Card for their records.

Parent-Teacher Conferences (Early Dismissal)

Parent-Teacher Conferences, to further discuss students’ progress in the first term, is set for Wednesday, December 16th. Students will be dismissed at 12:00PM on the 16th to accommodate the Parent-Teacher Conferences.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held from 1:00-3:00PM and from 3:30-5:30PM. Parents can sign up for a time to meet the classroom teacher on the sign-up sheets outside the classroom. Please note that Religious Teachers will also have sign-up sheets outside of their teaching areas/classrooms for parents to book an appointment.

Religious Assembly

On December 15th, Sikh Academy will be hosting a Religious Assembly for Saka Chamkaur Sahib & Saka Sirhind Shaheed Divas from 8:35AM – 9:45AM at both schools. Students are encouraged to dress in their traditional wear for the Religious Assembly.

Winter Assembly

Sikh Academy’s Annual Winter Assembly will be held on Thursday, December 17th from 10:00-11:15AM at both schools. We would like to invite all families to come and attend to see all the great student led performances. Come out and see how we transform our school into a Winter Wonderland, and you never know when a special guest may visit.

Winter Break

School will be closed for Winter Break from Monday, December 21 to January 1, 2015. School re-opens on Monday, January 4th 2015. We wish all SA students and families and wonderful Winter Break and New Year. See you in 2016!
Students and Tutoring Services Warning

Sikh Academy would like to voice a growing concern within our school about tutoring services, which are not specialized or targeted, and is in fact doing more harm than good for our students.

Tutoring services are typically provided by Certified BC Teachers or local University students who specialize in a particular field (math, science, language arts, etc.). Tutoring services are then specially designed with the individual student’s needs in order to increase that particular area of academic concern. Typically, students who attend these sessions show remarkable improvement fairly quickly in these targeted academic areas.

Recently numerous non-specialized tutoring (or ‘tuition’) services have popped up as businesses promising families support and results. These services are often not run by certified BC teachers or local university students who specialize in any particular field. These non-specialized tutors then attempt to tell students strategies that are incorrect or no longer appropriate for the BC Curriculum. At other times, these tutors simply watch students complete homework assignments with very little positive support.

As such, SA families are paying for these services, but the outcome is not positive for the student. We would like to encourage families to try, to the best of their ability, to spend time with their children, as opposed to dropping them off at these non-specialized tutoring services. Research shows that this quality family time is so much more beneficial to students and their academic abilities. Try to have students explain to you what they are doing in the classroom, to try and teach the strategies learned in the classroom to members of the family, and encourage these students to seek their teacher’s support when they are struggling with any concepts taught in school.

Lastly, if tutoring services are required, we would encourage families to look at specialized tutors who are familiar with the BC Curriculum and current teaching strategies within Canada. Any questions can always be addressed with the school administration team or your child’s teacher.

Drama Club Play

The Drama Club, which had nearly 70 students sign up at Newton, has been working on preparing a play for the entire school. We are happy to announce that the Drama Club will put on a show titled “The Lion King” on Friday, December 11th. The Club will hold two shows (10:00AM and 12:45PM) in the school gym. Students from Fleetwood will be transported to Newton to be a part of the two shows. We would like to invite all parents to come out and support the hard work of our Drama Club students and teachers.

Newton and Fleetwood Student Meet and Greet

SA is happy to have its first formal Newton and Fleetwood Student Meet and Greet of the school year. Students from Fleetwood will be coming to Newton on Friday, December 11 to have a chance to hang out with their peers and participate in some fun activities within their grade levels.

Student Participation in Extra-Curricular

We would like to remind all parents that students, who participate in Extra-Curricular activities run throughout the school, must be picked up on time. Teachers volunteer their time to run these programs and it is not appropriate to have teachers wait around for an additional 30-40 minutes for students to be picked up by their parents, as teachers have other commitments. **Students who are not picked up on time (within 5 minutes of the program end time) more than twice will be asked to no longer be a part of the Extra-Curricular program.** We encourage parents to arrive at least 10 minutes prior to the end of the extra-curricular program to pick up their child.

Extra-Curricular Programs

There are a variety of extra-curricular programs currently available to students at both schools.

- **Intramural soccer** has begun.
- **Gatka** runs at Newton on Tuesdays/Thursdays from 3:30-4:30.
- The **Young Leaders Club** runs on Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30.
- The **Drama Club** runs on Mondays/Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30.
- The **Kirtan Club** runs on Tuesdays/Thursdays from 3:30-4:30.
- The **Tabla Club** runs on Wednesdays/Thursdays from 3:30-4:30.
- The **Sikh History Club** at Newton runs on Fridays at Lunch.
- The **Chess Club** has started; please see Ms. Pannu or Ms. Grewal for more information.
- The **Debate Club** has started; please see Ms. Dhaliwal for more information.

We will be looking to add additional programs in the upcoming months.

Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will once again be held in December at both schools. The Book Fair will run on December 14/15/16 at both schools. The Book Fair will be open to specific Grade levels at lunch time and to all students after school on these dates from 3:30-4:00PM. We invite all families to attend, and help support our school library. Proceeds from the Book Fair are used to purchase additional resources for students.
SA Winter Toy Drive

Sikh Academy is proud to once again work alongside Guru Nanak Free Kitchen to host our Second Annual Toy Drive from Dec 1st to Dec 10th at both schools. Students and parents can donate new toys (for students aged 3-13) to their classroom teachers. These toys will then be sorted and wrapped on Dec 12th in order to be handed out to those kids in the community who are not in the position to be given gifts during the holiday season. SA is proud to support these students and families.

SA would like to invite all parents to help support this great cause. Any parents who can volunteer to wrap gifts, bring lunch items, or volunteer in any other way on the December 12th please come out to our Newton location between 12:00-3:00 and/or talk to the school office.

School Uniform

With the weather shifted, it is now mandatory for all students to be wearing their Sikh Academy navy sweaters each day (expect Be Yourself Wednesdays). From November to the end of February, it is expected that students wear their full uniform, which includes their SA sweaters. Uniforms should be purchased from Canadian Apparel Warehouse located at 106-12877 76th Ave, Surrey. Order forms and prices are posted on our school website.

Flu Season

The Cold & Flu season is upon us. A reminder to all parents and students that flu vaccinations are now available for all family members at various locations, and you can speak to your family doctor for more information.

Additionally, we would also like to remind all parents to keep their child or children at home if they are sick or displaying signs of becoming sick to prevent the spread of viruses to other students and staff. Students who stay home can always contact their teachers via email to remain up-to-date on what they missed in class.

School Closures

If there is a need to enact a school closure due to extreme weather conditions, information about closures will be noted on the school website (www.sikhacademy.ca) first and listed on local radio stations 93.1FM, 1550AM, 1600AM, 980AM, and/or 1130AM.

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Sikh Academy acknowledges the importance of the Sikh Academy Parental community to be a part of student success. The next PAC Meeting at Newton will be held on Monday, December 14th at 4:30PM. The next PAC Meeting at Fleetwood will be held on Wednesday, December 2nd at 2:30PM.

We invite ALL parents to come and be a part of the school PAC to raise more opportunities of learning growth and potential for ALL students. Parents looking to join or participate can contact the PAC via email at pac@sikhacademy.ca.

Extended Leaves

Sikh Academy highly discourages families from taking students out of school for extended periods of time. These absences have a great impact on the students’ academic and social development throughout the school year. Families looking to take holidays should do so only during the Winter and Spring Breaks to minimize the impact on the student. Parents looking to take their child out of school during other times for more than 2 weeks must complete an extended leave application form at least 1 month before departure. This allows the Academic and Religious teachers to prepare some work for students to complete while away.

School Website and Classroom Websites

We would like to remind parents to routinely check the Sikh Academy School website at www.sikhacademy.ca and the classroom websites for updates and information about key events, dates, and things happening around the school and in the classroom.

Pizza Day

On the last Friday or Thursday of each month, the school will have a school wide Pizza Day at both schools. The next Pizza Day is on Thursday, December 17th.

“Caught You Doing Something Good”

Each month Sikh Academy tries to highlight students caught doing something good to show how our students take extra steps to be great citizens at school and outside of school. This month we would like to recognize Jasnoor K. Mangat from 2C for demonstrating positive behavior at school, and Harjot S. Brar from KG5 for sharing with his classmates. Great work!

We remind all parents to read the Sikh Academy newsletter that is sent to your email or online at www.sikhacademy.ca

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Sikh Academy
Special Thanks

Special thanks to the Hans family at Newton and the joint families at Fleetwood for providing langar service for all students and staff at the November religious assembly. Also, a special thank you to all the parent volunteers on this day at both schools for making the langar services a success.

Kindergarten Registration

SA would like to inform parents that Kindergarten Registration for the 2016-17 school year begins on January 4, 2016 at both schools. We encourage all parents, who are interested in registering their KG students for the next school year, to do so as soon as possible. Seats are limited and often go quickly. Parents can access the registration form on the school website, and bring in the required documents (birth certificate, care card, proof of student status, immunization record, proof of parent status, and proof of address). More information can be found on the school website.

Bus Fees

A reminder to parents that bus fees are due prior to your child receiving bus service. Bus fees are as follows:

- One Child
  - $75.00 per month (one way service)
  - $150.00 per month (pick up and drop off service)
- Two Children
  - $150.00 per month (one way service)
  - $200.00 per month (pick up and drop off service)

Punjabi

मज़बूत मृणाल

मृणालवाणी भनिन्छ,

समय भन्ने मृणाल सूरी उन्न का लिरिया हो, रहट ती मृणाल दी भनिन्छ तब दी धूती खो रह्न मृणाल दी जीबी भन्ने हो रह्न। अभी मान्त्वात्मक भन्ने भुमी भोजीहरू भुजीहरू भन्ने स्टोल तथा मृणाल मुख्यभर्ती ज्ञाते भन्ने हो।

मृणालस्वरूप उपिनीयाँ

- सिधिभस्मस्ती मृणालस्ती के सिधिभस्म भज्यपी (संस्मारक)
  समय 1-10 देख
- भज्यपी भज्यपी (सिद्धिभस्म)
  समय 11
- गुरु भेड़गा
  समय 14/15/16
- पारम्यभस्म केरुली
  समय 15
- भज्यपी भज्यपी (प्रभु भनिन्छ)
  समय 15
- सिधिभस्मस्ती मृणालस्ती समय 16 देख (12:00 रात
- मृणालस्ती के मृणालस्ती
  समय 17
- गुरु भेड़गा
  समय 21-मृणालस्ती 1
- मृणाल सूरी
  समय 4
*सिंध फिल्मदल बल्लेब *सीडीटेक, सुजबर्त ईंध टॉपीब * स्वर बल्लेब संगठन बले भिन युवा सं भिन बल्लेब *दीवान बल्लेब संगठन बले भिन एसीएल नामी आईपाइ साहबे भोजीवाले दिन उद्घाटन दी महु उद्घाटन।

**सिंध बल्लेब**

हिंद संस्कृत में समस्त दिव, विषयक मार्ग की उर्जा हिंद संस्कृत बंदलह दि, उल्लेख निम्ने अगर विषय लटी सह जैसे से मले फ्रेंड्स दी भरत दे मारे।

**मुख्य प्रदेश**

आपने विषय दूर दूर पुलिस दिन इंद्रे, मेमन दे मुख्य बंदलह पढ़ाई।

**बुध मास**

मेमन से बढ़ी हेडब्र मुख्य बंदलह बंदलह दे साहबजी मुख्य देश मालित ने उपनाम वेबसाइट में महू।

**पी.टै.म.सी.**

सिंठुट वेबसाइट भीमजिंदा 14 संवार 4:30
da इंटरनेट वेबसाइट 2 संवार 2:30
d**टाइमसेंस**

इस उड़ान ने निमित्त टाइमसेंस टाइम बांटा बढ़े सही जमी उद्घाटन पहिले संए बिलारे सी।

**मुख्य देश कांड**

मुख्य देश कांड बला जापन देश कांड बढ़े सही जमी उद्घाटन बंदलह कांड मूर्त।

**पीसा भेज**

भाईसा चे भाईसे मुख्य देश पीसा भेज उड़ान दे।

**बंदलह ने बने मार्ग देश कांड बंदलह हु इमाम चेँ बने सी।**

**सिंध बल्लेब**

भादी पाइनेक वेबसाइट देश कांड हुण्डा ही इंद्र्यु हुण्डा है। हिंद बल्ले भादी मुख्य बला घराण बेंड 2मी हु लिंडकटर वेबसाइट बन्दित बढ़े विषय लटी और देश कांड वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट वेबसाइट

**सिंध बल्लेब**

भादी पाइनेक वेबसाइट (सीडीटेक) भादी मुख्य पाइनेक (लिंडकटर) के पंक्ति सिले जैसे सिले हैं भुजा रंगत हेड़ दी भादी मुख्य पाइनेक हेड़ दी में बीज़ा।