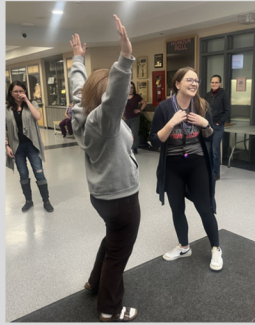




MERRITT SECONDARY SCHOOL

December 2024 Newsletter



Spirits are bright

'twas the month before the holidays, when all through MSS,
 Every student was excited, even the teachers were in fancy dress;
 Ms. Klaws won necklaces with a rock, paper, scissors,
 In hopes that the weather would soon bring a Christmas blizzard;
 The children were dressed in scarves, hats, and jackets,
 For another spirit week we knew would be a racket;
 The toy drive brought toys for teens at an amazing rate,
 While the holidays approach, it was well worth the wait!

Holiday Spirit Week



Grad 2025

Please ensure 2025 graduates are checking their SD58 E-mail regularly. Important information will be sent as it becomes available.

The next grad meeting is **Wednesday, January 8th, 2025.**

7 Grandfather Teachings -Ojibwe



Love – Zaagidwin

The eagle represents love because he has the strength to carry all the teachings. The eagle has the ability to fly highest and closest to the creator and also has the sight to see all the ways of being from great distances. The Eagle's teaching of love can be found in the core of all teachings, therefore an eagle feather is considered the highest honor and a sacred gift. To know love is to know peace. View your inner-self from the perspective of all teachings. This is to know love and to love yourself truly. Then you will be at peace with yourself, the balance of life, all things and also with the creator.



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Time for Basketball

Practice Schedule

Gr. 8 Boys' – Monday & Wednesday @ 3:15pm

Gr. 8 Girls' – Tuesday & Thursday @ 3:15pm

Jr. Girls' – Monday & Wednesday @ 4:45pm

Jr. Boys' – Monday & Wednesday @ 7:45pm

Sr. Boys' – Tuesday & Thursday @ 6:15pm

Teen to Teen Toy Drive

Every year the Nicola Valley & District Food Bank provides food & gifts for families throughout our community. This year, Mrs. Denton's class organized a teen to teen toy drive to help! With over 500 toys donated by the MSS community, this toy drive was a huge success. A HUGE Christmas thank you to everyone that took the time to donate, and to Mrs. Denton's class for organizing yet another wonderful year of giving.



De-Colonizing the Code of Conduct We want to hear from you!

Mr. Ian Paluck has been working to de-colonize the MSS Code of Conduct. Using "The First Peoples Principles of Learning", "The Circle of Courage", and "The Seven Grandfather Teachings" as an existing framework and guide, he has been working to change the language found in the document.

He would like to hear from you! If you have any input relating to this topic, or would like more information, please reach out to Ian Paluck at

ipaluck@365.sd58.bc.ca

Code of Conduct:

<https://mss.sd58.bc.ca/code-of-conduct/>

Important Dates:

December 20th – Last Day before Winter Break

December 23rd – January 3rd – Winter Break

January 6th – MSS Reopens

January 30th – 31st – I Days

Have a happy and safe Winter break!

