

December 12, 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students:

9th Annual "Toys for Teens" Donation Drive: Our Toys for Teens drive was another great success for our Claremont Community in partnership with The Zone 91.3's annual Toy Drive. This year over \$5,500.00 worth of Gift Cards for teens in need in our community was raised. The Zone passes on our donations to several local organizations that are a part of the "Christmas Giving Network" such as The Mustard Seed, St Vincent De Paul Society, CFAF Santas Anonymous and Youth Support Centers. A massive thank you goes out to our own Mrs. Giordano for all of her work promoting/organizing behind the scenes, and a big thank you to all those families that were able to contribute to the cause!

A "Standing O" for Humbug High!! **BRAVO** to all of our cast, crew, and staff involved in yet another amazing performance by our Claremont Drama & Stagecraft classes! This fresh take on the classic Charles Dickens tale was a fun storyline and it was truly great to see the students performing on stage, developing and personalizing their characters' nature through their voices and gestures! The message of the Christmas Carol shone brightly throughout to carry love, caring, and the spirit of Christmas in our hearts all year round :) Well done to all!

December SnapShot: Here are the Mental Health and Well-Being Snapshots for December, focused on digital technology, screen time, and well-being. Hopefully, these resources can be valuable conversation starters for students and families as we head towards the break. [December Parent and Student Snapshot](#)

Grad Parent Planning Committee: We've shifted this meeting to **Tues Dec. 14 @ 7:00pm** in person in the Claremont Learning Commons and or virtually by clicking the following link: [Click here to join the meeting](#) The purpose of this meeting is to debrief the very successful Winter Formal and to provide an opportunity for the Grad Executive to begin making plans for Grad 2022 and future fundraising events.

Change in Bell Schedule for Friday December 17th:

8:30 - 9:25 Pancakes school wide (students/staff can go to the student lounge or the cafeteria)
9:30 - 10:20 Block 1
10:25 - 11:15 Block 2
11:15 - 11:55 Lunch
12:00 - 12:50 Block 3
12:55 - 1:45 Block 4
1:45 - 2:30 Show staff XMas skit video in Block 4
2:30 - 3:10 Connection time for students to meet with teachers for any last minute learning time.

Claremont Band Performs this Week: Watch for a link that will be available later on this week (main page of our school website) where you can hear & see our Claremont Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Choir perform alongside the Greater Victoria Symphony Orchestra with a variety of Christmas music favourites! Due to the size of each group we were unable to invite guests into our Ridge Theatre this time around, but we will still be able to enjoy the sights and sounds by way of a recorded video link. Thank you in advance to all of our musicians!!

Thank you for supporting Claremont in what has been a very different start to our school year. There have been many wonderful opportunities for students to be involved with friends in clubs, athletics and the routines of school. There have also been a few challenges as noted in previous memos. Nevertheless, it is extremely important that we keep the lines of communication open between home and school, so please take the time to check in with your child over the break about "how things are going at school." We are stronger when we all work together for our students. Wishing you all a very restful break over the holiday season.

Sincerely,

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