  
**Irwin Park Elementary Family Newsletter**  
**E-Bulletin Update**  
**Date: Friday, Dec 13th, 2025**

**Important Announcements**

**Stay Connected with Us!**  
Check out what’s happening at our school on social media:  
**Instagram:**<https://www.instagram.com/irwin_park_elementary/>

**Important Dates:**

* **Dec 13th:** Term 1 Learning Updates Released on My Ed
* **Dec 19th:** IPPG Staff Appreciation Luncheon – Click [here](mailto:ippgwestvan@gmail.com?subject=How%20can%20I%20contribute?) to see how you can contribute
* **Dec 19th:** Charity Hot Chocolate Sale – Gr 6 & 7 Leadership Team
* **Dec 20th:** Last Day of School Before Winter Break - 12 Noon Dismissal
* **Jan 6th :** First day school back in session

**Principal’s Message**

So many terrific events this week including the [**Winter Concert**](https://www.instagram.com/p/DDicQA9S8s0/)that warmed spirits on Wed afternoon as our Gr 6 Beginner Band and Gr 7 Concert Band performed beautifully, while our Intermediate Choir continued to shine brightly as well. Thank you to Ms. King for her amazing leadership and the support of Ms. Barr and Ms. Elwyn with the choir. We raised over 350 dollars for our IP Community Garden and over 100 non -perishable food donations. Thank you Irwin Park Community.

Friday’s [**IPPG Santa’s Workshop**](https://www.instagram.com/p/DDieg6UyCF6/) did not disappoint as we had an amazing turnout of Parent Volunteer Elves that made a lot of dreams come true as our students were able to find just the right gift for their loved ones while helping protect our environment. Be sure to check out the recap at our IP Instagram account to catch of glimpse of the fun that was had. Thank you again for the community support here.

As many families may already be aware, our Winter Term After School and Lunch Hour Extra Curricular registration links have opened. Please see the email sent out on Thursday, December 5th, with the list of activity options. Register early to avoid disappointment. **We have added Art Mania - Claymation to the list for Friday** and **Ms. Cruz’s Arts and Crafts / Studio activities to the list for January as well**. Please see the registration information attached to this email for the most updated list of activities.

**E-Bulletin Highlights**

* Gr 6/7 Holiday Spirit Week & **Charity Hot Chocolate Sale** Thurs Dec 19th at 2:50 pm
* IP After School Activities **Open for Registration**: NOW OPEN
* West Vancouver Schools Registration Opens: Jan 15th-2025
* District **Digital Use Expectation** Reminder and Refresher
* PJ Santa’s Workshop **Donation Appeal**
* Ms Cruz’s Arts & Crafts After School Activity Info – Winter 2025

**Gr 6/7 Leadership Team Leads Holiday Spirit Week at IP**

* **Monday, December 16 Scarf, Mittens, & Toque Day**
* **Tuesday, December 17 Holiday Sweater Day**
* **Wednesday, December 18 Holiday Headwear Day**
* **Thursday, December 19 Candy Cane Day**
* **Friday, December 20 PJ Day**

**Charity Hot Chocolate & Candy Cane Sale – Thursday, Dec 18th, After School!**

Don’t forget! Thursday, December 19 is our Hot Chocolate and Candy Cane Sale in the undercover area after school.

All profits from the sale will go directly to support the [Cinderella Project](https://thecinderellaproject.com/).

A big thank-you to everyone who has volunteered to help so far—we’d love to have more of you join in! The more, the merrier!

We can’t wait to see you there!

**West Vancouver Schools Registration Opens January 15th, 2025**

K-12 registration for both in-district and out-of-district students opens on January 15! If you have students in your family or network who are looking to join our district, please help spread the word about this important date.

West Vancouver Schools offer a wonderful opportunity to be part of a community that values excellence in education. Our schools take pride in creating meaningful learning experiences and providing opportunities that support the growth, well-being, and success of every student.

To learn more about registration expectations and processes, please visit our admissions page: [West Vancouver Schools Admissions](https://westvancouverschools.ca/admissions/)

We look forward to welcoming new students and families to our vibrant and supportive school community!

**Pauline Johnson’s Santa’s Workshop Needs Donations!**

Last Thursday École Pauline Johnson suffered a kitchen fire incident that has caused a shift in their holiday plans for their annual Santa's Workshop event. The school gym and kitchen are currently out of commission for the time being, which means that they are not able to hold this big event there this year. Unfortunately, there was a sizable amount of donations that got damaged during the incident, and from a health and safety perspective, they are not able to have our children use these items as part of the Santa's Workshop. With all the challenges facing this event, a group of strong-willed parents were determined to save Christmas for all and have devised an alternative plan to still keep the Santa's Workshop tradition alive at PJ this year. It's truly a Christmas miracle in the making, but to ensure its success, we are asking for any possible community help.

Starting from now until December 17, PJ is asking for help with this miracle by increasing any/all donations. They need anywhere between 400-500 more items minimum to even be able to run this event successfully. If you have items in your home (gently used) that you could drop off at PJ, please place your donations at the Irwin Park front office of the school at any time. Please no books, clothing or any baby items accepted as the children don't typically select these items as gifts for their family.

**Personal Digital Device Expectations**

As we reflect on the first four months of the school year, we’re proud to recognize the progress we’ve made together in implementing our Personal Digital Device (PDD) expectations. Thanks to the collective efforts of our students, families, and staff, we’ve seen a significant improvement in how digital devices are used in our schools. This has fostered more focused and engaged learning environments, aligning with our shared goal of supporting student success.

This success would not have been possible without everyone’s ongoing support and commitment. While we celebrate these strides, it’s important that we remain consistent in maintaining these expectations and continue to remind and support students to ensure this positive momentum is sustained.

**Why We’re Doing This**

The purpose of these expectations is to minimize distractions and maximize learning opportunities. Digital devices, when used appropriately, are powerful tools for collaboration, creativity, and communication. However, ensuring they don’t interrupt instructional time or disrupt the learning environment remains a priority.

**What You Can Continue to Do**

Here are some ways families can help reinforce these expectations at home:

1. **Celebrate Progress** -Acknowledge your child’s efforts in adhering to the guidelines and discuss how this has positively impacted their focus and learning.
2. **Reinforce Healthy Habits** - Continue encouraging a balanced approach to device use at home by promoting activities like reading, outdoor play, and family time.
3. **Model Consistency** - Show your support by modeling mindful device use when on the school grounds or in the school building AND during shared family time.
4. **Support School Communication** - Please avoid contacting your child during instructional time, this includes communication through phones and smartwatches. Remind them that non-urgent messages can wait until after school. If urgent communication is needed, please contact the school office.
5. **Stay Engaged** - Revisit the Parent/Guardian Guide to Personal Digital Devices to refresh your understanding of the expectations and discuss them with your child.

Thank you for your partnership and continued support in making this initiative a success.

**Tuesdays: Arts and Crafts (Grades 2-4)**  
This term, we’re focusing on **sewing**! Students will learn to make bean bags, hand warmers, and even their own stuffed toys while exploring the basics of embroidery. This is a fantastic chance for kids to learn a life skill that they’ll carry with them forever.

* **Cost**: $225

**Thursdays: Art Studio (Grades 2-7)**  
By popular demand, the **Art Studio** is back! This class is perfect for students who love to work on their own creative projects using a variety of materials. If your child enjoys artistic freedom, this is the class for them!

* **Cost**: $250

For more information or to register, please contact **Ms. Cruz** at [ecruz@wvschools.ca](mailto:ecruz@wvschools.ca)

Let’s get creative this winter! 🎨✨

Warm regards,

**Aron Campbell**

Principal

Irwin Park Elementary