# BROOKSBANK BUILFTIN

#### Fridge?

Are you remodelling? Have an extra, working fridge hanging around? Brooksbank is in need of a fridge for our Food Access Programme. If you have a fridge the school can use, please contact Spencer or Glenda.

#### Weather

Please keep an eye on the weather when packing clothing for your child.
Regardless of weather, students go outside for recess, and will sometimes shorten the outside portion of lunch.

#### **Calendar Reminders**

Gymsense begins on Monday, January 22nd and runs through to February 13th.

Curriculum Implementation Day is Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. Students are not in session.



### **Lockdown Drill**

On January 25th, Brooksbank will be holding its first lockdown drill of the year. We realize that even the mention of the word "lockdown" introduces an unwelcome thought and raises questions and concerns.

What is a "school lockdown"?

A lockdown is an emergency procedure designed to protect occupants from external harm or contain the movement of occupants when an intruder, or a restricted weapon, is present in the building. In a school lockdown, only emergency response





## Extra-Curricular Offerings

Red Cross Babysitting Course is coming to Brooksbank on Friday, February 23rd. Registration information is on the website.

Wee Creative will soon be back in January, with stop motion animation classes being held Tuesday after school and running January 23rd to March 13th. Cost is \$128 per student.

<u>Chess</u> has also started, with students working with teacher Luc Poitras on Mondays at lunch.

Family FUNdamentals is a free family programme for 2 to 4 year olds. Check the website for details

Karen Magnussen is hosting a <u>Youth Event</u> on February 16th. Registration can be completed online at NVRC.ca. teams from law enforcement will enter the school. A "lockdown" means that people must stay where they are and cannot leave until escorted outside by response personnel.

Why do children have to practise a lockdown drill? Isn't that creating a stressful situation?

Particularly in emergency situations, we are all more confident, less anxious, and better able to cope when we know there is a plan in place. An essential part of the lockdown drill in our schools is for staff to lead conversations about the experience afterwards to reassure students and help them develop new coping and self-calming techniques for the future.

May I communicate with my child during a lockdown?

It's expected that many parents will feel an urgent need to contact their child in a lockdown situation. However, any sound from a cellphone can alert an active shooter to the presence of an individual or group, placing them, and everyone in their vicinity, at greater risk. For this reason, students and staff are not permitted to use cellphones during a lockdown situation. Communications both in and out of a school under lockdown are restricted to law enforcement personnel and their designates, including school principals and school district senior administrators.

If you have any questions, please see Spencer Kelly.