

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Tuesday, February 5, 2019

Parkgate Youth Drop-in

The Parkgate Youth Drop-in at lunch today has been cancelled.

Black History Month

**The 5 Reasons to Celebrate Black History Month**

**1. Celebrating honours the historic leaders of the black community**

It allows us to pause and remember their stories, so we can commemorate their achievements

**2. Celebrating helps us to be better stewards of the privileges we've gained**

If we don't tell the old, old stories, then the next generation, and we ourselves, will forget them – so that we are aware of the rights that many people before us sweated, bled, and died to secure, that we take for granted – we can never appreciate the blessings we enjoy in the present without an awareness of the past

**3. Celebrating provides an opportunity to highlight the best of black history and culture**

All too often, only the most negative aspects of African American culture and communities get highlighted. We hear about the poverty rates, incarceration rates, and high school drop-out rates. We are inundated with images of unruly athletes and raunchy reality TV stars as paradigms of success for Black people. And we are daily subject to unfair stereotypes and assumptions from a culture that is, in some aspects, still learning to accept us. Black History Month spurs us to seek out and lift up the best in African American accomplishments.

**4. Celebrating creates awareness for all people**

Unfortunately, it seems that apart from an intentional effort otherwise, Black history is often lost in the mists of time. When we observe Black History Month, we give citizens of all races the opportunity to learn about a past and a people of which they may have little awareness.

**5. Celebrating reminds us all that black history is Our history**

It pains me to see people overlooking Black History Month because Black history (just like Hispanic, Asian, European, and Native history) belongs to all of us — black and white, men and women, young and old. The impact African Americans have made on this country is part of our collective consciousness. Contemplating Black history draws people of every race into the grand and diverse story of this nation.

Nominate a Teacher

Tell us about a teacher who is making a difference in your school or community. CFox radio station with the BCTF is celebrating teachers and needs your help. Nominate a teacher, and share their story. Describe how the time, energy and support they have given you has had a lasting impact. Five teachers will be featured on Global News morning and celebrated for the work they are doing. Go to **[celebratebcteachers.com](http://celebratebcteachers.com)** to nominate a teacher and check back on February 11 to see if your teacher has been selected.

Yearbook

Remember to order your yearbook by February 22. You will not be able to purchase a yearbook after this date. Don't be disappointed. Order today!

Grade 9 Immunizations

Grade 9 students, please hand in your immunizations forms to the office.

Election Canada

Any grade 10-12 student who would like to work for Elections Canada for the coming federal election in October, please see Ms. Parmar for an application and for more information.