Lightning News for December 14th – 18th.

Barnhill does their Best! Better Every Single Time.

The theme for the month of December is “generosity.”

“The holiday season is a perfect time to reflect on our blessings and seek out ways to make life better for those around us.” ~ Orlando Espinosa ~

We are back in the “yellow phase” ~ way to go New Brunswick and especially Saint John. We want to assure you that even in the yellow phase we are exercising caution and following our operational plan. We want all students to be here at school in order to learn and enjoy. We have some incredible and creative events happening this week. Please see the attached schedule.

All these events are happening within each class bubble. All the students are very happy to be involved in the different events and to have the opportunity to be so very generous with our school community.

In continuing with the gift of generosity, every Friday we do a “dress down” day in which all staff donate to non-profit organization. For December, all staff are dressing down on Fridays and donating to the West Side Food Bank.

 We are both scent free and nut free at our school, in order to keep everyone safe. Please remember when packing lunches for school that we are nut- free. Please read the ingredients of food items and ensure that nothing with any kind of nuts come to school. This includes when items are packed in the spirit of the holiday, please ensure all sweets and treats are nut-free as well.

The construction of the Lightning Dome, our outside classroom is going very well. We have applied for three more grants and will hopefully receive more funding in the new year. We are looking at producing a sign for our classroom as well as constructing a green house and an actual dome!

PBIS Initiative We are sure that everyone knows that every December we do the “Dodge Hunger” campaign. Even though this year is very different we still want to complete this campaign. The West Side Food Bank is always very appreciative of our food and cash donations in order to help those in need in our community. This year we are doing the “Dodge Hunger” campaign by class bubble! Every class bubble will create a team name, they will start to collect non-perishable food items in their bubble, they will bring in decorations and on Wednesday morning of December 16th all bubbles will work on creating a Christmas Village. We will have videos of the process and pictures of the winning team. The team will win by having the most creative village. The videos will be shown to every class bubble and it will be posted on our website. The winning team will have their team name on our trophy in the front display case. The first step is for all class bubbles to start collecting food items in order to create their village. This is sure to be a fun/creative and very generous campaign.

**On the horizon…**

**Please see the attached Winter Carnival schedule for all the exciting events happening this week at Barnhill Memorial School.**

**Winter holiday vacation starts at the end of the day on Friday, December 18th.**

**The first day back after the vacation is Monday, January 4th.**

Like everything else during COVID -19 this holiday season maybe filled with tough choices and changes for families and although it may look different this year, please take the opportunity to relax and enjoy the holidays. The good news is that the holidays are a time when gratitude and generosity are front and center. Both generosity and gratitude have been shown to help everyone be resilient through tough times, to be able to experience more positive emotions and be able to sleep better throughout the night. We look forward to seeing everyone back safe and happy in January 2021.

Thank you.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 658-5971 or jill.ferguson@nbed.nb.ca