

Dr. E.W. Coffin School

*"If you go down Barrett Drive you will see a little school.
Do not judge it by it's size, because inside it's really cool"*

– Dr. Coffin's School Song

Hello from the little school on the hill – and Happy Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day!

February was a short but sweet month with our usual pizza lunches, treat days and our staff appreciation lunch. Our dedicated teachers and support staff really enjoyed the well deserved pampering! The spirit of kindness and giving is alive and well at Dr. Coffin.

Our sock donations for the 'Sock It To Us' project for the homeless and United Way Campaign were valuable and practical ways for our students to give back to their community.

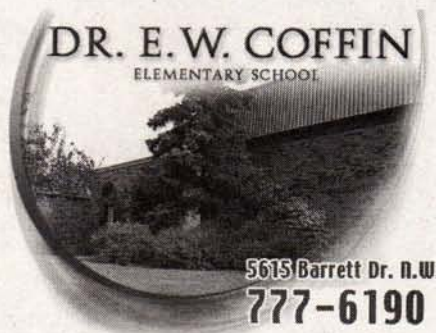
Our Chinese New Year luncheon was a real hit with the students. Parents brought in some traditional Chinese dishes. A few students dressed in their traditional costumes and showed us how the Korean people celebrate the Lunar New Year along with the Chinese New Year. Lucky money and folk songs also played a part in meaningful sharing of culture amongst ESL and non-ESL children.

GUNG HAY FAT CHOY!

Our Kindergarten Open House was held on February 9. Our Principal presented parents with information on our fantastic school (included in Maclean's "Today's Parent" magazine as one of the top 40 schools in Canada!). Enrollment for 2006 Kindergarten is strong and anyone interested in information or registration may contact us at 777-6190.

Hip Hop anyone? Yes! says the Dr. Coffin students! Kent Small involved the students in this dynamic dance form from February 22 to 24 which was sponsored by the School Council. The children loved the popping, locking and break dancing, especially the boys!

Our ongoing focus on the environment has been made



all the easier with this lovely mild weather that we've been having this winter (of course now I have just jinxed the whole thing!). Our Grade 1 and 2 classes have been studying natural and unnatural objects in Whispering Woods. Grade 5 and 6s have been working on chemistry experiments. Students in Grades 3 and 4 are having fun working on an inquiry based unit on building structures and testing their strength.

Our Natureground is readying itself to burst forth with beautiful native plants and flowers for the second time. What an exciting addition to our school and community! Our environment work is ongoing; we need to build up more paths and design and install interpretive signage for the area. Please, be careful to use the paths and rocks to step on so that our plants and flowers can grow! Come and take a walk through sometime.

You will be amazed at the wonderful transformation that has occurred in this area.

Dr. Coffin teachers have been offering a variety of interesting clubs at lunchtime for students to participate in. Children have been involved in "pillow polo", drawing, drama, chess/checkers, volleyball, and arts and crafts. Our newly formed Peer Support Group (Grade 5/6 students) was excited about sponsoring their first 'Spirit Day' – a red, white and pink day on February 14 and to sell Valentine Candy-grams to raise funds for the United Way.

Our Millennium Kidz 'n' Care program has also been busy with exciting activities during teacher's convention and PD days – skiing at C.O.P., swimming at Churchill Pool and sledding at Simon Fraser hill, to mention just a few. Anyone interested in information on this wonderful program can contact Wendy at 850-1127.

Have an enjoyable and safe March break!