



# PAC News

Deep Cove Elementary School / École Deep Cove

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June 2008

Message from the Co-Presidents

The last days of the 2007-2008 school year are upon us. It has been a great year thanks to our remarkable and talented kids, to the efforts and care of our school's wonderful staff and thanks to YOU! As a parent of a child (or children) attending Deep Cove School you once again made it a sincere pleasure to work together to accomplish the many interesting and worthwhile tasks that we've achieved to benefit of our children and our school.

We've put on a record-breaking Christmas Fair, successfully introduced the BC Fruit and Vegetable program, funded school buses for field trips, supported our friends at Motati Primary School in Lesotho, received the Inspirational PAC Award (come to the next PAC meeting in October to see it and learn why we received it), made good steps toward "greening" our school through our Healthy Habitat week, hosted Science Venture and a few arts programs to boot, to name just a few of the fun and educational activities sponsored by our PAC and made possible in conjunction with our wonderful staff. We also have some great additions to our school; many new books (thanks to the book fairs), new shelves to put them on, risers for kids' performances, LCD screens for use in class, jerseys for students to wear during track events plus new science and math resources ... the list goes on and on! Well done everyone!

Many thanks to all those volunteers who have helped organize, co-ordinate and support school activities throughout the year.

We are looking forward to some summer sun and we hope that you and your family have a wonderful, restful summer. See you in September!

Cheers,  
Christine and Karen

### **Staff Appreciation Breakfast – Volunteer/Food Sign Up Sheets**

Friday is our annual Staff Appreciation Breakfast. Your help and food contributions are requested for this popular (and appreciated) event! Please see the sign up sheets located on the PAC Bulletin Board and volunteer to bring something yummy or volunteer some time this Friday morning!

### **Upcoming Events**

June 20 - Farewell Assembly  
June 23 - Grade 5 Luncheon  
June 26 - Last day of school  
June 27 - Staff Appreciation Breakfast

### **Christmas Fair Co-ordinator**

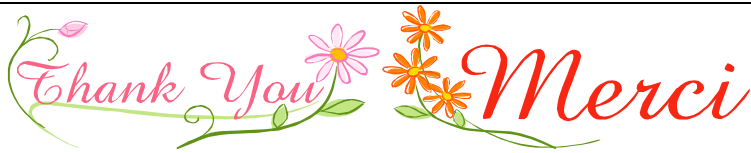
Is it too early to start thinking about the Christmas Fair? Nope, it isn't! For an event this big and important to Deep Cove School, it is not too early to at least plant a tiny seed in the minds of parents that we need a Coordinator for our 2008 Christmas Fair. The date of the fair is Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Our coordinator for the past two years, Linda Scholten, is willing to consult and share her wealth of knowledge and experience with the new co-ordinator ... or co-ordinators ... might it be easier to consider working together with a friend to organize the Fair? Please give it a thought over the summer and let Christine and Karen know if you have any queries! Ho ho ho ;)

### **Parent Education Rep Change**

Maryan Van Stolk stepped down this spring as Parent Education on the PAC. Did you know that she was SO busy at her work that she even brought one of her clients to school with her to pick up her son Cor and to see the ducks in Mrs. Manning's class!!!! We look forward to continuing to work with Maryan in between clients on other fun stuff in the future. Stepping up to become our new Parent Education Rep is Chris Swain. Chris has been coordinating the Lunchtime 1-2 Club. We look forward to having Chris on the Executive

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Visit our website [www.deepcovepac.ca](http://www.deepcovepac.ca)



Thanks to our **Class Representatives** who are the oil in the great volunteer machine that is the PAC. Their main role is to share information between us all and their regular attention to communication is so important in keeping parents on track! Our dedicated team of representatives this year were:

<b>Angela Kleine-Buning</b>	<b>Dorine Pomphrey</b>
<b>Lisa Nordstrom</b>	<b>Karen Gartside</b>
<b>Mandy Coleman</b>	<b>Laurel Schoenrank</b>
<b>Lauri Gordon</b>	<b>MaryLou McRae</b>
<b>Tracey Jones</b>	<b>Carol Hoedemann</b>
<b>Wendy Hubner</b>	<b>Vik Peck</b>
<b>Laurie Irwin</b>	<b>Eileen Wood</b>
<b>Janice Mosher</b>	<b>Shelley Rebneris</b>
<b>Tany Fletcher</b>	<b>Jennifer Ottewell</b>
<b>Karie Whittaker</b>	<b>Karalee Tremblay</b>
<b>Penny Sigouin</b>	<b>Chris Swain</b>
<b>Cindy Greenway</b>	<b>Kirsten Wood</b>
<b>Leann Collins</b>	<b>Carla Kerr</b>
<b>Ciara Dooley</b>	<b>Melanie May</b>
<b>Julie B. Jackson</b>	<b>Dawn Mooney</b>

If you see your rep, please take a moment to say thanks for keeping you in the know and for all their other helpful activities too!

Speaking of “keeping us in the know” ... staff and parents continue to be grateful to Janine **Reedecker** for maintaining the beautiful and informative school website. We are the envy of the school district and we consider ourselves lucky to have you!

Of course, we owe thanks **Karen Blair, Katherine Panter-Roland, Dorine Pomphrey Lori LaFave, Lori Richards** and **Louise Beaudry** for all the good work they do during the year. They all went FAR beyond the call of duty at UVIC on Track and Field Day! Wow, what an extravaganza of happy noise and activity. Thank you so much, the kids had SOOOO MUCH fun running races AND dancing in the stands AND visiting with students from other schools! Our students wouldn't have had such great form if not for the efforts of the **Grade 3-5 teachers** headed by **Lori Richards** who organized the school Track program. Thank you!

We weren't LOST this year because we FOUND **Claudia Kazanowski**! Claudia and her team of volunteers have helped us keep track of missing items and we have Claudia to thank for organizing the display rack! Thank you Claudia and crew.

Games Day was a rollicking success! Much fun was had by all participants thanks to good sense of fun and organizational skills of **Shelley Hardcastle** and **Lara Collins**.

Actually, to pull this one off, I think they raised their organizational ability from “skill” to an “art form”! Thanks too, go to the parents manning the popsicle stops; **Carol Hoedemann, Nancy Starkiewicz, Roz Giles-Pereira**, and **Carol Rae Hill**. Also, thank you **Karen Gartside** and **Martine Lunke** for helping with muffins, coffee and moral support!

Thank you to the hardy souls that tackled the courtyard clean up. **Catie Oates-Hill, Anne-Marie Daniel, Chris Swain, Janice Mosher** and **Christine Kenwood** have volunteered to spruce up the courtyard while the creative mind of **Louise Boutin** works with **Rob Carere** and the **Deep Cove Staff** to polish up a plan for the future use of the courtyard. Ongoing thanks to **Diane Sarty** for her persistent care of and affection for the courtyard. Thank you as well to **Rick Silas** for donating a beautiful sculpture!!!

**Janice Mosher** has earned a BIG pat on the back for doing her darnedest to keep us decked out in Deep Cove wear this year. This task was not without its “technical difficulties” (shall we say politely) and we are grateful to Janice for the patience and good humour she displayed while negotiating and solving the glitches!!!

The PAC Executive extends a HUGE thank you to **Rob Carere** and **Shelley Hardcastle** for attending ALL our meetings (especially since you both could choose to be at home in the evenings but instead choose to attend). Thank you as well as for regularly bringing and sharing your collected wisdom as parents, teachers and administrators. We admire and appreciate your insight. Parents love the fact that we are welcome at Deep Cove and we REALLY appreciate the opportunity to play an active role in our children's education. We feel so at home at the school because the whole staff at Deep Cove consistently extends a warm welcome. We thank the **staff of Deep Cove School** for that welcome and we look forward to next year!

Visit our website [www.deepcovepac.ca](http://www.deepcovepac.ca)

### **BC Fruit and Vegetable Program – a Thank You**

Susi and I would like to say thank you to all who helped to make the fruit and vegetable program a great success. You know who you are....a special thank you to Catie Hill who managed to be there for us on almost every f and v day! We are very grateful to everyone!

Grace Owen

### **The PAC Kitchen – A Reno Heads Up**

The kitchen just off the big gym is in sorry shape and in need of refurbishment. In the fall, in conjunction with Rob and the School District, we will be looking at replacing the stove, fridge, sink, and cupboards. If you are renovating this summer, please think about donating older appliances in good condition for use in the kitchen. Stay tuned in the autumn for updates and details about what will be needed.

### **Thrifty smile cards**

Congratulations everyone - we made our target of \$3000 with Thrifty smile cards! The money raised went towards paying for those buses for school field trips.

We will be reapplying to Thriftys for next year, so hold onto those cards as they will be valid for next years fundraising.

### **BC Government Climate Action Dividend**

As you are probably aware, BC residents including children are entitled to receive a Climate Action Dividend in the amount of \$100.00 from the BC Government. If you have filed an income tax return for 2006 or 2007, the payment will be sent automatically to your mailing address. If you have dependents, who are under the age of 18 as of December 31, 2007, and who are registered for the Canada Child Tax Benefit or the Universal Child Care Benefit with the Canada Revenue Agency, you will automatically receive their \$100 payment. The payments will be made by cheque and issued in June 2008. If you did not file a tax return in 2006 or 2007, or are not registered for either the Canada Child Tax or the Universal Child Care Benefits or if you do not receive the dividend cheque this June, you can apply to receive the dividend using the form found at:

[http://www.sbr.gov.bc.ca/documents\\_library/forms/0131NFILL.pdf](http://www.sbr.gov.bc.ca/documents_library/forms/0131NFILL.pdf)

### **COPACS**

A reminder to parents that new provincial regulations take effect on July 1, 2008 requiring **Booster Seats for children up to 9 years of age**. A booster seat will be required in all vehicles in BC until the child reaches their ninth birthday or a height of four feet nine inches. These booster seats are now needed when parents take children on field trips. More information is available on the BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation website at

<http://www.tsfbcaa.com>

### **"KAZ BASKETBALL CLINIC"**

Again Gerald Kazanowski will lead a basketball clinic this summer for your children for 2 days.

**Ages :** 9 to 11 years old

**Date:** July 14th and 15th , 2008

**At :** North Saanich Middle School.

**Time:** 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

It will be limited numbers, if you want to register please call Sandy at 656-9942 or email at [SAndrews@berkshire.ca](mailto:SAndrews@berkshire.ca) by June the 13th.

**Fee:** \$50 per child ( cheque payable to Claudia Kazanowski send to: #619 Norris Rd. North Saanich BC V8L5M8 )

### **Transportation Update**

Many thanks to all the drivers, bikers, & pedestrians that have kept our children safe on the way to & from school this year. Thank-you to all our students who use their "road sense" when traveling along W. Saanich Rd., and in the school drop-off zones and parking lots. Let's keep up the good work next year.

For those families in Dean Park, and surrounding areas, some bus news: Because of budget issues, the school board is unable to increase bus service to the farthest reaches of our catchment area. However, we still have bus service from Dean Park, with Bus #9 (trip 2) in the AM and Bus #4 (trip 1 and 2) in the afternoons. If you live in the Dean Park, or surrounding areas, please consider registering your children for the bus. Even if you don't use it every trip, the cost of registering for the bus is little more than a tank of gas, at current prices.

A heart felt Thank-you to Pam Watts, who monitors our back parking lot & drop-off zone, in the morning and afternoon - we do appreciate your efforts. To Mrs. Alexander, and all our crossing guards, "Merci".

Have a great, fun, & safe summer!

## **NEWS FROM LESOTHO**

Work has apparently begun in April to rebuild Motati School, although it is unclear how long this is going to take. It is now winter in Lesotho, which is the third highest country in the world and therefore has very cold winters. To make matters worse, the worldwide food crisis is making it difficult for many to afford the food they need. In Lesotho, 30% of the population has HIV and although the availability of free antiretroviral treatments is improving, clinics are often a full day's walk away. In other words, they are not always easy to get to for the sick and the weak. In the schools that Help Lesotho works with, 30 to 60% of the children are orphans. It is a whole generation growing up without care and nurturing from their parents.

After listening to Peg Herbert's talk on June 2, and meeting with her and listening to her at assemblies with the children the next day, I have learnt a great deal and my commitment to help the children of Motati School has been strengthened. She truly is a source of inspiration

Peg Herbert insists on the importance of getting to know the people you are trying to help, of building strong relationships with them, of walking a mile in their shoes and of supporting them, of helping them find their own solutions to the problems they are facing. She does not believe in meddling in people's lives by offering a quick fix and then leaving them behind, creating confusion and bewilderment. She insists on the importance of long term commitment and caring. As she puts it, it is bad enough for a child to be orphaned and hungry, but it is even worse for a child to be orphaned and hungry and to feel that nobody cares.

As much as our money, it is our caring that is making a difference.

## **A TASTE OF LESOTHO FUNDRAISER**

Our "Taste of Lesotho" fundraiser on June 2 was a big success, with over 200 people attending. We welcomed Peg Herbert to Deep Cove School in style and showed that our school twining project has a good level of grassroots support. The food was simple and tasty, and laid out on a long buffet table in the covered area. Families enjoyed their meal in the big gym or on the grass outside. The children enjoyed the games outside on the field. The Marimba music was energetic and festive and it was a pleasure to see all the children dancing. All in all, we fundraised just over **\$2000.00** for Motati School.

We would like to thank all those whose efforts have made this evening possible: A big thank you to the members of the Mufaro Marimba Band and of the Saanich Teachers' Choir, to the students from Stelly's who helped out with the games and who did a fabulous job, to Deep Cove Market and Ten Thousand villages for donating food and selling tickets, to all the volunteers who brought salads and baking, and to those brave and cheerful people who organized the event: Jane Wynne, Fiona Coleman, Christine Kenwood, Martine Lunke, Janet Silman, Trudie Bennett, Maria Hilton, Shelley Rebneris, Barb Menzies, Marlene Speckert and Liza Austin.

### **Translated speech if Sibongile Neo from Motati Primary School Child**

To the chief, parents, visitors from HL, teachers and you Children.

My name is Sibongile Neo

I am one of the students in this school. I am a double orphan. I am being groomed up by my grandmother. My grandmother is very old. I am therefore suffering all basic needs. Just because the grace of God is so deep, I have the uniform, shoes and food, for the teachers from Help Lesotho. Thank you.

I am now standing here on behalf of the OVCs, that we were given the clothing; we put them on, get warmth. Let me clarify here on the department of agriculture; we were given the seeds, we plough, we had came up with very good outputs of vegetables, we are therefore able to do the gardening at our homes.

Thank you, Help Lesotho